

## SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING

*for the life of*

***Elke Hinchliffe***

September 24, 1940 – October 20, 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church

Alexandria, Virginia

*Saturday in the Twenty-fifth Week after Pentecost*

*November 16, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.*



### Postlude

### Welcome

### Opening Rite

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** In holy Baptism, Elke was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. St. Paul says: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?"

**C** **"We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his."** (*Romans 6:3-5*)

**P** Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Gathering Hymn

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (LSB 733)



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:  
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten as a dream  
Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last  
And our eternal home!

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.*

*Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## Opening Sentences

**P** Through Holy Baptism, our gracious God forgives sin and creates new life. In Baptism, we are reborn to a new life where we know God as loving and forgiving Father. While we live, this new life is nourished by God's Word and the Sacraments. As we grow in God's grace, our faith becomes more mature. Understanding and wisdom are coupled together with compassion and servanthood, and with the help of the Holy Spirit are able to follow Christ's example as we love God and serve each other.

The hope and joy which we have in Christ does not end at the grave. God's loving purposes for God's people are not destroyed by death. Rather, death becomes the gateway to eternal life with God in heaven.

Today, we are gathered here to remember and to celebrate the life given to our sister, Elke, who now lives with Christ in heaven. We grieve, and yet we hope. We

are sad, yet we are able to celebrate and give thanks for the hope of resurrection. Our faith in Christ reminds us that no matter how painful death may be, it is victory, not defeat. Because Christ lives, Elke lives. This is our faith, our hope, and our joy.

## Prayer

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray:

O God of grace and mercy, we give you thanks for your loving-kindness shown to Elke, and to all your servants who, having finished their course of faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. <sup>7</sup>And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. <sup>8</sup>He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalmody *(please join in reading together)*

Psalm 23

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:**

**He leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## **Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup>Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup>but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

<sup>13</sup>So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **Holy Gospel**

John 11:21-27

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

<sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." <sup>23</sup>Jesus

said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will

rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the

resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,

<sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

<sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

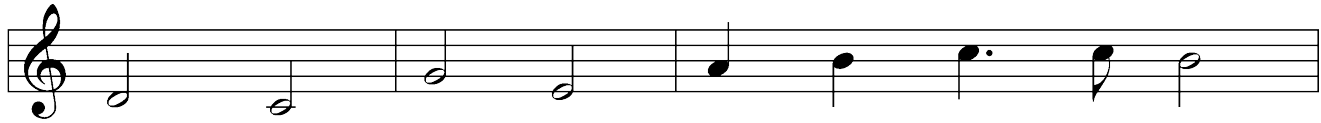
**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

# Hymn

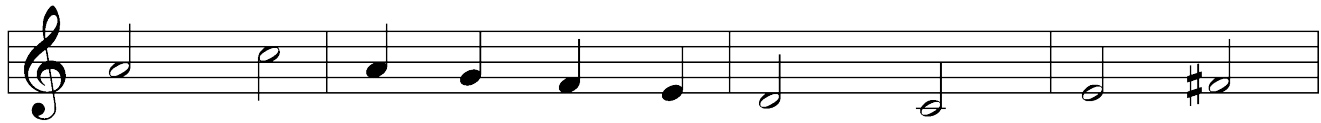
# "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense" (LSB 741)



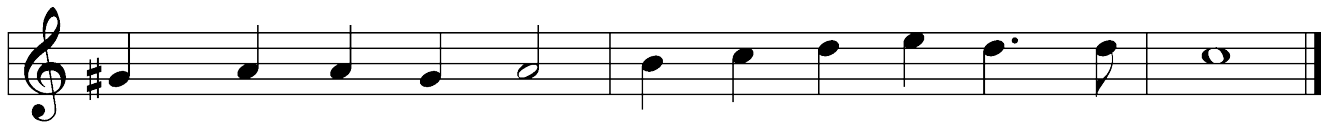
1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is  
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall  
 5 Glo - ri - fied, I shall a - new With this flesh then be en -  
 6 Then take com - fort and re - joice, For His mem - bers Christ will



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence  
 wak - en. He will bring me where He is;  
 shroud - ed; In this bod - y I shall view  
 cher - ish. Fear not, they will hear His voice;



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the  
 Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I  
 God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; In this  
 Dy - ing, they will nev - er per - ish; For the



night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.  
 fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?  
 flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.  
 ver - y grave is stirred When the trum - pet's blast is heard.

Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616–79; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt., Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662, Text and tune: Public domain

## Homily

### Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**P** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People** *(please kneel or be seated)*

**P** Trusting in the promise of eternal life given to us in Christ's death and resurrection, we come before our Lord in prayer:

**P** O God the Father in heaven,

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** O God the Holy Spirit,

**C** **have mercy on us and grant us your peace.**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life. We give you thanks and praise for the hope of the resurrection and the life to come which we have in you. Give us your comfort in our need. Lord, in your mercy;

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

**P** Loving Father, give your gracious presence and your saving peace to Elke's family: to her husband, Reed, to her son, Tom and his wife, Chitty; together with all her family and friends. Surround them with your love and comfort them with your strength to meet the days ahead knowing that you are with them always, even to the end of the world. Lord, in your mercy;

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful God, you sent your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Lord, in your mercy;

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

**P** O God, the generations rise and pass away before you. You are the strength of those who labor, and the rest of the blessed dead. We rejoice in the company of your saints. We remember all who have lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and especially those most dear to us who now rest in you. Give us, we pray, our portion with those who have trusted in you and have lived out your gracious will in their lives. To your name, with the Church on earth, and the Church in heaven, we give all honor and glory, now and forever. Lord, in your mercy;

**C Hear our prayer.**

**P** Gracious God, hear our prayers and receive them for the sake of the crucified and risen One, our Savior Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Please stand*

**Commendation**

**P** Into your hands, merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Elke. In the sure and certain hope of our resurrection in Christ, we trust that you acknowledge a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming, and receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

**C Amen.**

**Benediction**

**P** The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. The blessing of Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you always.

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us go forth in peace.

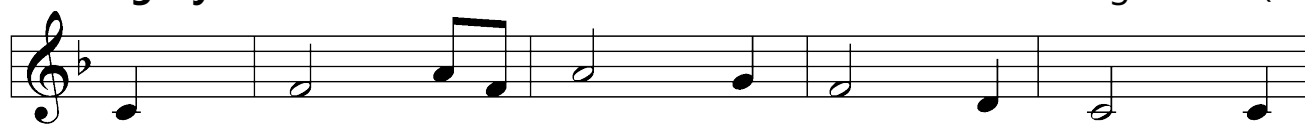
**C In the Name of Christ.**

**P** Christ is risen!

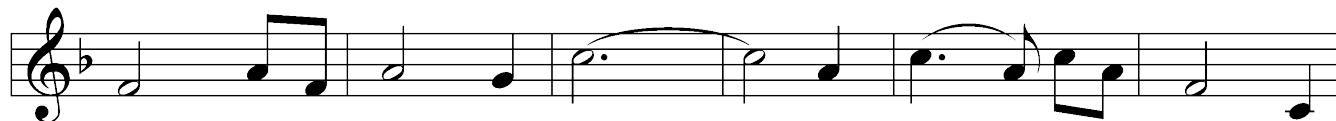
**C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Sending Hymn

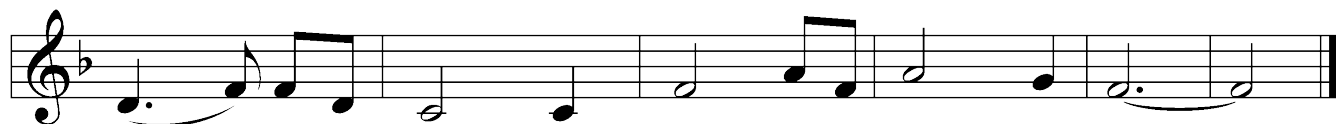
"Amazing Grace" (LSB 744)



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1-4): John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond

Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati

Text and tune: Public domain

## Postlude



## Acknowledgments:

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Following the service today, you are cordially invited to a reception in St. John's Fellowship Hall.

Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Cards and expression of sympathy may be sent to the family at:

Reed Hinchliffe  
7405 Erska Woods Court,  
Springfield, VA 22153

The family has directed memorial contributions be made to:  
the American Heart Association.

To donate visit

<https://www.heart.org/?form=FUNQCSEKQD>

**or scan the QR Code**



Donations can also be made to:

St. John's Lutheran Church  
5952 Franconia Road  
Alexandria, VA 22310



*Please indicate that your memorial is in memory of Elke Hinchliffe.*

***Elke Hinchliffe***



Elke Hinchliffe was called to rest in Christ on Sunday, October 20, 2024 after a lingering illness.

Elke was a friendly and happy woman who had a smile for both friends and strangers.

Elke is survived by her husband, son and daughter-in-law. Elke will be truly be missed.

In lieu of flowers please considered a donation to the American Heart Association in Elke's memory or St. John's.



**Serving This Day:**

Officiant/Preacher	Rev. John S. Meehan
Organist	David Leahey
Greeters	Christy Hoins Karen Kemmet
Ushers	Greg Miller Barbara Pate
AV Team	Mark Gilbertson Greer Putnam