



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

A Service of Holy Communion

**In loving memory
of
Paul G. Nikischer**

November 10, 1932 – May 22, 2020

**July 26, 2020
10:00 a.m.**

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Abide With Me"

O Mensch, beweine dein' Sünde grosse,
from *Orgelbuchlein*

Herzlich tut mich verlangen, Op. 122 No. 10

Deep River

William Bolcom (b. 1938)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P 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.

C Thanks be to God.

P When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried 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.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Paul. 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.**

(Please be seated)

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:27-31

A reading from Isaiah, the 40th Chapter.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

Psalm 105:1-19

A reading from Psalm 105.

¹O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

²Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.

³Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.

⁵Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,

⁶O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

⁷He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

⁸He is mindful of his covenant forever,
of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,

⁹the covenant that he made with Abraham,
his sworn promise to Isaac,

¹⁰which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,

¹¹saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan
as your portion for an inheritance."

¹²When they were few in number,
of little account, and strangers in it,

¹³wandering from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another people,

¹⁴he allowed no one to oppress them;
he rebuked kings on their account,

¹⁵saying, "Do not touch my anointed ones;
do my prophets no harm."

¹⁶When he summoned famine against the land,
and broke every staff of bread,
¹⁷he had sent a man ahead of them,
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
¹⁸His feet were hurt with fetters,
his neck was put in a collar of iron;
¹⁹until what he had said came to pass,
the word of the LORD kept testing him.

FAMILY REFLECTIONS

James Nikischer
Erich Nikischer
(reading on behalf of Kristin Balcourt)
Letter from Paul Percy

POEM: From November Song *Room At the Feast*

Written by Donald McQuaid
Read by Daniel Windnagle

THE SOLO *Does Jesus Care?*

Daniel Windnagle

J. Lincoln Hall

(Please rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel, as you are able)

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel accord to St. John, the 14th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place 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. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

The Gosepl of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

THE SERMON

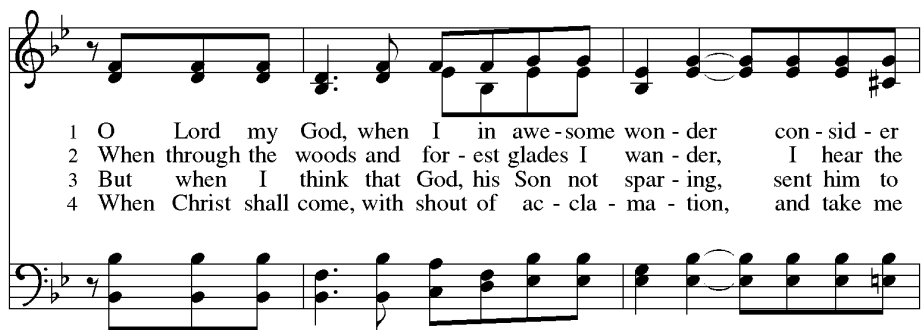
The Rev. Lee M. Miller II

(Please stand, if you are able)

THE HYMN

How Great Thou Art

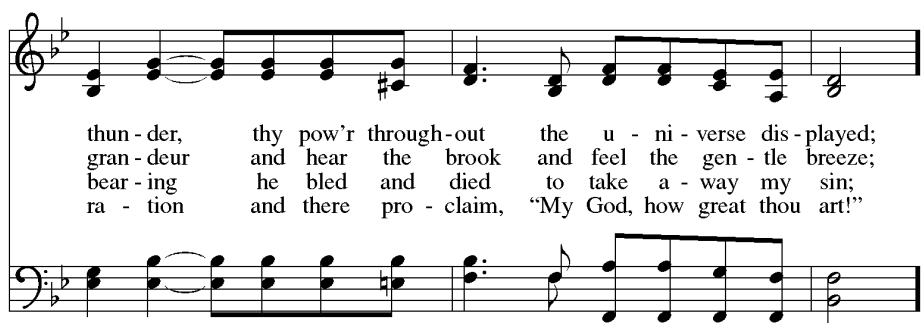
ELW 856 (vs. 1 & 4)



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-



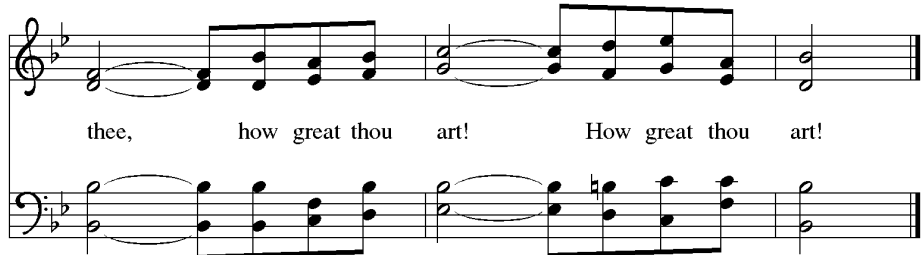
thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



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!

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in 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 your peace.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Hear us, Lord.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

Hear us, Lord.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant us grace to entrust Paul 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.

Hear us, Lord.

Into your hands, dear Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your promises, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

THE DIALOGUE

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.

THE PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their
unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and
earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blesses is he
who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and
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.

THE SOLO

The Lord's Prayer

Sung by Daniel Windnagle

AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

THE POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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 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 shall 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.

Amen.

Please stand, if able.

THE COMMENDATION

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

P Let us go forth in peace.

C **In the name of Christ. Amen**

The Ringing of the Tower Bells

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Amazing Grace"

J. Christopher Pardini

*In memory of Paul, our special son-in-law, Alan Balcourt
made a video about his beautiful life.*

The link is: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/JoRVB185kgoSd1Du9>



Memorials given in loving memory
of Paul may be made to:

Ken-Ton Kiwanis Terrific Kids

Or

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