

**A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION
AND THANKSGIVING**



**IN MEMORY OF
DONALD IRVING CHRISTENSEN**

JULY 20, 1927 - SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

ZUMBRO LUTHERAN CHURCH • FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021 • 1:30PM

PROCESSION

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

L: 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.

C: Amen.

HYMN

PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

**Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand, lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

GREETING

L: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with consolation we ourselves have received from God.

C: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER

L: God of grace and glory, we remember before you today, our brother, Don. 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 your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life, that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BIBLE READINGS

PSALM 23 NKJV

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ²He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. ³He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. ⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

ROMANS 8:38-39 NRSV

JENNA KLYM, GRANDDAUGHTER

³⁸For I am convinced 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.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-12 NRSV

MATT BEATTY, GRANDSON

For 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 throw 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 throw 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. ⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. ¹¹He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live.

POEM

DON'S LEGACY

WRITTEN BY ANA HOLLANDER JACKSON

*INSPIRED AND SENT AS A CONSOLATION TO HER MOTHER, SARA,
AS SHE SAT VIGIL DURING GRANDPA DON'S LAST HOURS*

REMEMBRANCES

JON CHRISTENSEN, SON
ANN BEATTY, DAUGHTER

SONG

IN THE GARDEN

ERIN LANE COOK

ONE OF DON'S FAVORITES AS ERIN VISITED HIM IN HOSPICE

MESSAGE

PASTOR VERN CHRISTOPHERSON

SONG

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

ERIN LANE COOK

ANOTHER OF DON'S FAVORITES AS ERIN VISITED HIM IN HOSPICE

PRAYER

L: God of all grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection has 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 shall 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

L: Lord, remember us when you come into your kingdom and teach us 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.

COMMENDATION

L: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Donald Irving Christensen. 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.

C: Amen.

HYMN

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

*Verses—
Luke Hollander,
Grandson*

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in this shadow for life, say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

All—Refrain **And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear; under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

For to the angels God's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Final Refrain **And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.**

BLESSING

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

RECESSIONAL

Don's family would like to extend a special thank you to everyone for your prayers, your love and support, your words of comfort, and the many acts of kindness they have received. Thanks be to God!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

OFFICIANT-PASTOR VERN CHRISTOPHERSON; **ORGANIST/PIANIST**-KRISTY GIERE; **SONGLEADER**- LUKE HOLLANDER;
SOLOIST- ERIN LANE COOK

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A COMMITTAL SERVICE IN MEMORY OF DONALD IRVING CHRISTENSEN

HYMN

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.**

SCRIPTURE READING

ISAIAH 43:1-4 NRSV

L: But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you.

PRAYER

L: Holy God, holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our brother, Don, whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise him up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

COMMENDATION

L: In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother, Donald Irving Christensen, and we commit his body to the ground; earth to earth; ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord's face shine on him with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon him with favor and + give him peace.

C: Amen.

L: Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let your perpetual light shine upon him.

O Lord, support us all the day long in 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 a peace at the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus.

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