

"Do Not Be Afraid. I Am The First And The Last, The Living One."
By Rudolf Schüfer

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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.

Visitation Hymn

JESUS LOVES ME

Text: Anna B. Warner; Tune: William B. Bradbury – “Jesus Loves Me”; LSB #588 sts. 1, ref, 2 © 2006 CPH

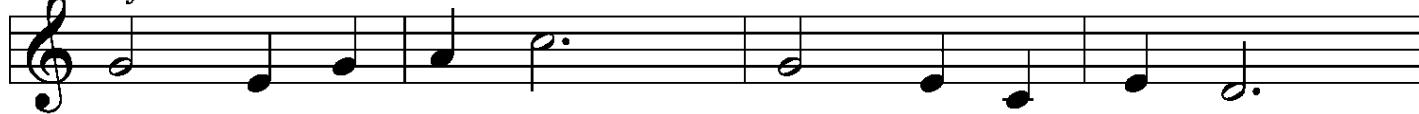


1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, For the Bi - ble tells me so.
2 Je - sus loves me! He who died Heav-en's gates to o - pen wide.



Lit - tle ones to Him be-long; They are weak, but He is strong.
He has washed a - way my sin, Lets His lit - tle child come in.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

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



Marvin Ambrose Evers
September 8, 1927 - April 16, 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

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg; Tune: Swedish – “O Store Gud”; LSB #801 © 2006 CPH



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!”



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!

Invocation

Opening Prayers



Scripture Readings

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even 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.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

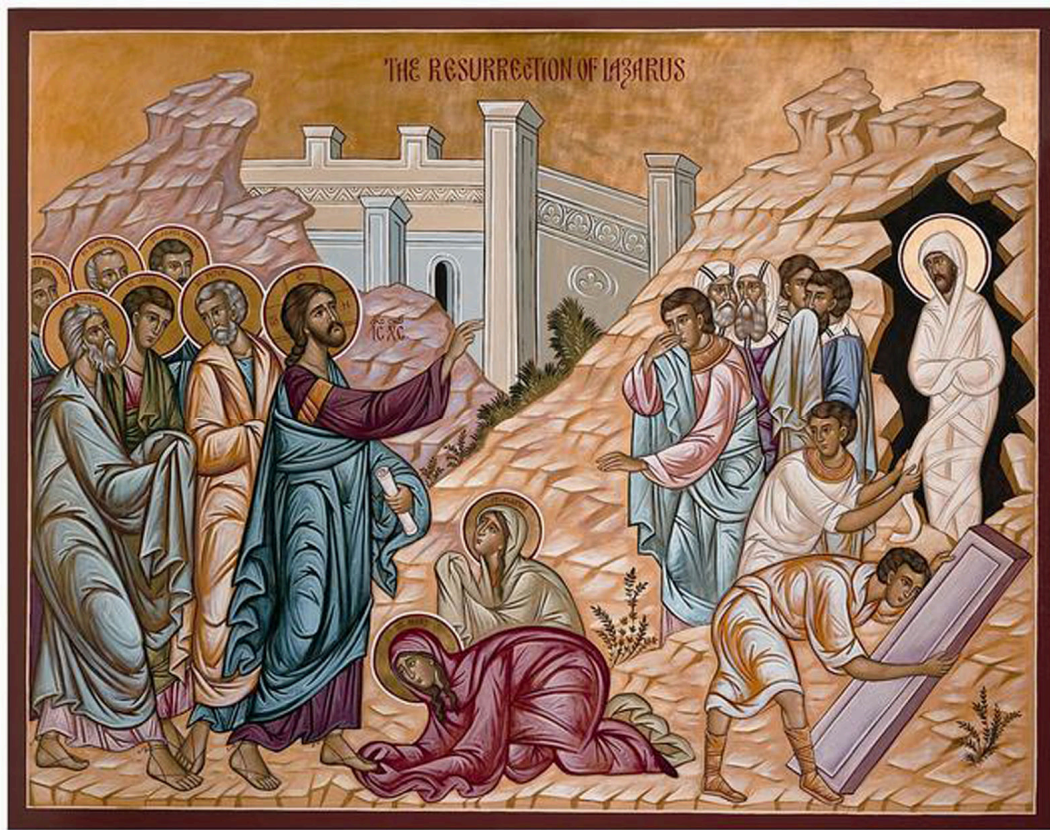
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

1 TIMOTHY 6:12-16

[12] Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. [13] I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, [14] to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, [15] which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, [16] who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.





