

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
710 East Broadway St., Osseo, Minnesota  
A Celebration Honoring the Life of Robert Kenneth Harff  
Saturday, January 29, 2022 11:00 AM



**Robert Kenneth Harff**  
**April 2, 1960 – January 18, 2022**

**748 I'm But a Stranger Here**

1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;  
2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;  
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;

Earth is a des - ert drear, Heav'n is my home.  
Short is my pil - grim - age, Heav'n is my home;  
What - e'er my earth - ly lot, Heav'n is my home;

Dan - ger and sor - row stand Round me on ev - 'ry hand;  
And time's wild win - try blast Soon shall be o - ver - past;  
And I shall sure - ly stand There at my Lord's right hand;

Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.  
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.  
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

*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.

## Remembrance of Baptism

**P** In Holy Baptism Robert was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his 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.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 23 KJV*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.

<sup>3</sup>He restoreth my soul.  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies;  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever.

## 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 Robert 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.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Psalm 118:5, 8-9, 13-17*

<sup>5</sup>Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me free.

<sup>8</sup>It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. <sup>9</sup>It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

<sup>13</sup>I was pushed hard, so that I was falling, but the LORD helped me.

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly, <sup>16</sup>the right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!" <sup>17</sup>I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

## Old Testament 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."

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

- A** Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;  
**C** to Him be glory and power forever. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 5:19-24*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifth chapter.  
**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. <sup>20</sup>For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. <sup>21</sup>For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. <sup>22</sup>The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, <sup>23</sup>that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. <sup>24</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

- 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.

## 618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and  
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners  
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I  
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my  
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's

wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -  
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in  
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt  
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -  
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of

lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:  
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.  
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:  
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.  
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

*Refrain*  
 Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

## Sermon

Theme: "He Has Passed from Death to Life"

Text: John 5:24

## 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 nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give to the family of Robert Harff 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 the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Help us, we pray, in the midst of 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 Robert and for all the blessings You bestowed on him in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with him 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 bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence 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, 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 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.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**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.

Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## The Rite of Committal

**P** Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: “The Lord’s right hand has done mighty things!”

**C** The Lord’s right hand is lifted high; the Lord’s right hand has done mighty things!”

**P** I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

*Psalm 118:15-17*

**P** For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord.

**C** So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. *Romans 14:7-8*

**P** Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.” *John 11:25-26a*

**P** Let us pray: Merciful Father and Lord of life, with whom live the spirits of those who depart in the faith, we thank you for the blessings of body and soul that you granted this departed brother, whose earthly remains we lay to rest. Above all we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. *1 Corinthians 15:51-57*

**P** We commit Robert’s body to its resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him to subdue all things to Himself. May God the Father, who created this body, may God the Son, who by His blood redeemed this body, may God the Holy Spirit, who by Baptism sanctified this body to be His temple, keep these remains to the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

**C** Amen.

**P** Let us pray: Almighty God, by the death of Your Son Jesus Christ You destroyed death, by His rest in the tomb You sanctified the graves of Your saints, and by His glorious resurrection You brought life and immortality to light so that all who die in Him abide in peace and hope. Receive our thanks for the victory over death and the grave which He won for us. Keep us in everlasting fellowship with all that wait for Him on earth and with all in heaven who are with Him who is the resurrection and the life, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

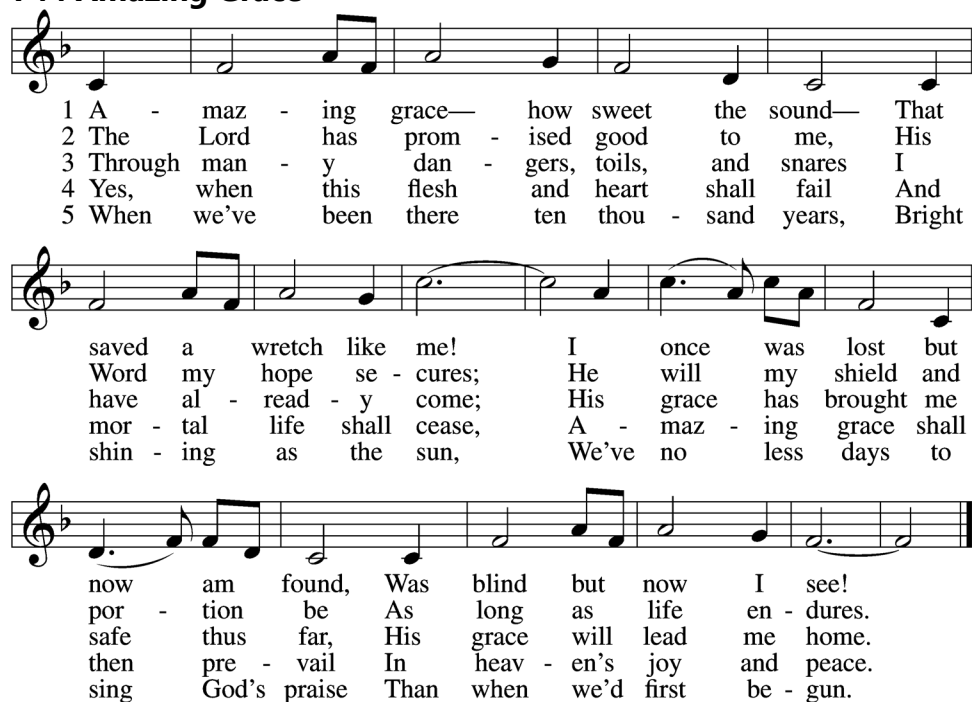
**P** Christ is risen.

**C** He is risen indeed.

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

**C** In the name of the Lord.

### 744 Amazing Grace



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.

**Officiant** — Reverend Daniel R. Burns  
**Organist** — Thomas Hanna

### Honorary Pall Bearers

Tim Chouinard	Karl Dornfield
Steve Frisbee	Gary Current
Patrick Nelson	Cody Harff
Kasen Egan	Kinsley Egan
	Loren Egan

### Acknowledgments

Funeral Service from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

## **The Serenity Prayer**

God grant me the serenity

To accept the things I cannot change;

Courage to change the things I can;

And wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;

Enjoying one moment at a time;

Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;

Taking, as He did, this sinful world

As it is, not as I would have it;

Trusting that He will make things right

If I surrender to His Will;

So that I may be reasonably happy in this life

And supremely happy with Him

Forever and ever in the next.

Amen.

Reinhold Niebuhr