

Dr. James H. Shaffer

November 9, 1942- March 19, 2025

Welcome to all. We greet you in the name of Christ the Lord, and extend the hospitality of the congregation of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church to you.

A Christian Funeral is a service of worship which involves all those present. We are here to worship God together. We celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and the promise of our own resurrection and life with God.

We offer thanks for the blessing which God has brought to us with and through Jim. By our Baptism into Christ, God makes us God's own people. Jim's baptism marked the beginning of eternal life for him. Along with him, we have the certain hope of life forever in Christ's presence.

Please participate as a fellow worshipper. By use of this booklet, you may join in all responses and prayers. Bold print in this booklet indicates that the entire congregation responds.

At the conclusion of the service please join the family downstairs to share in fellowship and a meal.

Dr. James H. Shaffer

Born: November 9, 1942 Died: March 19, 2025

The Order for Burial of the Dead

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Greenville, Pennsylvania Saturday, March 29, 2025 11:00 a.m. Organ Prelude God's Time is Best J. S. Bach

Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier

J. S. Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring
J. S. Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom, love most bright;
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, dying round Thy throne.

Gathering

At the Presiding Minister's direction, the assembly stands to face the rear of the Church; as the processional cross passes, please turn to face it as it moves to the altar.

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 the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

Thanks be to God.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, (the urn is sprinkled with water in remembrance of baptism), we were baptized into his death. We were buried (the white pall is placed over the urn) 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.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother in Christ, Jim. 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.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Eulogy The Rev. Ken Foust

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 65:17-19

A Reading from Isaiah:

¹⁷For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people;

no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

3 he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff –

they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

A Reading from First Corinthians:

50 What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, 52 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 will be changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. 54 When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal

body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."

55 "Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia-The Memorial Eucharist

Washill

Alleluia.

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead.

To him be the glory and power, forever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-7

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus said to the disciples:

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come again and will take you to myself,

so that where I am, there you may be also.

- 4 And you know the way to the place where I am going."
- 5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going.

How can we know the way?"

6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.No one comes to the Father except through me.7 If you know me, you will know my Father also.From now on you do know him and have seen him.

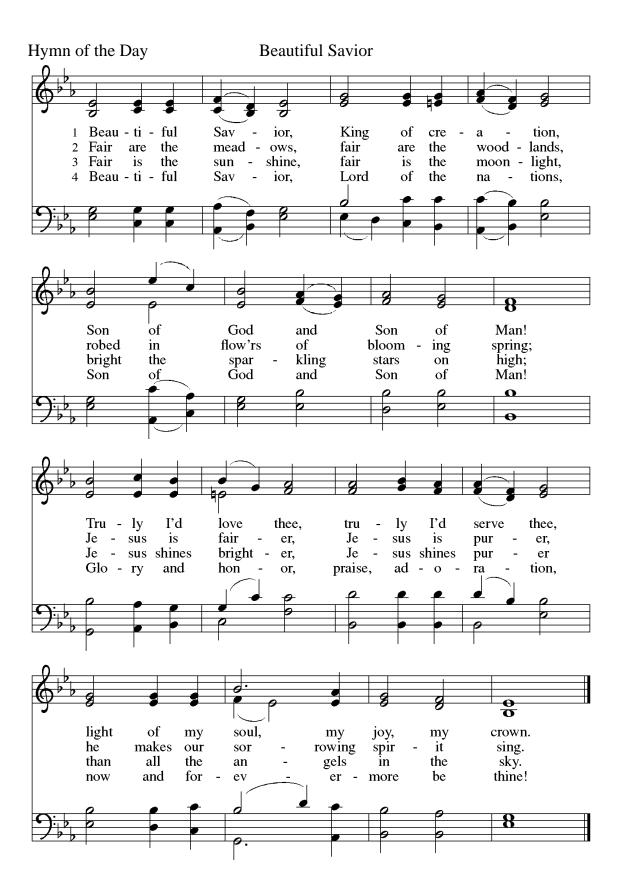
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon Pastor Brenda Martin

The assembly stands.