ST. JOHN 11:17–27

[17] Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. [18] Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, [19] and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. [20] So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. [21] Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. [22] But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” [23] Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” [24] Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” [25] Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, [26] and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” [27] She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

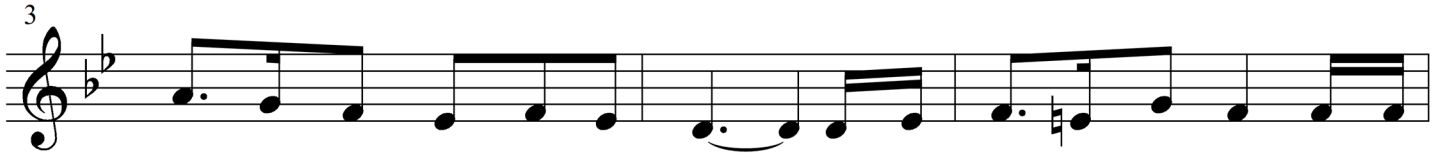
Sermon Hymn

THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

By George Bennard



1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross, The
2. Oh, the old rug-ged cross, so de - spised by the world, Has a
3. In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine, A
4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true, Its



em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame; And I love that old cross where the
won - drous at - trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His
won - drous beau - ty I see; For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus
shame and re - proach glad - ly bear; Then He'll call me some day to my



dear - est and best For a world of lost sin - ners was slain. So I'll
glo - ry a - bove To bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.
suf - fered and died To par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
home far a - way, Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.



cher-ish the old rug-ged cross, Till my tro-phies at last I lay down; I will



cling to the old rug-ged cross, And ex - change it some day for a crown.

Sermon

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

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

Text: Joachim Neander; Tune: "Lobe Den Herren"; LSB #790 © 2006 CPH



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -

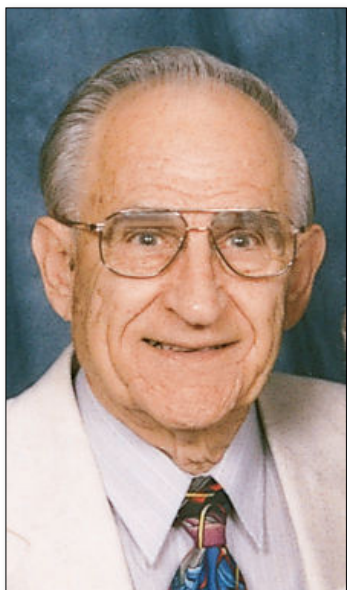


tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

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All Glory to God



MARVIN EVERS

Marvin Ambrose Evers, 93, passed away on April 16, 2021, in Houston, Texas. He was born on September 8, 1927, in Breckenridge, Oklahoma, to Martha Louise & Henry George Evers.

Marvin is survived by his wife, Virginia Lee Evers, daughters, Marva-Lee Talbot and husband Brian; Virginia Annette Evers; Dorothy Angela Bivens and husband Darrell; son, Michael Alan Evers, sister, Valera Sheets; brother, James Evers and wife Alice; grandchildren, Alicia Talbot-Guaracy and husband Pedro, Devin Talbot, and wife Rachel, Stephenie Schneider and husband Aaron; Matthew Bivens and Rachel Bivens; great-grandchildren, Colton Schneider, Kate

Schneider, Faith Schneider, Luke Schneider, William Guaracy, Juliette Talbot and numerous family members and friends.

When his nation called, Marvin answered by joining the Army, serving in Japan Occupational Forces. Afterward, he returned to his passion of raising, breeding, and showing Champion Hereford Cattle, winning many awards over his distinguished career. After many years of being the herdsman of several large cattle ranches, he made a career change joining AAL, now known as Thrivent Financial, where he experienced a successful second career selling insurance until his retirement. Marvin's retirement years were spent turning his hobby into a business through the buying, selling, and framing of limited-edition art. In his free time, he loved to listen to the radio, especially any broadcast involving Lutheran Hour Ministries. Throughout his life, he maintained his passion for Hereford Cattle and his commitment to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

A celebration of Marvin's life will be held on Monday, April 26, at 11:30am, at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5000 W Tidwell Rd, Houston, TX, 77091. A Viewing will be held prior to the service, beginning at 10:30am. Following the service, there will be a brief military memorial at 1:15pm at the Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Dr, Houston, TX 77038.

Due to COVID-19, the VA Cemetery will not allow flowers to remain at the gravesite. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to make a memorial donation in Marvin's memory may do so to with Lutherans for Life 501(c)(3) ministry at 1101 5th Street, Nevada, IA 50201-1816; or Our Savior Lutheran Church School extension building fund, 5000 W Tidwell Rd, Houston, TX 77091.

Dr. Laurence White, Officiating • Jeff Armstrong, Organist

Our Savior Lutheran, 5000 W. Tidwell, Houston, TX 77091 • 713-290-9087 • www.OSL.cc