

**A Celebration of Life  
Memorial Service  
Suzanne V. Wehling**

**6-10-26  
IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**



**Missouri Synod**

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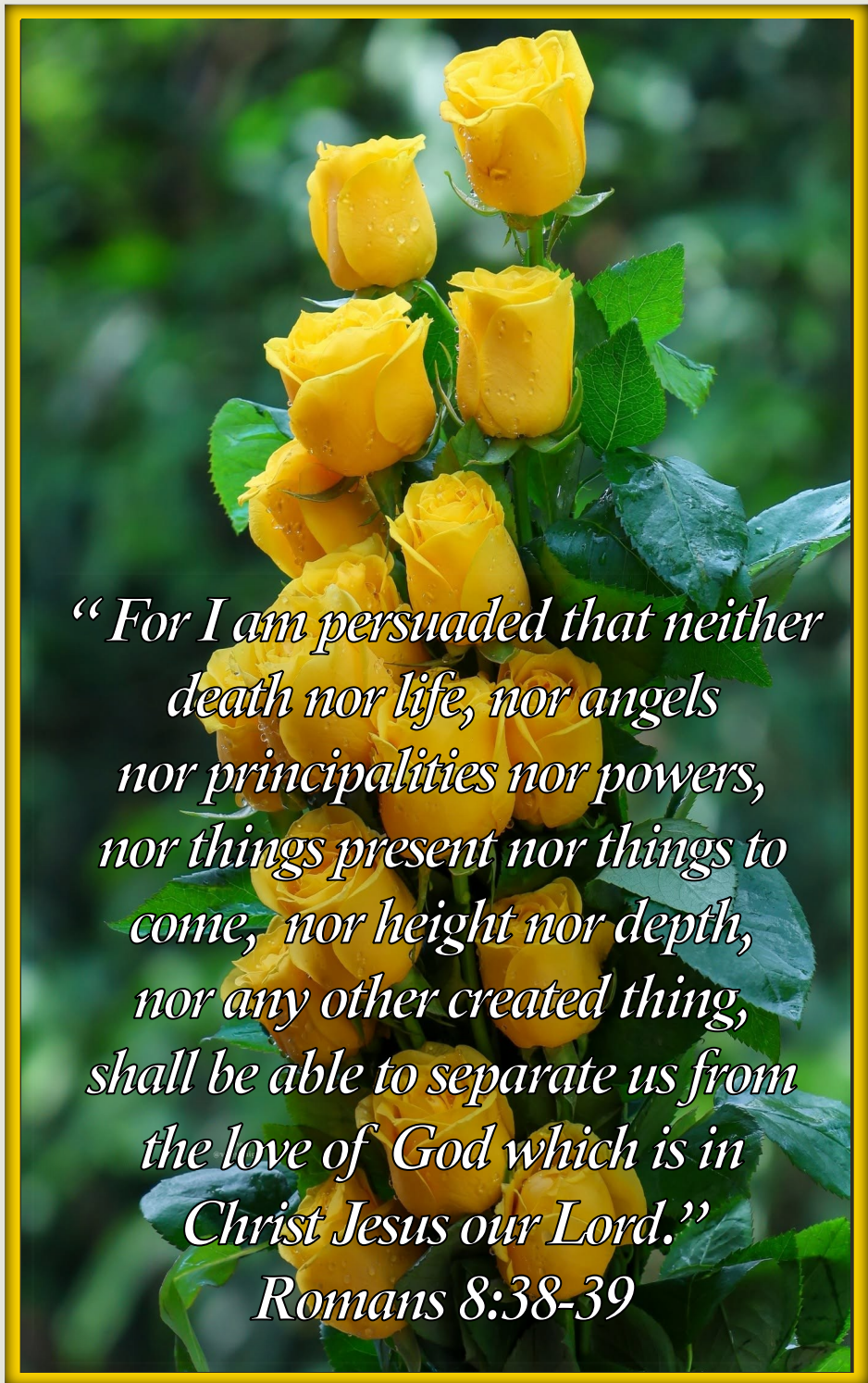
**Sunday  
9:00 AM  
Worship Service**

**10:30 am  
Adult Bible Class  
Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:  
Every Sunday  
Website**

**[lutheranmercedes.com](http://lutheranmercedes.com)**

**Office Hrs, M-F  
8am to noon**



*“For I am persuaded that neither  
death nor life, nor angels  
nor principalities nor powers,  
nor things present nor things to  
come, nor height nor depth,  
nor any other created thing,  
shall be able to separate us from  
the love of God which is in  
Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

*Romans 8:38-39*

Celebration of Life Service - Suzanne Liptia Vasale Wehling

March 27, 1946 - June 4, 2026

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Prayer Upon Entering Church: O Lord, our saving light and our shelter in the day of trouble, turn us not away in anger because of our sins. Calm our hearts, strengthen our faith, and lead us in Your straight paths until we see your surpassing goodness in heaven with all those who live in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

