



*Celebration of Life Worship Service
For
Christine "Chris" Hunter Messersmith
January 16, 1943~January 9, 2026*

Gospel: St. John 14:1-6

Ruby Messersmith (Granddaughter)

L The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th Chapter.

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

L ^{14:1}“Do 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. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Chris was preceded in death by:

Parents: Thomas Winfield Hunter & Esther Griffiths Hunter

Bother: Thomas Winfield Hunter, Jr.

Son: Ryan Jay Messersmith

Chris is survived by:

Husband: Robert Paul Messersmith

Son: Robert “Paul” Messersmith, Jr. (Candy)

Grandchildren: Ruby, Robbie & Liam

The family would like to thank Carolyn Korpics for home Communion, Lu Lickas for Nursing Care,, Kurt Hunter & Paul & Candy Messersmith for assisting at home, and Cornerstone Hospice for their great care and support.

Donations in Chris’ memory can be made to:

The G.I.F.T. Childrens’ Ministry

Christ Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 693

Summerfield, FL 34491

(Mark memo on check IMO Chris)

Inurnment to be at Garden of Memories, Tampa, FL, at a later date.

**Please join the family for lunch in the Fellowship Hall following the
Celebration of Life.**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (ELW 742)

Joseph Medlicott Scriven (1855)

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
what a privilege to carry, Everything to God in prayer!
Oh what peace we often forfeit, Oh what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry, Everything to God in prayer!
Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Loving Christian Wife, Mother & Grandmother

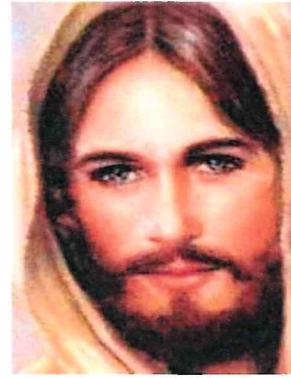
Christine H. Messersmith

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas A. Dorsey

*Precious Lord, take My Hand lead me
on, let me stand I am tired, I am weak,
I am worn through the storm, through
the night, lead me on to the light take
my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
When my way grows dear, precious
Lord, linger near when my life is al-
most gone hear my cry, hear my call,
hold my hand lest I fall. Take my
hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
When the darkness appears and the
night draws near and the day is past
and gone at the river I stand, guide
my feet, hold my hand, take my hand
precious Lord, lead me home.*

Psalm 23



The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

The Lord makes me lie down in

green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along

right pathways for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of

death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; and

your rod and staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of

my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my

cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the

days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the

Lord forever. Amen

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

GREETING

PRELUDE

We take a quiet moment to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

GATHERING HYMN

Christ Be Our Light ELW 715

WELCOME

P Welcome in the Holy Name of Jesus, the Lord and Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen, to remember before God our Father our sister Chris, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief. All who are baptized into Jesus Christ have put on Christ. In her Holy Baptism, Chris was clothed with Jesus Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, she shall be clothed with glory!

C Amen!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God our Father, and the communion of The Holy Spirit be with you all!

C And also with you!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God our Father of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Chris. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. Through the power of The Holy Spirit, console us who mourn. Grant us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all of your saints; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord!

C Amen!

EULOGY

Paul Messersmith, Jr.

SPEAKERS

SCRIPTURES HYMN

It Is Well with My Soul ELW 785

PSALM 23

Front Cover

GOSPEL/LESSONS

Insert Page 2

SERMON

Pastor Dave Connell

SERMON HYMN

What A Friend We Have in Jesus (Stanzas 1&2) ELW 742

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P Let us give thanks to the Lord God our Father, ✠ Son and Holy Spirit!

C **It is right to give the Lord our God thanks and praise!**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through your Son Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord; who brought to light the living hope of a blessed resurrection, that, in our grief, we may rejoice in full assurance of our change into the likeness of His glory!

C **Amen!**

P 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!

C **Amen!**

P 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes!

C **Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

P Send now, we pray, The Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and Savior Jesus and of His resurrection, that we who receive Jesus' precious Body and Blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light!

C **Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!**

LORD'S PRAYER – Sing

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the Banquet, for all is now ready!

C **Thanks be to God!**

All Baptized Christians who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome at the Lord's Table. In it, we remember Him and we receive His continuing forgiving presence in our lives, along with His mercy, salvation, and promise of eternal life. If you wish to refrain from taking communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing.



TABLE BLESSING

P The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace now and forever!

C Amen!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God our Father, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy, through the power of The Holy Spirit, you continue to strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord!

C Amen!

BLESSING & COMMITAL

P Into your hands, O merciful Lord and Savior Jesus, we commend your servant Chris. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive Chris into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of all of your saints in light!

C Amen!

SENDING HYMN

Oh When the Saints

SENDING

P Continue to bring Christ to all people today and everyday! Go in Peace! Share Jesus' death and resurrection great good news!

C We will with thanks to GOD! Amen!

POSTLUDE



Music for Celebration of Life
for
Christine "Chris" Messersmith

Christ Be Our Light ELW 715

It Is Well with My Soul ELW 785

What A Friend We Have in Jesus ELW 742 (First 2 Stanzas ONLY)

How Great Thou Art ELW 856

Oh When the Saints

