



A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE
CELEBRATING THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST
AND THE LIFE AND ETERNAL LIFE OF

Brent Wade Hirsch

July 14, 1970 – January 14, 2023

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Houston, Texas

January 21, 2023

+ IN THE NAME OF JESUS +

Funeral Service for Brent Wade Hirsch

Saturday, January 21, 2023

Prelude

Opening Hymn: LSB #850 "God of Grace and God of Glory" v. 1, 2, 5

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow'r;
Crown Your ancient Church's story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

- 5 As we comfort one another
With the promises You give
Help each grieving sister, brother
Know through Christ we all shall live
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Through the peace that Jesus gives
Through the peace that Jesus gives

Text: Public domain

(Please Stand.)

Invocation

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

C Amen. (*The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of our Baptisms*)

Remembrances of Baptism and God's Promises Of Eternal Life

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, The source of all mercy and the God of all consolation.

C: 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. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

P: Praise be to our God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

C: In His great mercy He has given us new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

P In Holy Baptism Brent Hirsch was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his 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)

P: Because of our unity with Christ, we are bold to proclaim with St. Paul:

C: "I have been put to death with Christ on His cross, so that it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. This life that I live now, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave His life for me." (Galatians 2:20)

P: At the time of death, the voice of the Church is heard, not in defeat and despair, as though God's will and purpose for His people were thwarted, but in triumph and joy. Death is the gate through which the Lord of life ushers His people into eternal joy and bliss with Him forever. Thus we celebrate today not the end, but the beginning of the ultimate purpose, which God has in mind for His people. Our brother in the faith has been called home by the Lord, and as people of God, grieving, yet trusting that he will live again, and lives with the Lord even now, we celebrate the eternal life that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that death, no matter how painful for those who remain in this world, is victory

and not defeat for the child of God. That is our faith, our hope and our joy! Remembering this, we pray together...

C: O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Brent Hirsch and to all Your children 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. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

Psalm

Psalm 23 KJV

P The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.

C he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.

P he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

C Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

P for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

C Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

P thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

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

P and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

(Please Stand.)

Holy Gospel

John 11:21-27 NIV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

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.**

(Please be seated.)

Hymn: LSB #744 "Amazing Grace" v. 1, 2, 4, 5

- 1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

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Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

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 Give to the family of Brent Hirsch and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and the sure consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Receive our thanks for Brent and for all the blessings You bestowed on him in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with

him 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 Let us pray.

Lord God, our Good 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 Brent Hirsch and all those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

Benediction

Closing Hymn: LSB #461 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives " v. 1, 2, 5, 7, 8

1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;

He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

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Postlude

Officiating Pastor: Rev. Jerry McNamara, M.Div.
Organist: Doug Pennekamp



Celebration of Life for

Brent Wade Hirsch

July 14, 1970 – January 14, 2023

On Saturday, January 14, 2023, Brent Wade Hirsch, a beloved son, brother and uncle, passed away. He was fifty-two years old. Born to Walter and Karen Hirsch, Brent was an avid baseball player and fan. Brent won three adult baseball league world series championships as well as receiving first place in the homerun derby. Brent was a high school summer league baseball coach for several years.

Brent worked for Compaq which became HP for twenty-three years as a business operations analyst. Brent was an expert at canceling orders in WIP, Backflushing, Copy/swap orders and doing anything to make sure that the order got shipped properly. He interacted with his teammates in Mexico on a daily basis to identify problems with orders and correct the shipping information. He loved his job and always talked about how well the company treated him over the years.

Brent was a fan of all sports. The Houston sports teams: Astros, Texans, and Rockets held a special place in his heart. Brent was a season ticket holder for the Oilers, Texans, and the University of Houston Cougars for several years. Brent could recite most sports statistics by memory. His family often referred to him as the human sports encyclopedia.

Brent was best known for his strong faith, his kind and generous heart, and his passion for sports. He is survived by his mother Karen Hirsch, his sister Ginger Needham, and her family, David, Lindsey, Jason, and Kaci, as well as a large extended family.

The members of Gethsemane Lutheran Church offer our love and sympathy to Brent's family and friends.

Reception to follow in the Gethsemane Life Center.