PRELUDE

“Beautiful Savior”

LSB 537

OPENING HYMN

I'm But a Stranger Here

LSB 748



1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;  
2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;  
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;



Earth is a des - ert drear, Heav'n is my home.  
Short is my pil - grim - age, Heav'n is my home;  
What - e'er my earth - ly lot, Heav'n is my home;



Dan - ger and sor - row stand Round me on ev - 'ry hand;  
And time's wild win - try blast Soon shall be o - ver - past;  
And I shall sure - ly stand There at my Lord's right hand;



Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.  
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.  
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

4. There at my Savior's side Heav'n is my home;  
I shall be glorified, Heav'n is my home;  
There are the good and blest, Those I love most and best;  
And there I, too, shall rest, Heav'n is my home.

## INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Pastor: In Holy Baptism our dear sister Suzanne was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. St. Paul says, "*Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?*"

People: **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.**



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you all.

People: **And with your spirit. Amen.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Suzanne and to all Your servants 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.

People: **Amen.**

## *Psalm 23*

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS:

### *Job 19:23-27*

“Oh, that my words were written! Oh, that they were inscribed in a book!  
24 That they were engraved on a rock with an iron pen and lead, forever!  
25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth;  
26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God,  
27 Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

### **Romans 8:31-38**

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written:

“For Your sake we are killed all day long;  
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”

37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

## HOLY GOSPEL

### *John 11:25-27*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel from St. John chapter ten

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

27 She said to Him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'n - ly friend; He lives and  
 7 He lives and grants me dai - ly breath; He lives, and  
 8 He lives, all glo - ry to His name! He lives, my



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
 loves me to the end; He lives, and while He  
 I shall con - quer death; He lives my man - sion  
 Je - sus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
 lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Proph - et, Priest, and King.  
 to pre - pare; He lives to bring me safe - ly there.  
 sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON "The blessing of the Triune God" Numbers 6:24-26

### PRAYERS

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead: Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into 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 peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: 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,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Through the Holy Spirit, give us comfort in our sadness and a sure confidence of Your loving care that, casting all our sorrow on You, we may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**  
Pastor: Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**  
Pastor: Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**  
Pastor: Receive our thanks for Suzanne and for all the blessings You bestowed on her in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with her we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Pastor:** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:  
**People:** **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**

**Pastor:** “ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.” (John 10:27-28)  
**People:** **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.**  
**Pastor:** Let us pray.  
**People:** **Let us pray: Lord God, our 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 those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

### Abide With Me

LSB 878



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
I tri - umph still if Thou a - bide with me!  
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text and tune: Public domain

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace in the name of the risen Lord Jesus,

People: **Amen**

### Serving in Today's Service

Officiating minister: Rev. Ed Weber

Organist: Doris Pickering

## †Suzanne Liptia Vasale Wehling†



Suzanne Liptia Vasale Wehling was born March 27, 1946 to Josephine and Zoltan Vasale. She was baptized August 11th, 1946. Suzanne lived out her faith as a baptized child of God. We could stop with that last sentence and that would be enough; that knowledge and trust in Jesus as her Lord and Savior ALONE makes her an heir of the Kingdom of Heaven. For it is by grace that she was saved through faith. She was called to her eternal home June 4th, 2026. She now wears her crown of glory. Suzanne lived a life of love and service to others shining the light of her Savior's love in all that she did.

She graduated from Bartlett High School in Massachusetts in 1964. She went on to study Nursing in Fitchburg, MA. She received her Nursing Degree in 1968. Suzanne married her life long love, Daniel Wehling, on September 16, 1971. They were married just shy of 55 years. During their adventures, Suzanne followed Daniel from Duty Station to Duty Station. She was always serving others whether it be as a wife and mother, Nurse or Vacation Bible School leader.

As her children grew older, Suzanne continued to serve as a nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs. Suzanne also served as a volunteer missionary of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to the Instituto Santissima Trinidad in Gramado Brazil. It was there that she served both children and senior citizens alike in a combination of an Orphanage, and Assisted Living Facility.

When Suzanne finally retired to Mercedes, TX she became an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church. She played the organ at Mision Emanuel, participated in LWML and many other activities. Suzanne was known for her loving spirit and tender heart; she always had a kind word and a warm hug.

Suzanne was preceded in death by her parents and her infant daughter, Danielle Suzanne Christina Marie Wehling.

She is survived by her brothers, Zoltan Vasale of Beaverton, Or, and Gregory Vasale of Webster, MA, her husband, Daniel Wehling of Mercedes, TX, two daughters, Christa Doyle of West Point, NE and Renata Ketelsen (Brian) of St. Edward, NE. Together, Daniel and Suzanne have 10 grandchildren. Kayla Doyle, Ellison Doyle, Emma (Ben) Jansen, Josiah, Lydia, Rebekah, Noah, Isaiah, Micah, and Clara Ketelsen.

Internment will be at the family plot in Pike, NY, at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church of Mercedes, TX.