

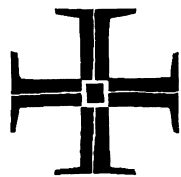
Christian Funeral Service for  
**Theresa Alleyne**



**Saint John's Lutheran Church**

Summit, New Jersey

May 14, 2022 | 11:00 AM



## PRELUDE

Setting of "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

Setting of "Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

Setting of "The Lord's My Shepherd"

Setting of "Amazing Grace"

By Wilbur Held

By Lynn Arthur Koch

By Lynn Arthur Koch

By Wilbur Held

## GATHERING

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 sister Theresa, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

*Please stand.*

## INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**Who made Heaven and Earth.**

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;

**So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.**

## 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 God 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.

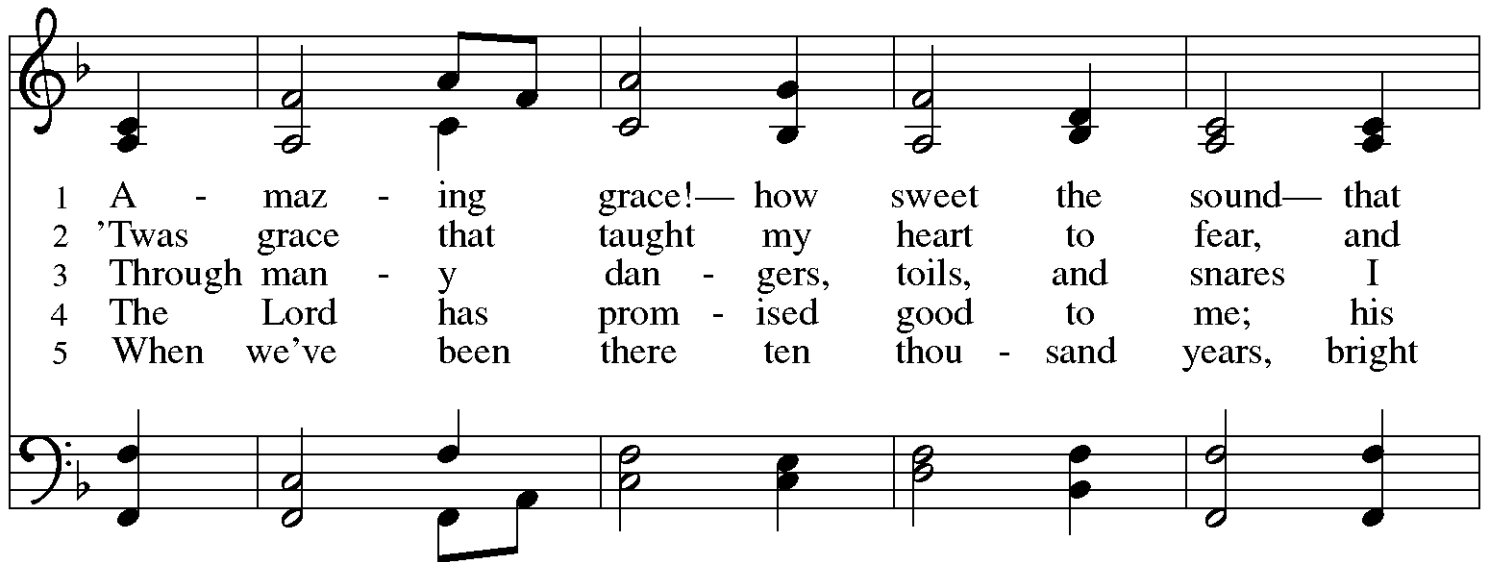
Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you. **We glorify you.**

