

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

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dr. Laurence White, Officiating • Jeff Armstrong, Organist

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

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



"The Lord Is Risen!" by Nesterov

Dr. Stephen Kenny Chmaitelli
September 28, 1975 - August 15, 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

WHEN PEACE, LIKE A RIVER

Text: Horatio G. Spafford; Tune: Philip P. Bliss – “It Is Well”; LSB #763 © 2006 CPH



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 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The

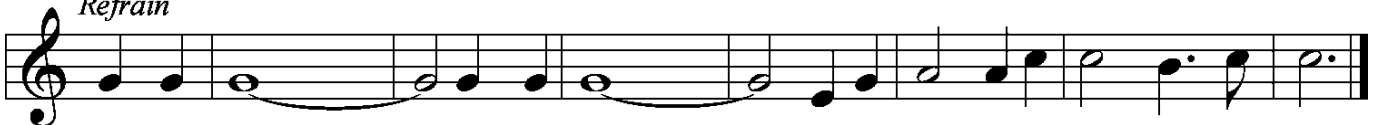


sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



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.

Public domain

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.

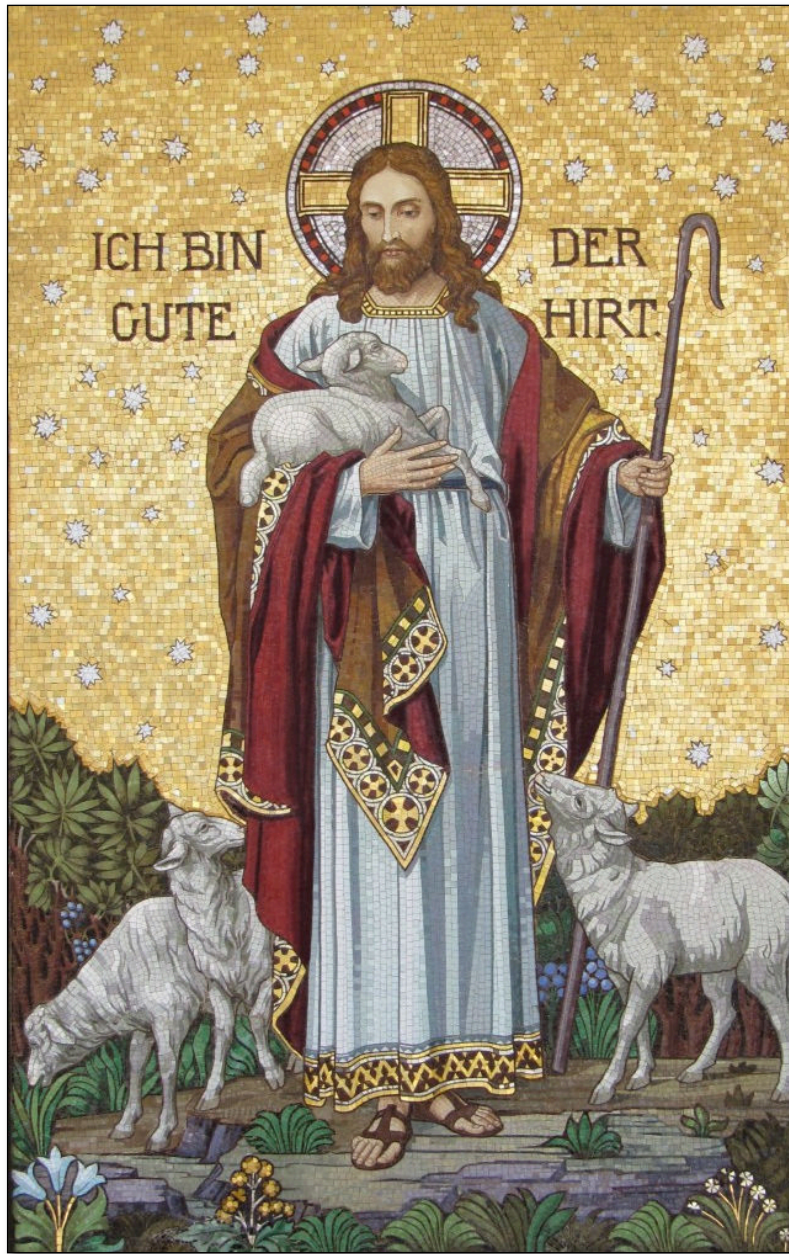
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

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

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

[13] But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. [15] For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. [16] For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.





ST. JOHN 10:11–18

[11] I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. [12] He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. [13] He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. [14] I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, [15] just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. [16] And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. [17] For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. [18] No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

Sermon 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!”

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!

