

“Do Not Be Afraid. I Am The First And The Last, The Living One.”
By Rudolf Schäfer

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. Laurence White, Officiating • Jeff Armstrong, Organist

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COVER ILLUSTRATION – “I Am The First And the Last” by Dr. Rudolf Schäfer presents the awesome vision of our Lord Jesus as He revealed himself to the apostle John in the opening scene of the Book of Revelation. There Christ was standing amid the seven golden lamps which signified the church. Schäfer captures the essence of the vision as Christ upon the cross, shedding His precious blood to win forgiveness for the sins of mankind, dominates the entire image. Our Lord’s humble entrance into this world as the Babe of Bethlehem is shown in the left foreground. A joyful choir of angels proclaims the Christmas gospel above the stable and a gleaming star announces the Savior’s birth. In the right foreground stands the empty tomb with its resplendent guardian angel so that all might know that Jesus has conquered death for us. The beautiful life promise of the rainbow extends from the cross to the open door of the tomb. The risen Lord walks in the nearby garden behind the tomb awaiting the arrival of the women. The angels ascending from the empty tomb are carrying home the life harvest of God’s people. Over all is the extended hand of God the Father surrounded by the countless hosts of heaven, prophets and apostles, faithful men and women of God (including Martin Luther), those who have already received their share of God’s gracious gift of eternal life. Schäfer painted this masterpiece for the altar of the village church in Oberjesigen, Germany.

*A Service of Thanksgiving
Celebrating God's Gift of Eternal Life For*



*“Ed” Jose Eduardo Noble
August 16, 1953 - October 31, 2021*

*The death of a Christian has been transformed from tragedy into victory by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. At the moment of physical death the soul of the believer is safe at home in heaven with their Lord. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that those who remain - for a time - here on earth, would gather to celebrate God's gift of life and savor the memories of blessings received through our beloved who now lives with Christ in heaven. We affirm the faith in which they lived and through which they have been given eternal life in the sanctuary where they received the forgiveness of sins in Word and sacrament. **“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.”** (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)*

Opening Hymn

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Text: Fanny J. Crosby



1. Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per-fect de - light, vi - sions of
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my



fore-taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a -
Sa - vior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God, born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood. This is my
bove e - choes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
bove, filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.



sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sa - vior all the day long: this is my



sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sa - vior all the day long.

Invocation

Opening Prayers



Scripture Readings

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

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.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

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.

ST. JOHN 14:1-6

[14] “Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God; believe also in Me. [2] In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there ye may be also. [4] And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.” [5] Thomas said unto Him, “Lord, we know not whither Thou goest; and how can we know the way?” [6] Jesus said unto him, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.”





ST. JOHN 3:13-17

[13] “And no man hath ascended up to Heaven, but He that came down from Heaven, even the Son of Man who is in Heaven. [14] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, [15] that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. [16] For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. [17] For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”

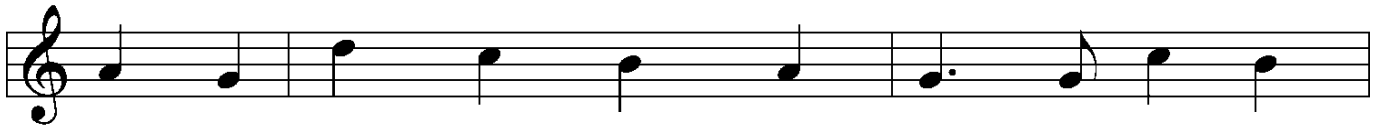
Sermon Hymn

MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

Text: Edward Mote; Tune: John Stainer – “Magdalen”; LSB #575 © 2006 CPH



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.



Sermon

ST. MATTHEW 25:21

His lord said unto him, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy lord.'

There is no more poignant or powerful opportunity for the proclamation of the Biblical message of Law and Gospel than the moments in which Christians celebrate the home-going of a loved one to eternal life in the mansions of heaven. The funeral sermon is designed to declare that wondrous Gospel and to set before all present this day the truth that every believer is a sinner saved by grace alone. Salvation cannot be earned. It can only be given as a free gift by the God whose love for us moved Him to give His only Son to die in our place upon the cross so that we might live with Him forever.