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.**

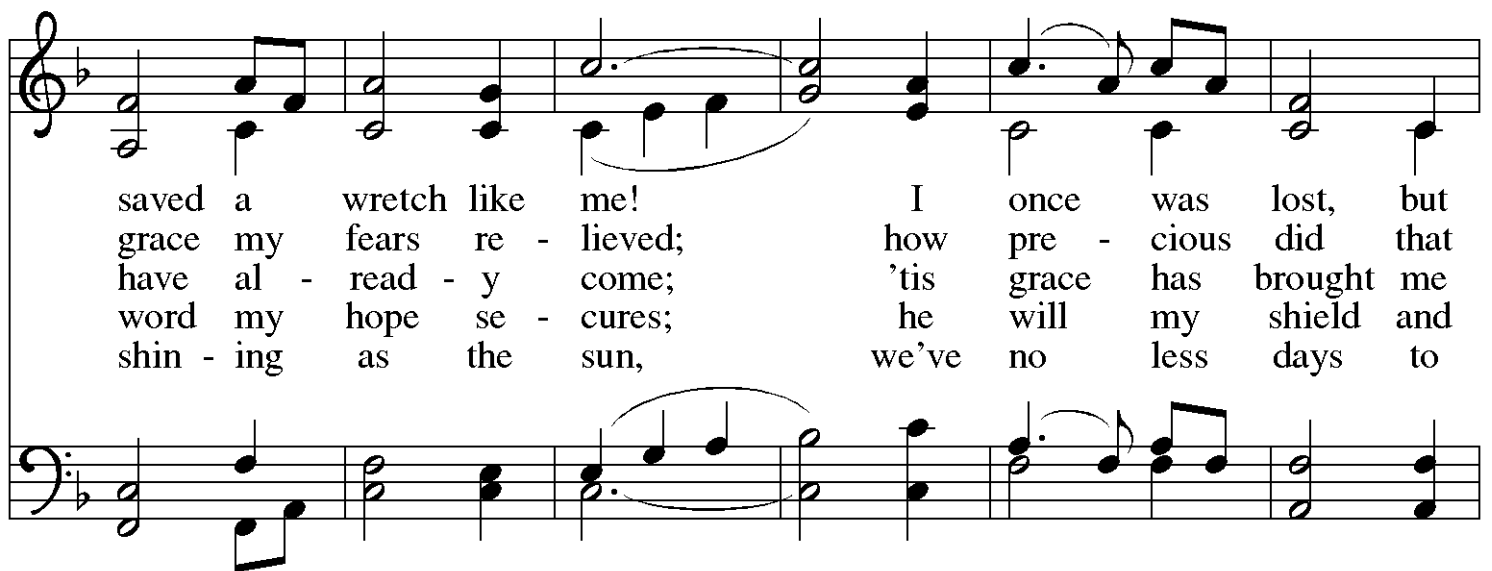
Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you. **We worship you.**