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

Apostles' Creed

God has made us God's own people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant us grace to entrust Jim to your never-failing love which sustained him in this life. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, and remember him according to the favor you bear for your people. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Welcome into your presence all family and friends who have completed their journey on this earth, and have gone to their rest in the hope of rejoicing with you forever in heaven. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he 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, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Meal

Offertory

A flower remembered words & music by John Rutter

A flower remembered can never wither:
Forever blooming as bright as day,
It's fragrance lingering like music softly playing,
A gentle voice that saying,
"I'll never fade away."

I hear the echoes of many voices; Sometimes they're distant, sometimes so clear; Through all the sounds of life they seem to whisper, "Will you remember?" The birds fly homeward across my valley
Toward the mountains all white with snow;
The birds are gone now,
The mountain snows have melted,
But still I see their beauty,
These scenes of long ago.

The birds still fly in other valleys;
The snows have turned to flowing streams;
All things must pass, but memories are lasting:
We will remember.

The altar is prepared for the celebration of the Sacrament, a celebration of Christ's victory over death, and Christ's continuing nurture of the Church.

The assembly stands.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

God our Redeemer,
receive all we bring you this day –
these gifts and the offering of our lives.
Refresh us with this holy food and drink
that we may reach the promised land,
the Easter feast of victory in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy and gracious Father:
in your infinite love you made us for yourself;
and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death,
you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son,
to share our human nature, to live and to die as one of us to reconcile us to
you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
"Take and eat: this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering therefore the life he offered for us, and celebrating his glorious resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you.

Send your Holy Spirit,
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son
as the holy food and drink of unending life,
may serve you in unity, faithfulness, and peace,
until you bring us with Jim and all your saints
into the joy of your eternal kingdom.
This we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Breaking of Bread

As the bread is broken:

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.

When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

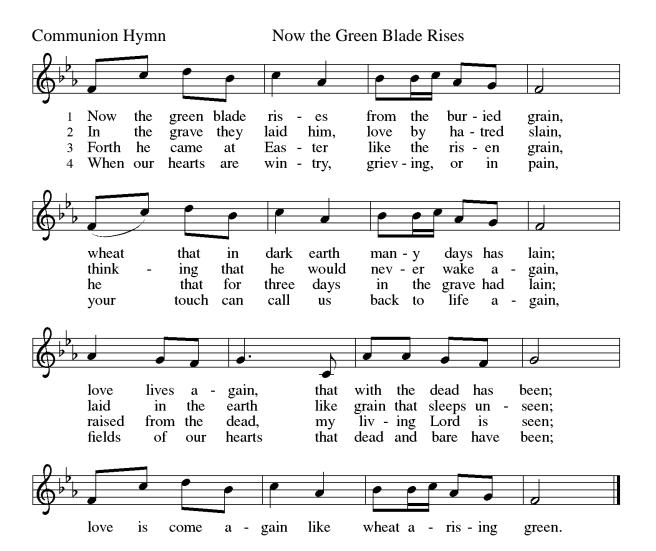
Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is now ready.

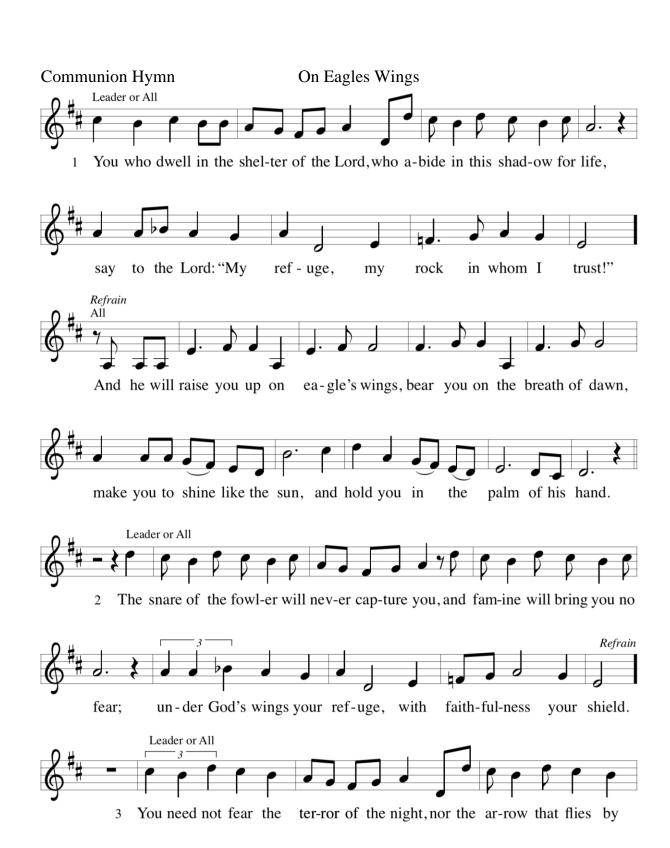
The assembly is seated.

