

✠ Funeral Service of ✠
Joan Carol Swain Tyler

July 8, 1940—December 31, 2020

*Oh that my words were written!
Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
Oh that with an iron pen and lead
they were engraved in the rock forever!*

*For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last He will stand upon the earth.*

*And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,
whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold,
and not another.*

My heart faints within me!

+ Job 19:16–27

Grace Evangelical-Lutheran Church (LCMS)
El Centro, California
February 6, 2021

Dear family and friends of Joan,

Today the Holy Christian and Apostolic Church of Christ Jesus lays to rest one of her saints, our sister Joan. I thank you for attending her funeral service and showing your love for her and her family as they mourn. The Christian funeral is a time for the Church to speak for her deceased child—to confess (that is, to speak the truth) on Joan’s behalf that saving faith she had in her Lord and Savior Christ Jesus.

For some of you, this may be your first introduction to Lutheranism; it may also be one of the few times that you will witness and (as you are able and comfortable) to participate in the historic liturgy of Christianity. The language of the church (the liturgy) may seem foreign to you and even feel a little awkward. It certainly isn’t the way we speak or act in our everyday lives.

This is exactly as it should be because we are earthbound creatures and the liturgy is a preview of the language of Heaven (where every word is drawn from the Word of God, spoken first to us and then spoken again back to God). It is only through repetition and our immersion in the words, the sounds, the smells, and the sights, that the liturgy becomes our native tongue.

So take heart, dear visitor and friend. Know that what is now unfamiliar and awkward to you was once the same for Joan’s brothers and sisters at Grace Evangelical-Lutheran Church. We have been where you are, standing in a new place and trying to speak a new “language.” In the liturgy, the parts that the people gathered are to speak are written in **bold face** and marked with a **C**. If you are uncomfortable with a part of the service, feel free not to participate (to sing or speak along with the congregation anything that would contradict with your faith or practice).

Together we shall both mourn Joan’s death (her physical separation from us) yet all the more rejoice in the eternal life that Joan now enjoys in the loving arms of her Savior Christ Jesus.



Sincerely,

Rev. Doug Griebenaw

Rev. Doug Griebenaw, Pastor

✠ FUNERAL SERVICE ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION: Children of the Heavenly Father

LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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Stand – The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

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

Matthew 28:19b

C Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF HOLY BAPTISM

The funeral pall is placed over the casket as a reminder that Joan is clothed with Christ's righteousness.

P In Holy Baptism Joan was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. Saint 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

INTROIT

Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10

The pastor and congregation chant responsively.

The antiphon is chanted by the pastor before and after the psalm.



(Antiphon) Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

¹ Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

² **Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.**

⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my in- | iquity,*
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and You forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You | may be found;*
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.**

⁷ You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from | trouble,*
You surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

The antiphon is repeated.

KYRIE



☩ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



☩ The Lord be with you.

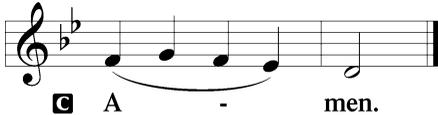


☩ And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Joan 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.



Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 2:2-5

P The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter two.

- ² It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
³ and many peoples shall come, and say:
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that He may teach us His ways
and that we may walk in His paths.”
For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.
⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

The pastor and congregation chant responsively by half-verse.



¹ Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol Him, all | peoples!

^{2a} For great is His steadfast | love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due His name;*

bring an offering, and come in- | to His courts!

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:1–10

P The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, chapter five.

¹We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA & VERSE

Revelation 1:5–6

The pastor and congregation chant responsively.



⁵ Alleluia, alle- | luia.*

Jesus Christ is the firstborn | of the dead;

⁶ **to Him be glory and power for- | ever.***

Alle- | luia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-6

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 14th chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ¹“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. ²In My Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

LSB 709



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
 love He sought me And on His shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;
 And, oh, what transport of delight
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
 Within Thy house forever!

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SERMON

Rev. Griebenaw

After the sermon, the pastor may say:

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7

C Amen.

Stand or Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(1 Timothy 2:1-4)

- P** Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. 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 true body and most precious 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 Joan's family 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 Joan 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

Matthew 6:9–13

- 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

John 11:25–26; Luke 2:29–32

The Pastor stands by the casket to proclaim Christ's victory over death and the grave.

- 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.”

SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

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 A - men.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

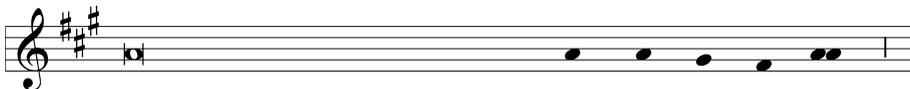
Stand

BENEDICTION

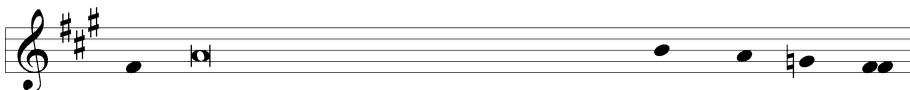
Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

The Funeral Service will conclude with the Committal at Evergreen Cemetery. Please sing/read aloud the closing hymn at your home, in solidarity with the family, as the casket is led in procession out of the church to be interred at Evergreen Cemetery.

CLOSING HYMN: Be Still, My Soul

LSB 752



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient-
 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take To guide the
 3 Be still, my soul; though dear - est friends de - part And all is
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
 fu - ture as He has the past. Your hope, your con - fi - dence let
 dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
 be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
 noth - ing shake; All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
 love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
 fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
 last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
 From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

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✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠
 (TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)