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

Quartet

A PARTING BLESSING

By J. Jerome Williams

Keith Boyd, Steve Cantu, Noel Ortiz, Tim Barosh
Ms. Sally Schott, Director



The Lord's Prayer

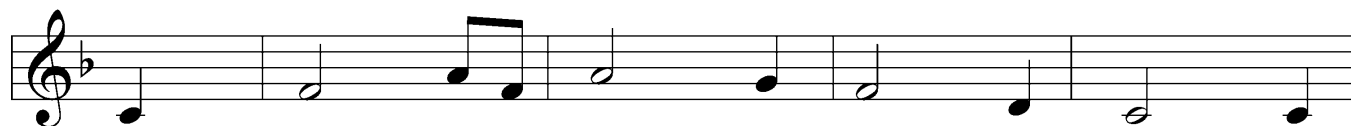
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

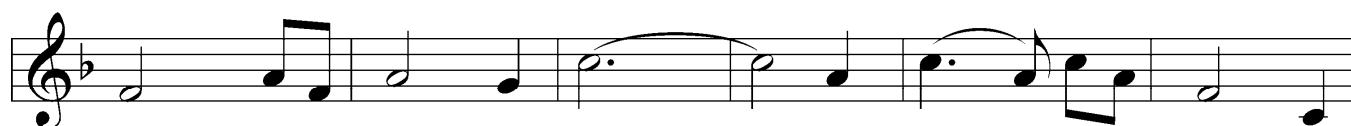
Closing Hymn

AMAZING GRACE

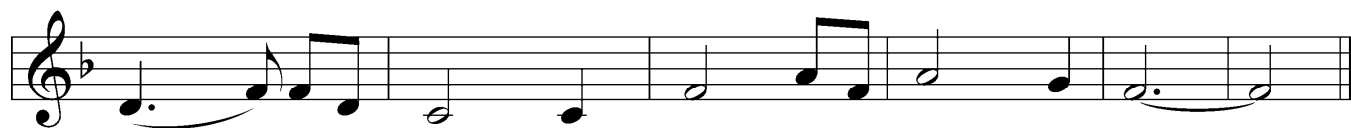
Text: John Newton; Tune: "New Britain"; LSB #744 © 2006 CPH



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.

© 1991 Editorial Concordia. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100011008.
Public domain

Soli Deo Gloria



STEPHEN CHMAITELLI

Dr. Stephen “Doc” Kenny Chmaitelli, a beloved son and brother, devoted veterinarian, talented musician, and friend, left this world suddenly on August 15, 2021 at age 45. He was born in Houston, Texas, on September 28, 1975 to Beverly Chmaitelli, née Kenny, from Brownsville, Texas, and Abdul Karim Ahmad Chmaitelli from Beirut, Lebanon.

Growing up in the city of South Houston, Stephen was a diligent student while also pursuing his musical and athletic interests. At South Houston High School, he sang in the A Capella Choir, but he also proudly donned the Trojan jerseys on the football and baseball fields. He graduated high school in 1993 and decided to pursue his life-long love of animals, following his dreams to study veterinary medicine at the state’s premier institution for it – Texas A&M University. While in college, Stephen fully embraced student life in “Aggieland” as a member of the all-male chorus,

The Singing Cadets, “The Voice of Aggieland,” among other groups. It was in College Station that he made many lasting friendships and formed life-long bonds. He earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) with the graduating class of 2000 -Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Stephen went to work in large animal & equine hospitals before setting up his first practice in east Texas, where he specialized in large exotic animals and livestock. His passion, undeniable talent, and unwavering dedication to his craft even led him across the globe in the treatment of exotic wildlife species. In 2015, Stephen made his way back to Houston to open Garden Oaks Veterinarian Clinic, a successful practice much adored by its four-legged patients and their owners alike. Among his many achievements and goals in life, the practice was accredited with the American Animal Hospital Association not long after in 2016. He continued his passion for large animals with his other venture, A to Z Exotics & Capture, servicing African game ranches across Texas.

When he wasn’t tirelessly working and caring for animals, Stephen spent his time in the pursuit of his second love: music. From a very young age, he was captivated by all aspects of music and became an accomplished pianist, guitar player, and song writer. Music remained an integral part of his life into adulthood, and he often performed with friends and Texas country artists across Texas supporting their professional tours. His affinity for sports carried on as well, as he played with and supported the Houston United Rugby Team (HURT) and regularly attended Astros games with family and friends. Stephen’s giving nature led him to volunteer across multiple organizations, including the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, the City of Houston Animal Shelter Advisory Committee & the Texas Veterinary Medical Association Government Relations Committee. He was also elected as the Harris County Representative to the Board of Directors. Stephen will be remembered by countless people for his selfless generosity, his impactful work ethic in the pursuit of excellence in veterinary medicine, and his heartfelt kindness.

He is survived by his mother, Beverly Chmaitelli, his sister Mary Prentice, her son Alexander Prentice, and his brother-in law David Prentice. He is also survived by his beloved Aunt Kathy and Uncle Walter Underwood, by his cousins Sajiah Chmaitelli-Westfall, Faye Powell, Sheri, Dan and Drew Dendy, Jason, Ali and Jordan Underwood, Kim and Peyton Turner, Mike, Barbara, Gale and Elizabeth Kenny, Uncle A. Chmaitelli, girlfriend Andrea Ramirez, and many cousins all over the United States and extensive family overseas in Lebanon. The visitation will be held at 10A.M., followed by the funeral service at 11A.M. on Saturday, August 21st at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5000 W Tidwell Rd, Houston, TX 77091. A graveside service will follow at 1P.M. at Forest Park -The Woodlands Funeral Home & Cemetery, located at 18000 Interstate 45 S, The Woodlands, TX 77384. Flowers may be sent via Darlene’s Flower & Gift Shop at 10570 Northwest Fwy., Houston, TX 77092. Donations in Stephen’s name may be made to Friends for Life Animal Shelter at www.friends4life.org or to NOMV at www.nomv.org.