Obituary

Prayers



The Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

Closing Hymn

I'M BUT A STRANGER HERE

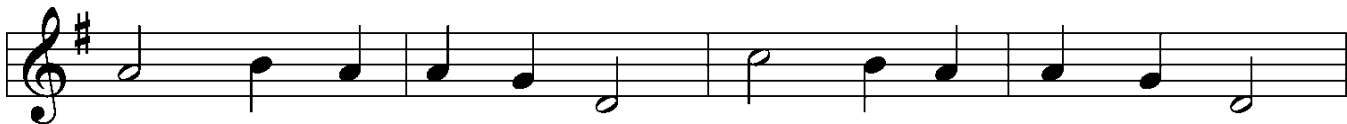
Text: Thomas R. Taylor; Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan – "Heaven Is My Home"; LSB #748 © 2006 CPH



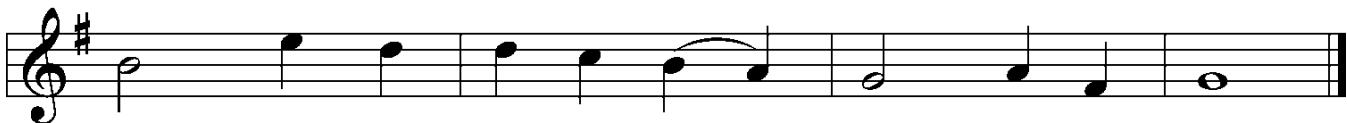
1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;
2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;



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;



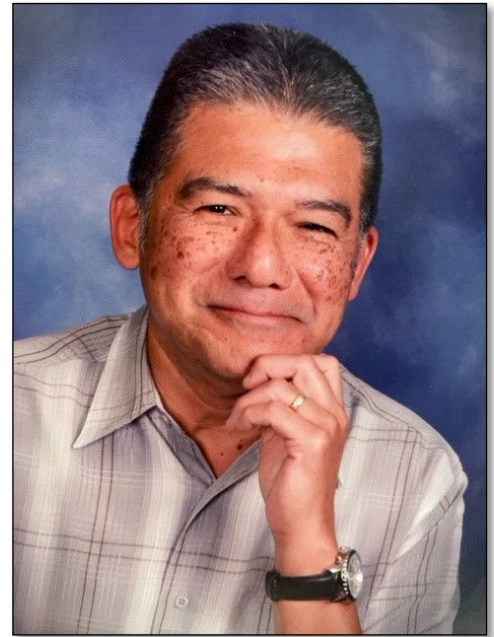
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

+ + +

Soli Deo Gloria

ED NOBLE

ED (JOSE) EDUARDO NOBLE received his eternal reward on Sunday, October 31st, 2021, at the age of 68. Ed was born August 16th, 1953, in Houston, Texas, and remained in the area for his entire lifetime. The eldest of 4 children, he began his working life at 14 years old to help take the load off his mother, Maria Escobar Noble. He was a highly analytical and intelligent individual with a knack for seeing “the big picture.” Reading, history, and sci-fi were major interests. He loved music of all kinds, and even played bass guitar in a band with his cousin and friends for a few years in his youth. In 1971, he met his future wife, Joni McBride Noble, and never looked back. They married in Houston, in June 1974, and in October 1975 were blessed with their only child, Andrea, whom they armed with a strong foundation of faith through Lutheran education and regular church involvement. When Ed and Joni weren’t working and raising their child, they were enjoying a robust social life together and made countless friends over the years. These friendships were truly a treasure to both of them.



“Live well – Love much – Laugh often”

Ed began working as a Piping Design Draftsman for Heat Research, a division of Kellogg, in December 1974, and remained in that position with various other companies until his retirement from Cimarron Energy in March 2020. He developed numerous relationships throughout his work experience and made lifelong friends along the way.

Ed’s first love was his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, Ed grew in his faith throughout his adult years and strived to be a humble servant of God. He was adamant about making sure that his daughter and grandchildren knew who their true Father was and therefore, where their hope should always reside. He taught Sunday School at St. John Lutheran, Houston, Texas, and Our Savior Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas, for a combined total of 35+ years. He held firm in God’s Word as it states in Proverbs 22:6, “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Left to cherish his memory are Ed’s beloved wife, Joni; daughter, Andrea, and husband, Terry Morgan; grandchildren, Cecilia Noble and Jude Morgan; great-grandchildren, Colin and Lilian Noble; brother, Henry Noble and partner Lynn Boyett; sister, Nicole and husband, Keith Tidwell; niece, April Wright, nephew, Brandon Tidwell and great-nephew, Ezra Wright. He is also survived by his father, Edward Noble, and numerous other relatives. Ed is preceded in death by his mother, Maria Noble, and brother, Fernando Noble.

Ed’s family cannot begin to express our thanks to the many friends that have been by our side during his illness for the past two months. The love and support that has been shown to us will never be forgotten. Everyone that met Ed knew what a special person he was. His kind smile, humble nature, and ever-compassionate spirit of love will always be remembered.

Matthew 25:21 – His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.