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

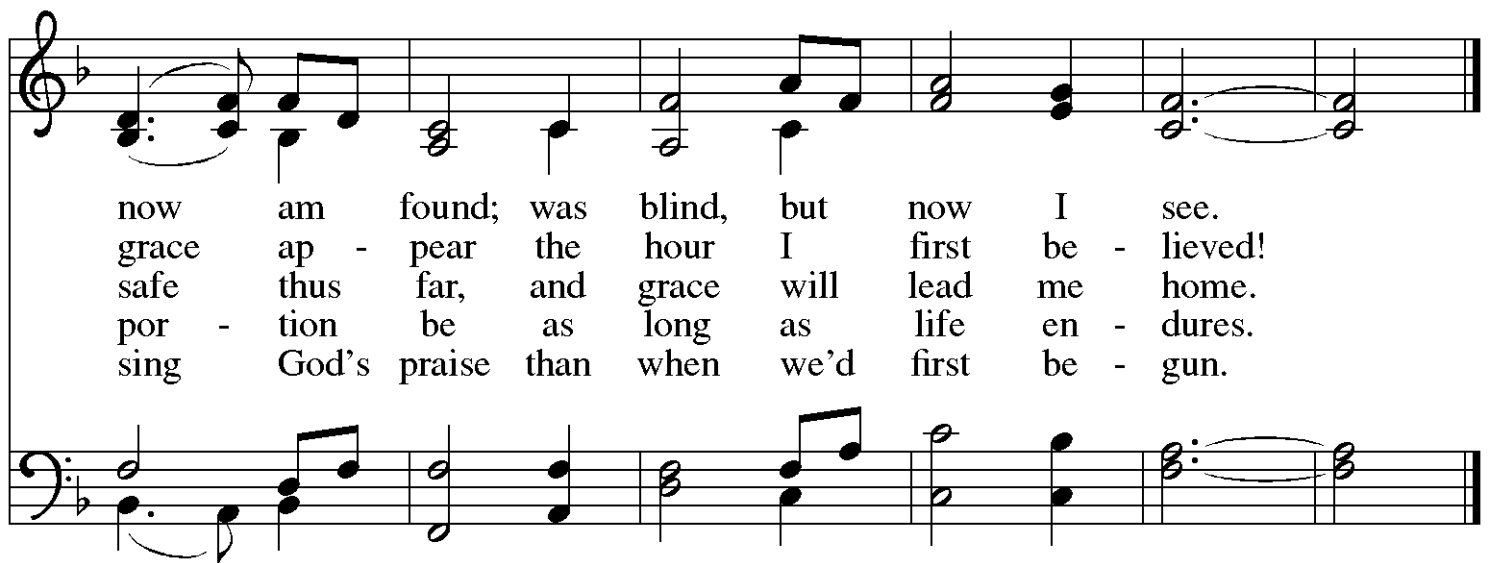
GATHERING HYMN ELW 779 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



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.

## **APOSTOLIC 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 sister Theresa. We thank you for giving her 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## **OBITUARY**

### **MUSIC** “Safe in His Arms”

Timothy Moore, soloist

Vincent Jefferys, keyboardist

Because the Lord is my shepherd I have everything I need.

He lets me rest in the meadow’s grass and he leads me beside the quiet stream;  
he restores my failing health and helps me to do what honors him the most.

That’s why I’m safe, safe in his arms.

When the storm of life is raging and the billows roll,  
so glad he shall hide me, safe in his arms.

So glad he shall hide me.

Safe in his arms.

### **READING** Deuteronomy 28:9–14

<sup>9</sup> The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. <sup>10</sup> Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you. <sup>11</sup> The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity—in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground—in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you.

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. <sup>13</sup> The LORD will make you the head, not the tail; above only, and not beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I give you this day and carefully follow them. <sup>14</sup> Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 23

<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 for ever.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

## READING II Corinthians 5:1–2, 5–9, 14–17

<sup>1</sup> For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup> For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— <sup>5</sup> He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

<sup>6</sup> So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— <sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup> For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

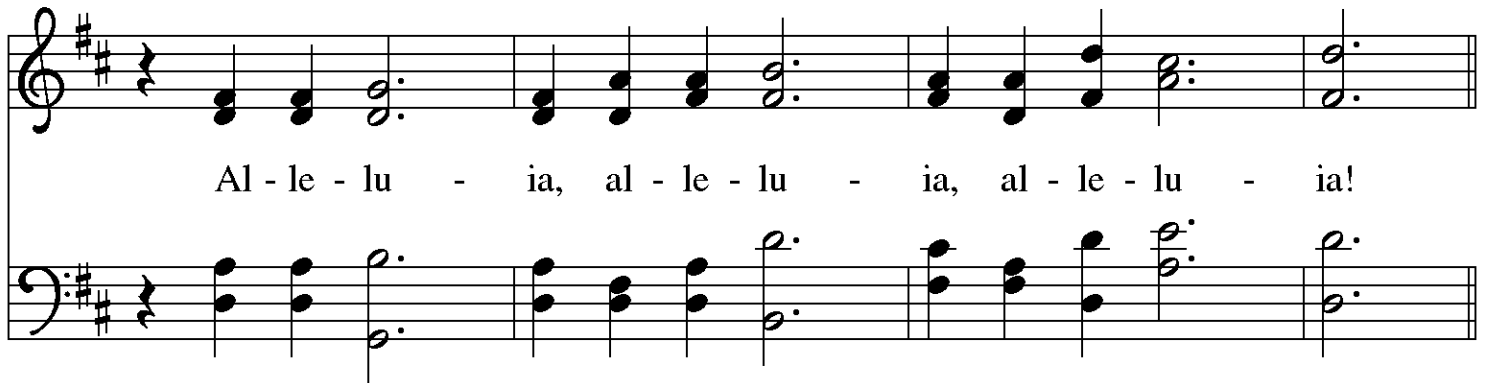
<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup> And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

