



**The Funeral Service
for
Sieglinde H. Paulsen
July 25, 1938-June 27, 2025**

Holy Cross Lutheran Church (LCMS)
Moline, Illinois

July 8, 2025

Hymn: *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

LSB 656

Please stand and face the processional cross as it enters the nave, turning toward the altar as it passes by.

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

2. With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

3. Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

4. The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The casket has been covered with a funeral pall.

Remembrance of Baptism

- P** In Holy Baptism Sieglinde 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, in order that, just 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.**

Introit

Psalm 46:1–5, 10–11, antiphon v. 11

The LORD of hosts is | with us;*
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

**God is our ref- | uge and strength,*
a very present help in | trouble.**

Therefore we will not fear though the | earth gives way,*
though the mountains be moved into the heart | of the sea,
**though its waters | roar and foam,*
though the mountains tremble at its | swelling.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,*
the holy habitation of the | Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall | not be moved;*

God will help her when | morning dawns.

“Be still, and know that | I am God.*

I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted | in the earth!”

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

The LORD of hosts is | with us;*
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

Kyrie

[P] Lord, have mercy upon us.

[C] Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P *Let us pray...* O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Sieglinde and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in 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.

Sit

Hymn: “*The Lord Hath Helped Me Hitherto*”

TLH 33

1. The Lord hath helped me hitherto
By His surpassing favor;
His mercies ev'ry morn were new,
His kindness did not waver.
God hitherto hath been my Guide,
Hath pleasures hitherto supplied,
And hitherto hath helped me.
2. I praise and thank Thee, Lord, my God,
For Thine abundant blessing
Which heretofore Thou hast bestowed
And I am still possessing.
Inscribe this on my memory:
The Lord hath done great things for me
And graciously hath helped me.

3. Help me henceforth, O God of grace,
Help me on each occasion,
Help me in each and ev'ry place,
Help me through Jesus' Passion;
Help me in life and death, O God,
Help me through Jesus' dying blood;
Help me as Thou hast helped me!

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ecclesiastes 3:1–8

¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

- ²a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
³a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
⁵a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
⁸a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Commit your way | to the LORD;*
trust in him, and | he will act.

Fret not yourself because of evil- | doers;*
be not envious of wrong- | doers!

For they will soon fade | like the grass*
and wither like the | green herb.

Trust in the LORD, | and do good;*
dwelt in the land and befriend | faithfulness.

Delight yourself | in the LORD,*
and he will give you the desires | of your heart.

Commit your way | to the LORD;*
trust in him, and | he will act.

He will bring forth your righteousness | as the light,*
and your justice as the | noonday.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;*
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil de- | vices!

Refrain from anger, and for- | sake wrath!*

The LORD knows the days of the | blameless,*
and their heritage will remain for- | ever;

though [she] fall, [she] shall not be cast | headlong,*
for the LORD up- | holds his hand.

But transgressors shall be altogether | destroyed;*
the future of the wicked shall | be cut off.

The salvation of the righteous is | from the LORD;*
he is their stronghold in the time of | trouble.

The LORD helps them and de- | livers them;*
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take ref- | uge in him.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Commit your way | to the LORD;*
trust in him, and | he will act.

Epistle

Romans 8:31–39

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:51–58

⁵¹Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse

A Alleluia, alle- | luia.*

Jesus Christ is the firstborn | of the dead;

C to Him be glory and power for- | ever.*

Alle- | luia.

Holy Gospel

John 3:16–17

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 14:1–6

¹“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to

where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

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,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Hymn of the Day: *“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”*

LSB 461

1. I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.
2. He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.
- 3.
5. He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
7. He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.
8. He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Sermon: *“The Unfailing Love of God in Christ”*

Hymn: *“I’m But a Stranger Here”*

LSB 748

- 1.
2. I’m but a stranger here,
Heav’n is my home;
Earth is a desert drear,
Heav’n is my home.
Danger and sorrow stand
Round me on ev’ry hand;
Heav’n is my fatherland,
Heav’n is my home.

3. What though the tempest rage,
 Heav'n is my home;
Short is my pilgrimage,
 Heav'n is my home;
And time's wild wintry blast
Soon shall be overpast;
I shall reach home at last,
 Heav'n is my home.

4. Therefore I murmur not,
 Heav'n is my home;
Whate'er my earthly lot,
 Heav'n is my home;
And I shall surely stand
There at my Lord's right hand;
Heav'n is my fatherland,
 Heav'n is my home.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.

P Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant that all who have been strengthened by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to eternal, imperishable life, to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give to the family of Sieglinde and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give courage and faith to all who mourn, so that within the communion of Your Church, they may find strength to face the days ahead. Assure them of a holy and certain hope, and fill them with the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have died in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Help us, we pray, when faced with things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Receive our thanks for Sieglinde and for all the blessings You bestowed on her in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with her we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to reveal life and immortality. We thank You that by His death He destroyed the power of death, and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all who believe. Strengthen us with the confidence that because He lives, we shall live also.

And assure us that neither death nor life, nor anything in the present or in the future, will ever be able to separate us from Your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

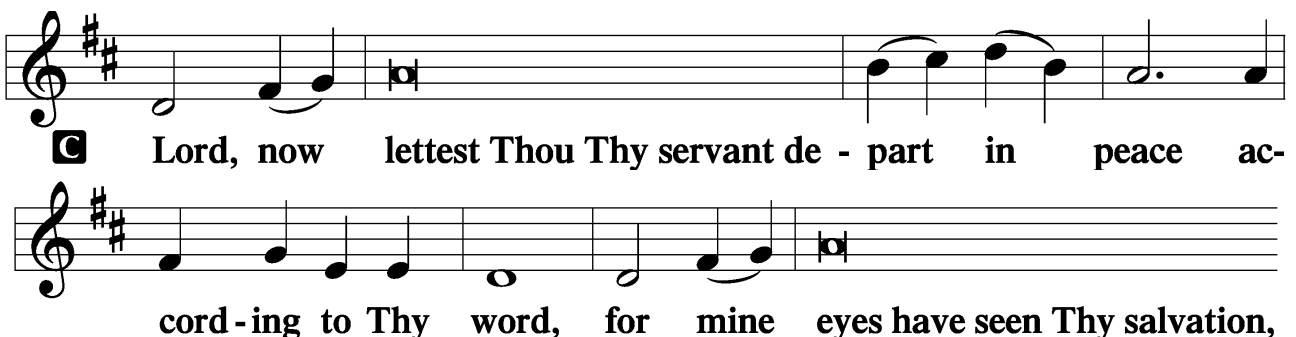
Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

Nunc Dimittis

A “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

- A** “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”

Concluding Collect

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- P** *Let us pray...* Gracious God, our loving Shepherd, You tenderly gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy, and in Your perfect timing, You have brought our dear Sieglinde home to You. We pray that You would comfort our grieving hearts with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, and the joyful promise of being reunited with Sieglinde and all those we love who have departed in faith. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction and Dismissal

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord. Amen.

Hymn: “*Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*”

LSB 722

1. Lord, take my hand and lead me
Upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me
From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor
I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior,
And lead the way.
2. Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages,
Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding,
In peace I go.

3. Lord, when the shadows lengthen
And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen
My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me,
O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me
Unto the end.