

A Celebration of Life



Bob Buettner
July 9, 1925 – June 23, 2022

Bob Buettner

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*We encourage you to sing the hymns selected by Bob himself, as well as to speak the **bold print** in the bulletin. The portions of the worship marked with an * are times when we invite you to stand, as you are able. As Bob desired, we will celebrate holy Communion this morning. You are invited to pick up your own Communion elements at the back of the sanctuary with options of wheat or gluten-free wafers as well as between wine or grape juice. We believe this meal is meant for everyone to enjoy, regardless of church affiliation or lack thereof, so we encourage you to partake in the Lord's Supper that Bob always looked forward to "tasting and seeing the goodness of the Lord."*

Prelude *Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense* (Walther)

Greeting

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our beloved Bob: to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his baptism, Bob was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory.

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.**

*Gathering Hymn *Abide with Me*

ELW# 629

* Prayer of the Day

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our most precious Bob. 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 faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord 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 your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of Memories

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
² **My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**
³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
⁴ **He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**
⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**
⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
⁸ **The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel

John 5:24-29

The Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life.

²⁵ ‘Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. ²⁶For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; ²⁷and he has given him authority to execute judgement, because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice ²⁹and will come out—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

This is the holy Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily

Hymn of the Day *The Strife Is O'er; The Battle Done*

ELW# 366

*Prayers of Intercession

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

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, including Donna, Kelly, and all of Bob's extended family and friends. Bless them with the 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 to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, you, as the Holy Spirit, may lead us to bear witness to your joyous light and life. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help us, 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. God of mercy, **hear our 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, he opened the kingdom of heaven to all your precious children. 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.**

*Thanksgiving at the Table

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.

*Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*Invitation to Communion

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.
Taste the banquet of everlasting life! **Thanks be to God!**

Communion

Music Interlude *Meditation on "Eventide"* (Penfield)

*Post-Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Commendation

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Bob. 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.**

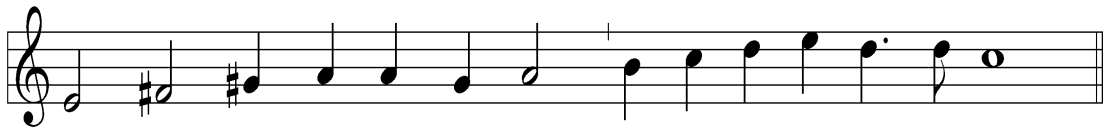
Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap - pall me;
2 Je - sus lives! To him the throne there a - bove all things is giv - en.
3 Je - sus lives! For me he died, hence will I, to Je - sus liv - ing,
4 Je - sus lives! And I am sure, nei - ther life nor death shall sev - er
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death but the gate of life im - mor - tal;



Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave will Christ re - call me.
I shall go where he is gone, live and reign with him in heav - en.
pure in heart and act a - bide, praise to him and glo - ry giv - ing.
me from him. I shall en - dure in his love, through death, for - ev - er.
this shall calm my trem - bling breath when I pass its gloom - y por - tal.



Bright - er scenes will then com - mence; this shall be my con - fi - dence.
God is faith - ful; doubt - ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.
All I need God will dis - pense; this shall be my con - fi - dence.
God will be my sure de - fense; this shall be my con - fi - dence.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

Text: Christian F. Gellert, 1715–1769; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, alt.
Music: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Postlude *The Strife is O'er* (Krug)

Prayer

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 beloved, Bob, 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.**

Reading

1 Corinthians 1:51-57

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, 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. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. 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.’

‘Where, O death, is your victory?’

Where, O death, is your sting?’

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

Blessing

The Lord bless Bob and keep him

The Lord’s face shine on him with grace and mercy.

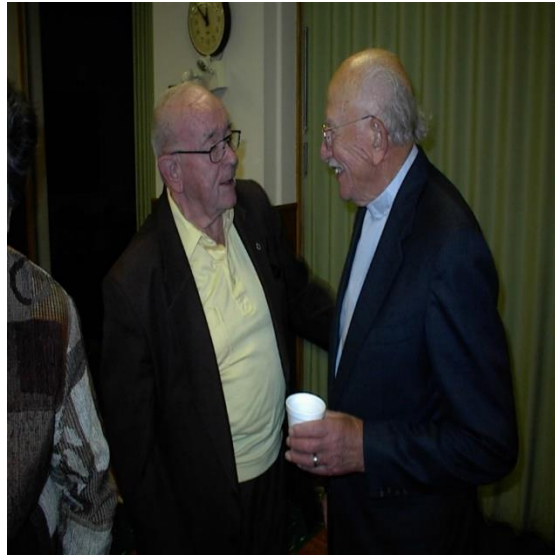
The Lord look upon him with favor and ☩ give him peace. **Amen.**

Prayer

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 our brother, Bob. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace, for our Lord of the Resurrection and the Life is with you always. **Amen.**



Robert F. Buettner, age 96; beloved husband of the late Marjorie Anne (nee Snedden) loving son of Carl and Edna Buettner (both deceased); dear cousin of many; dearest friend of Donna Kobella, Kelly Delaney and a host of Covenant family members. Family and friends may call at **GOLUBSKI DELIBERATO FUNERAL HOME 4747 TURNEY RD. CORNER of GARFIELD BLVD. FOR VISITATION ON SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022 FROM 2-4 AND 6-8PM.** Family and friends are asked to meet at the Lutheran Church of the Covenant, 19000 Libby Rd., Maple Hts., OH 44137, where services will be held on Monday, June 27, 2022 at 10:00am. Interment Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Lutheran Church of the Covenant General Fund at the address above. Online condolences may be submitted at www.GDFH.net.