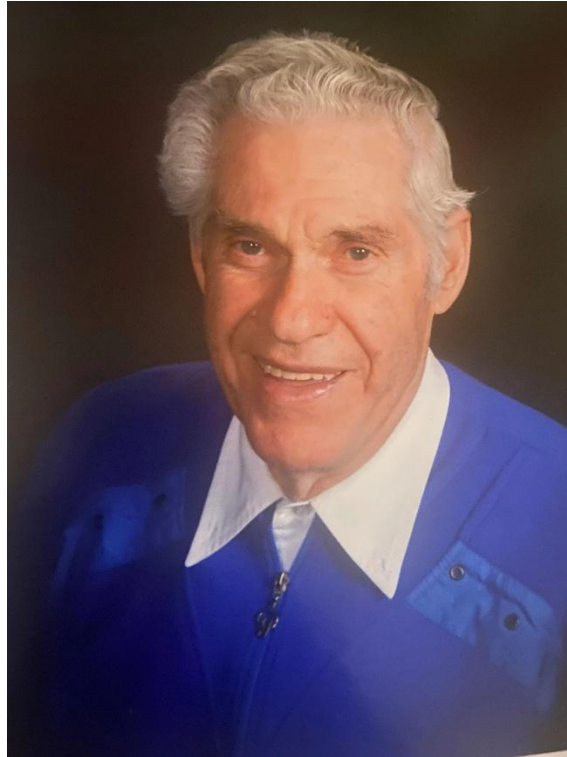


The Celebration of the
Life and Resurrection of
Erling Berg
May 29, 2026



First Lutheran Church
BOTHELL

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STATEMENT OF WELCOME

As voted on by the congregation council and will be voted on at the annual meeting of FLC

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell (FLC), proclaim the message that the grace of our lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at FLC welcome all into the fullness of god's love. We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life. We believe in and engage in antiracism as a primary way to recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God, worthy of love and welcome.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the good news, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of FLC, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTRODUCTION

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 brother Erling, to give thanks for his *life*, to commend *him* to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness (ELW 733)*



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a - bove join with all na - ture in



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort, graciously tend those who mourn, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE: *We take time to tell Erling's story. It is good to tell our stories; they help shape how we see the world. We, also, will watch a slide show illustrating Erling's life.*

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: *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 forevermore.

Word of God.

Word of life.

SECOND READING: *Philippians 4:4-7*

- ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Word of God.

Word of life.

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 11:28-30*

- ²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Word of God.

Word of life.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *In the Garden*



1 I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is still on the
2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their



ros - es; and the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, the
sing - ing, and the mel - o - dy that he gave to me with -

Refrain



Son of God dis - clos - es.
in my heart is ring - ing. And he walks with me, and he



talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, and the



joy we share, as we tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er known.



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ.

Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a 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, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your 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 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, 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM: *Nidelven and I'll Fly Away*

The Norwegian Male Chorus

(Nidelven is a river in Trondheim, Norway, known for its scenic bends, historic timber wharves and Gamle Bybro, the beautiful Old Town bridge.)

COMMENDATION

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

Silence for reflection.

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

BLESSING

May the silence of the hills, the joy of the winds,
the peace of the fields, the music of the birds,
the fire of the sun, the strength of the trees,
and the faith of a little child, in all of which is God,
go with you and be with you today and always. Amen

SENDING HYMN: *God Be with You till We Meet Again* (ELW 536)



- 1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
- 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
- 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con-found you,



with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
put un-fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828–1904

Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833–1896

POSTLUDE

ERLING BERG 1927 - 2026

On Sunday, April 26th Erling Berg passed away at the age of 99. He was born in Rissa, Norway on the family farm where he lived in a multi-generational household along with his three brothers, Kristian, Jarla and Osborn and cousin Kaare.

Erling followed his brother and cousin to the United States in 1951 and went to work as a carpenter with his uncles. He was immediately involved in the Sons of Norway Lodge, Norwegian Male Chorus, and the Viking soccer team. In 1954 he returned to Norway to marry Hjordis Ronning. When they returned to

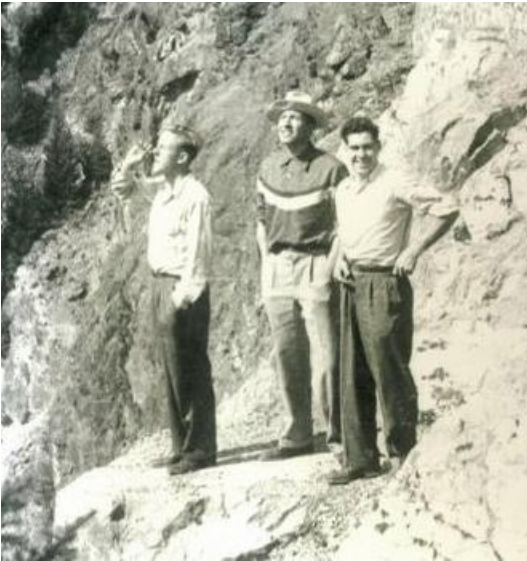


Washington State they settled in Shoreline where they raised their three daughters, Anita, Sonja and Heidi. Erling continued to play soccer through his late 60's, cross country skied into his 90's and sang in the Norwegian Male Chorus for 61 years; up until last September at the age of 98.

He volunteered his time and expertise to help build the Leif Erikson Lodge in Ballard, the pavilion and numerous cabins at Norway Park, and the Trollhaugen Lodge in the Cascade mountains. He was an avid fund raiser for the Ski for Light program which he was a volunteer to guiding the sight impaired on cross country skis for over 40 years.

Erling is survived by his three daughters, adopted daughter, two sons-in-laws four grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and one brother. He was loved by many and will be missed by many.

Memorial donations may be made to Ski for Light Puget Sound, c/o Nancy Dunn, 1531 Alpensee Strasse, Leavenworth, WA 98826.



SERVING US TODAY

Presiding/Preaching:	Rev. Tor Kristian Berg (First cousin once removed)
Organist:	Lucy Kay Osborne
Readers:	Jyoti Mutchler and Larissa Walker (Granddaughters)
Sound Tech:	Ann Bormann
Video Tech:	David Osborne
Usher:	Dan Bormann
Reception:	Nora Strothman
Altar Guild:	Donna Hillard

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America