## GOSPEL John 14:1-6

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet



*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.*

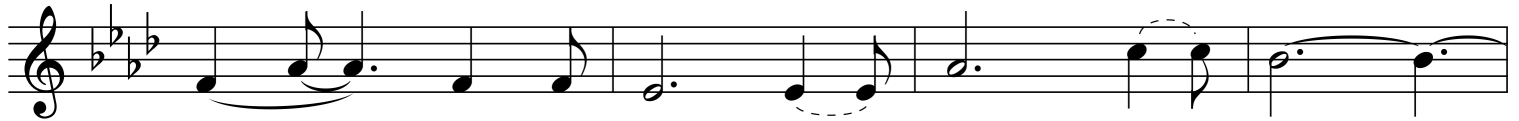
*Psalm 23:4*

*Please stand.*

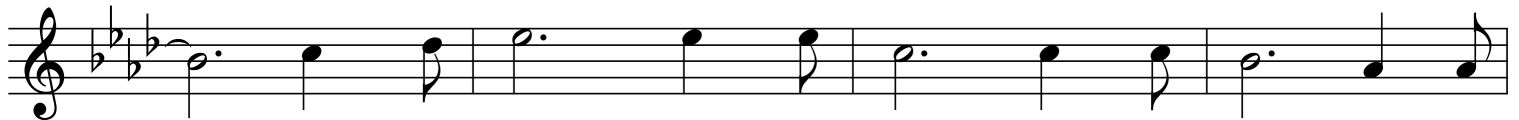
**HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW 773 Precious Lord, Take My Hand



1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me  
2. When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger  
3. When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws



stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
near, When my life is al - most gone,  
near, And the day is past and gone,



Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the  
Hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand lest I  
At the riv - er I stand, Guide my feet, hold my



light, Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.  
fall. Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.  
hand. Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD, 66 9 D; George N. Allen, 1812-1877; arr. by Kelly Dobbs Mickus, b.1966

© 1938, Unichappell Music, Inc.

## **APOSTLES CREED**

Let us confess the faith of the Church, the faith of our Baptism, our trust in life and death:

**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

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.**

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where 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 he 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.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

**MUSIC** "His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Timothy Moore, soloist

Vincent Jefferys, keyboardist

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,  
why should my heart feel lonely, and long for heaven and home;

When Jesus is my portion? A constant friend is he.

His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches over me.

His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy; I sing because I'm free!

His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me.

His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me.





*Please stand.*

## THE 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 offer 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION

*If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.*

*The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.*

*The assisting minister serves the wine / grape juice in pre-filled individual cups.*

