

**St. Luke Lutheran Church and
Lutheran Campus Ministry**

**Celebration of Life
JoAnn Alma Ekdahl
May 17, 1942 - March 22, 2024**

Monday, April 1, 2024
10:30 AM

YOU are welcome here! As a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, the people of St. Luke Lutheran Church are called by God to be a community...because we believe we are one in God's eyes, we welcome the mix of ages, races, gender identities, physical and mental capabilities, and sexual orientations with which God's children are blessed. Everyone is invited to share in God's grace. We rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus--not our wealth, nor our poverty, nor our nationality, nor our political convictions, nor whom we love, nor anything else in all creation.

Everything you need for worship today is contained in this bulletin.

*All are invited to stand as able. Items in **bold** are spoken or sung by the assembly.



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The prayer of the day is offered and the assembly responds:

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

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

a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.

PSALM 23

The psalm is spoken together by all.

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

**You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.**

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running 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

Revelation 21:2-7

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them and be their God;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said,

“Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the

Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their

God, and they will be my children.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*GOSPEL

Matthew 25:34-40

The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

*HYMN OF THE DAY 732 Borning Cry

WATERLIFE



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some - one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold."

SHARING OF MEMORIES

MEDITATION

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Pie Jesu

Gabriel Faure

*Pie Jesu Domine,
Dona eis requiem.*

Merciful Jesus,
Grant them rest.

*Pie Jesu Domine,
Dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

Merciful Jesus,
Grant them rest everlasting.

*APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION**

The response to the petitions, which all end "God of mercy" is

Hear our prayer.

After the pastor's concluding prayer, the assembly responds:

Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

**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.**

SENDING

***COMMENDATION**

Let us commend JoAnn to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant JoAnn.

Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.

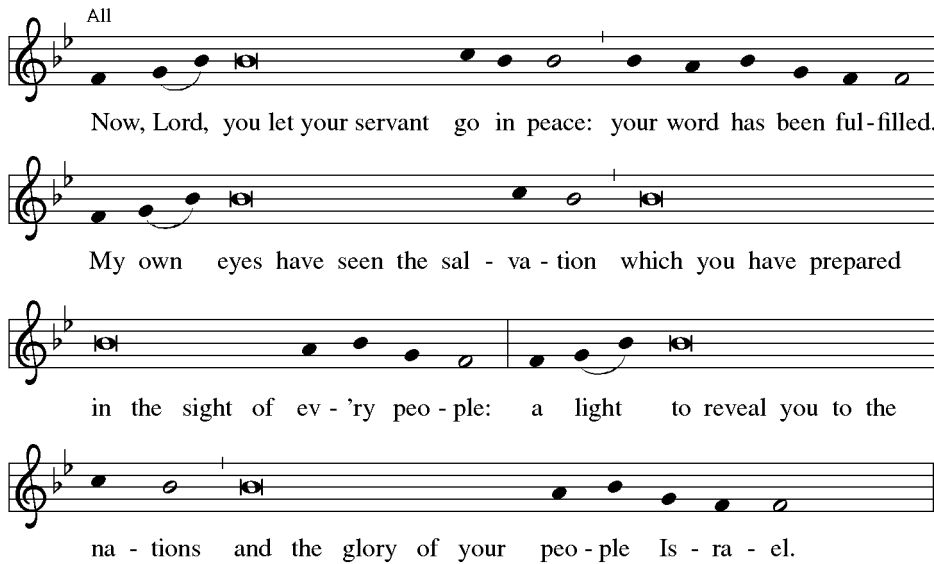
Receive her into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light.
Amen.

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. (Job 19:25-27)

*COMMENDATION HYMN

NUNC DIMITTIS

All



Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared

in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the

nations and the glory of your people Israel.

Rest eternal grant her, O Lord;
and let light perpetual shine upon her.

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*BENEDICTION

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

And may Almighty God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN 504 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

***DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

***POSTLUDE**

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP TODAY

St. Luke Ministers:	All the people of this Community
Assisting Minister:	Jeff Snedeker
Readers:	Bradley Ekdahl and Carl Ekdahl
Soloist:	Deborah Montgomery-Cove
Music Director	Erik Kibelsbeck
Presider/Preacher	Rev. Jason Churchill
Previous Pastor/Retired	Rev. Rick Bair

The flowers are given to the Glory of God.

St. Luke Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and a member of Cornell United Religious Works (CURW).

Please visit www.stlukeithaca.org to sign up for email communication.

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COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Beverly Dodici, Vice Chair

Sophie Sparrow, Secretary

John Vakiner, Treasurer

3 Members- at-Large

Everett Nelson

Rhonda Kitch

Louise McGee

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