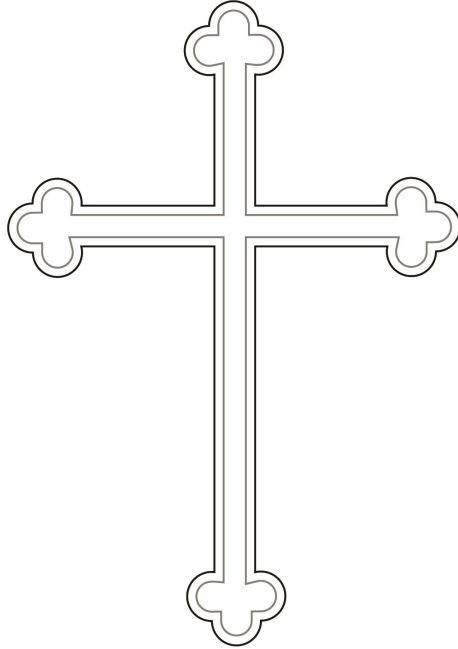


*Funeral Service of*  
**Ardis Schleining**

1942-2025



Tuesday, December 30, 2025  
10:30 a.m.

*St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
*Fairmont, Minnesota*



*Stand*

**ENTRANCE HYMN: “Children of the Heavenly Father”**

*LSB 725*

**INVOCATION & REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**

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

**C** **Amen.**

**P** In Holy Baptism Ardis was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. St. Paul says, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"

**C** **We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.**

*Romans 6:3-5*

**KYRIE, SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C** **Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Ardis and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (ESV)**

Behold, my servant shall act wisely;  
he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.  
As many were astonished at you—  
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

so shall he sprinkle many nations.

Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,  
for that which has not been told them they see,  
and that which they have not heard they understand.

Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
For he grew up before him like a young plant,

and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
and no beauty that we should desire him.  
He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;  
and as one from whom men hide their faces  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.  
Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.  
But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.  
All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned—every one—to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.  
He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.  
By oppression and judgment he was taken away;  
and as for his generation, who considered  
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people?  
And they made his grave with the wicked  
and with a rich man in his death,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.  
Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;  
he has put him to grief;  
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,  
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;  
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.  
Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,  
make many to be accounted righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.  
Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out his soul to death  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 15:50-57 (ESV)**

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**VERSE (General)**

*Revelation 1:5-6*

**P** Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;

**C** to Him be glory and power forever. Alleluia.

**HOLY GOSPEL: St. John 3:14-21 (ESV)**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**P** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

**SOLO: "How Great Thou Art"**

**SERMON**

*Stand*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.

**P** Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Give to the family of Ardis and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with

those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Receive our thanks for Ardis and for all the blessings You bestowed on her in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with her we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence 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, 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**

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.**

#### **NUNC DIMITTIS**

**P** "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

**C** **Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;**

**Your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation**

**which You have prepared in the sight of every people:**

**a light to reveal You to the nations**

**and the glory of Your people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

**CONCLUDING COLLECT**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**MEAL PRAYER**

**All: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endures forever. Amen.**

**BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

**C** Amen.

**P** Let us go forth in peace,

**C** in the name of the Lord. Amen.

**HYMN: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”**

*LSB 702*

† † †

*LUNCH downstairs immediately follows the Service.*

*Committal at Fairview Memorial Park will be at a later date.*

† † †

**Pastor:** Rev. Anthony Bertram  
**Organist:** Mrs. Hannah Northwick  
**Soloist:** Blake Pothoff