Communion of the Faithful

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.



Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol Text from Oxford Book of Carols, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.



day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.



Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957 Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas

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Following the Communion the assembly stands for the blessing.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Silence for reflection.

Sending

Commendation

Let us commend Jim to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Jim. 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.

Amen.

The urn is processed to the Columbarium for the Committal.

Music O Lord Support Us

Becker

O Lord, support us all the day long of 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 Lord, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Committal

The presiding minister greets the assembly.

Grace and peace from our Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

Let us pray.

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 in Christ, Jim, whom 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.

Amen.

A reading from John: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

John 11:25-26

The urn is placed in its niche in the columbarium.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our brother in Christ, Jim, and we commit his body to its resting place; 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. **Amen.**

Rest eternal grant him, O Lord;

and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, you heal the broken in heart and bind up the wounds of the afflicted. Strengthen us in our weakness, calm our troubled spirits, and dispel our doubts and fears. In Christ's rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to everlasting life. Renew our trust in you that by the power of your love we shall one day be brought together again with Jim. Grant this, we pray, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is blessed and sent forth.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you

complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

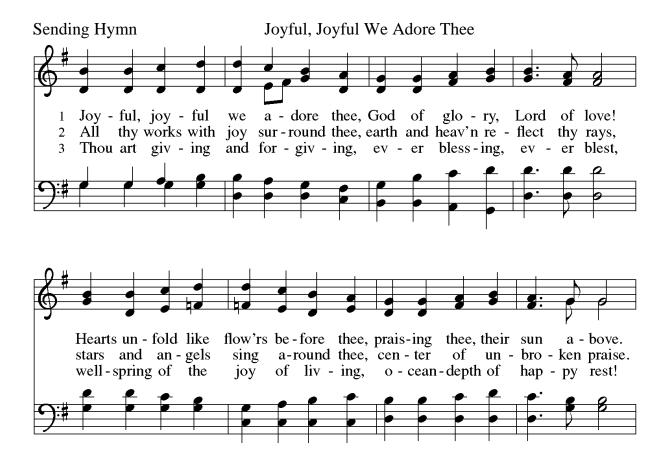
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

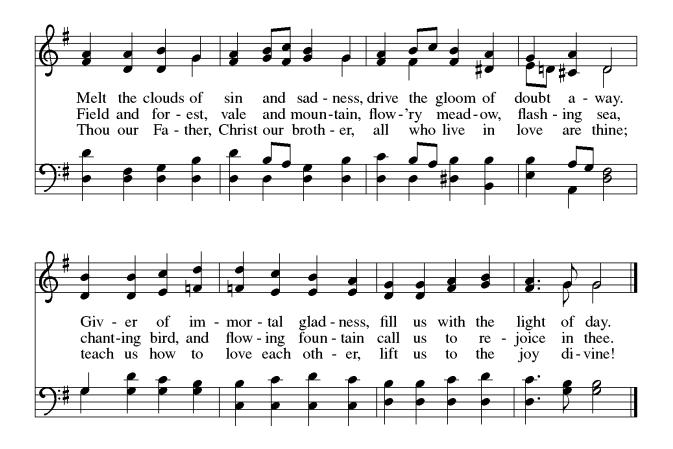
Amen.

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

The assembly stands to sing the Sending Hymn





Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Postlude

Fugue in D major, BWV 850

Johann Sebastian Bach

Serving Today

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brenda Martin
Organist	Steve Repasky
Deacon	Linda Armstrong
Communion Assistant	
Lectors	Katie Whitacre, Shannon Jennings, Timothy John Horth
Cantor	Andy Joos
Pallbearers	Jamie Shaffer and Lucy Shaffer
Ushers	Bob Olson
Altar Guild	Bonnie Long
Live Stream Technician	Tyler Martin-Call