*You may pick up your personal cup, being careful to only touch that cup.*

*Step aside and drink the wine, placing the used cup in the return tray.*

*All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.*

*If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

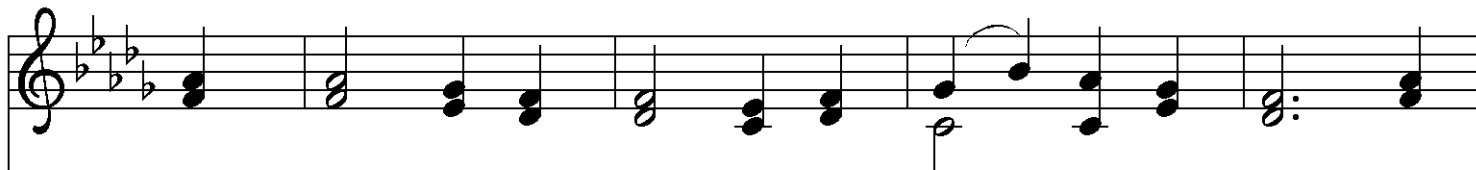


mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

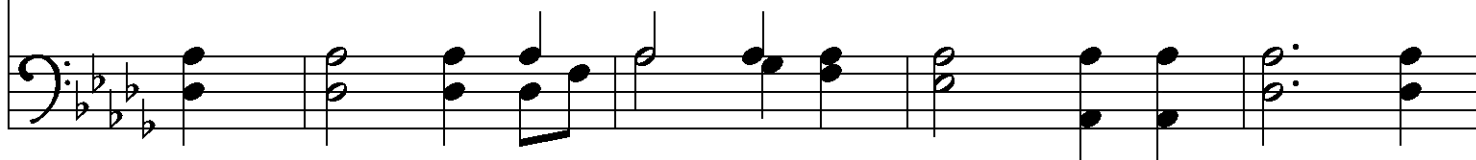


sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 785 When Peace Like a River



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my  
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I  
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.



*Refrain*



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 It is well with my soul,



## COMMUNION HYMN ELW 660 Lift High the Cross



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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*Please stand.*

### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. **Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction and a pledge of our inheritance of life eternal where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## COMMENDATION

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

*Silence for reflection.*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Theresa. 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.**

## CANTICLE *Nunc Dimittis*



Now, Lord, you let your ser- vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

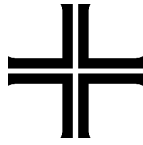
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**



SENDING HYMN ELW 856 How Great Thou Art

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er  
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to  
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me

all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y  
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain  
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -

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!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989  
 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine  
 Text and arr. © 1953 S.K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brooten Road, Pacific City, OR 97135 (ASCAP).  
 Renewed 1981. All rights reserved.

**POSTLUDE** Setting of “A Mighty Fortress”

By Wilbur Held

*Please proceed to the Garden of the Resurrected for the interment.*

**Reception & Fellowship**  
 You are invited to greet the family at the luncheon in  
 Hinman Hall following today’s service.

# Theresa Alleyne

December 10, 1932 - May 4, 2022



Theresa Alleyne, born Theresa Gittens entered this world on December 10, 1932 on the beautiful island of Trinidad & Tobago, West Indies. Theresa was the second child born to parents Elaine Thibou and Robert Colin Gittens also known as Papa Lenny. She had an older sister, Myrtle Gittens whom she often fondly recalled memories of their childhood. Theresa, affectionately called by her grandchildren, Granny and by her great-grandchildren, Granny TT. She was married to Fitzroy Alleyne. She immigrated to the United States in 1969 eventually earning enough money to bring her husband and three daughters to accompany her in this country.

Theresa is survived by her daughters Pat Bennett, Marilyn DeFreitas & Cheryl Hurley, their spouses, Tony, Rory and Clint, nephew Anthony Gittens (Julia), her grandchildren, Nicole Crawley (Sedrick), Steven DeFreitas (Faiza), Darius Russell (Ingrid), Adrian Bennett (Sonya), and Shauna McFadzean, plus 16 great-grandchildren. She also leaves behind a slew of longtime friends, some going as far back to her life in Trinidad and a loving, extended family who claim her as their Granny TT.

Remember not my fight for breath  
Remember not the strife  
Please do not dwell upon my death  
But celebrate my life

—Author Unknown