

**The Funeral of Herbert Friis**  
March 18, 2023  
Thanksgiving for Eternal Life in Christ

*Those gathered stand and face the entrance of the worship space.*

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.

Welcome in the name of Jesus,  
the Savior of the world.  
We are gathered to worship,  
to proclaim Christ crucified and risen,  
to remember before God our brother Herb,  
to give thanks for his life,  
to commend him to our merciful redeemer,  
and to comfort one another in our grief.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Amazing Grace (ELW 779)***



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

*Please respond with the words printed in bold.*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus,  
we were baptized into his death.  
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 live a new 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.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

**We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

**We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

**We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

**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**

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother Herb. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Those gathered are seated.*

*Eulogy - Ellen Ehle, daughter*

**WORD**

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

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - Billy Friis, grandson*

<sup>1</sup>For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: <sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; <sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; <sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; <sup>5</sup>a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; <sup>6</sup>a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; <sup>7</sup>a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; <sup>8</sup>a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Those gathered stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:28-29

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said], “<sup>28</sup>Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

The gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Those gathered are seated.*

MESSAGE

PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage of faith, that, when this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection 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, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Those gathered stand.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

*Those gathered are seated.*

## COMMUNION

*Communion today will be distributed in a continuous line. The cups in the center of the tray contain white grape juice. All other cups are wine. Gluten-free wafers available upon request.*

*All gathered who believe Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior are invited to come to Holy Communion with repentant hearts believing that Christ forgives our sins and guides our lives. Strengthened, forgiven, and nourished through this meal the Spirit sends us forth in service and to proclaim the good news of Christ's love. Children and adults who do not take communion may come forward for a blessing.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## HYMN *In the Garden*

*(Sung by Deanna Weismann. Accompaniment by Gwen Senio)*

## SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

## COMMENDATION

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Herb. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

**Amen.**

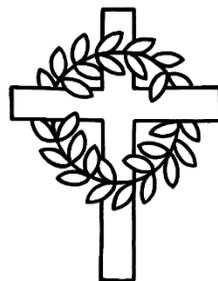
Let us go forth in peace.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

*Immediately following worship, all are invited to the Committal at the West Branch Cemetery.*

*A luncheon will follow the Committal in the fellowship hall. The family invites you to attend. If you will not be attending the Committal, please feel free to gather in the fellowship hall.*



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