## THE FUNERAL SERVICE AND CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION FOR

Zion Lutheran Church, El Paso, Texas

June 5, 2021

#### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC & PICTORIAL PRESENTATION

David Garcia, organ

#### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

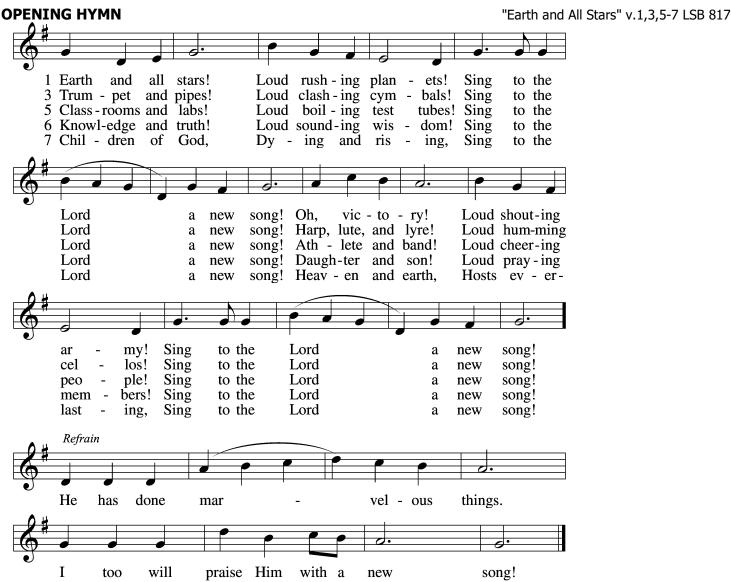
Pastor Howard Patten

**PROCESSIONAL** 

Psalm 147

# ORGAN PRELUDE AND PERSONAL PREPARATION

"Amazing Grace" - David Garcia



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#### **INVOCATION AND OPENING VERSICLES**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- $\mathbf{P}$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.
- P As a father shows compassion to his children
- so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.
- P For he knows how we are made; he remembers that we are dust.
- As for us, our days are like grass; we flourish like a flower
- P the wind passes over us, we are gone, our place is known no more
- But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness upon their children's children, to those who keep faith with His promises. (Psalm 103)

#### REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

- In Holy Baptism Robert 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?" (Romans 6:3)
- "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 6:4-5)

### RESPONSIVE READING

Ephesians 3:14–21

- P For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith
- that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may have strength to comprehend With All The Saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

All: Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.





#### COLLECT

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- Let us pray. O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Bob 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.
- C Amen.

# THE PROMISES OF GOD IN HOLY SCRIPTURE



### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Isaiah 40:28-31 - Alycia Patten Zander

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint,

and to him who has no might he increases strength.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths shall faint and be weary,

and young men shall fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;

they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;

they shall walk and not faint.

#### **HYMN**

 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control,
 That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
 And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain

ref It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.

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#### **EPISTLE LESSON**

Philippians 3:7-14 - Aimee Geyer De Lora

<sup>7</sup>But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup>Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— <sup>10</sup>that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

#### **HYMN**

"It is Well With My Soul" v. 3 LSB 763

He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
 My sin, not in part, but the whole,
 Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain

ref It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.

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#### **EPISTLE LESSON**

Philippians 4:11b-13 - Christy Geyer Herbert

<sup>11</sup>Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. <sup>12</sup>I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. <sup>13</sup>I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

#### **HYMN**

"It is Well With My Soul" v.4 LSB 763

4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain

ref It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.

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#### **HOLY GOSPEL**

John 14:1-6 - Pastor Stephen Heimer

¹"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. 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, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to 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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

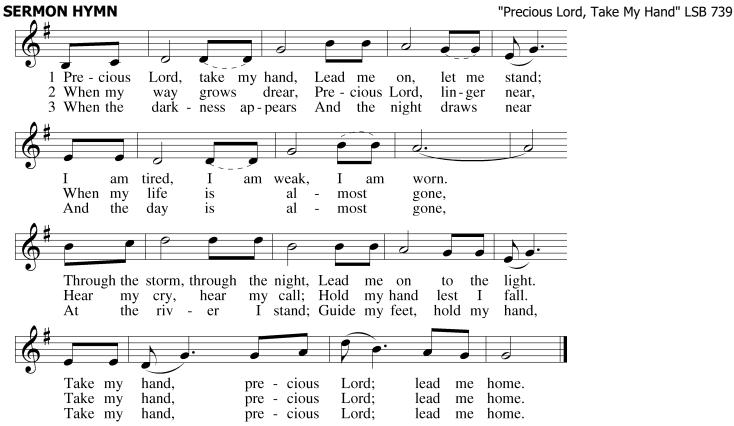
The Apostles' Creed

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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.



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# SERMON

"History's Greatest Athletes" Philippians 3:7-14





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#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P 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,
- hear our prayer.
- P Receive our thanks for Bob 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,
- **d** hear our prayer.
- P Give to Bob's family, and to all who mourn, comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **hear our prayer.**
- P 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,
- 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.
- Amen.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

■ Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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**

- A Jesus declared, "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."
- 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:

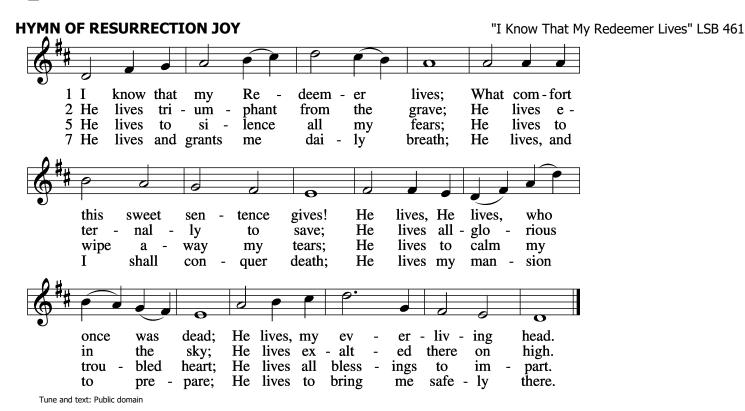
- a light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- \*I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

#### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

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 Bob and all whom 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.

#### **BENEDICTION**

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
  - The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
- Amen.



#### ORGAN POSTLUDE AND REFLECTION

"It Is Well With My Soul" - David Garcia

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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"Toccata on Amazing Grace" by J. Christopher Pardini

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# Robert George Geyer

Robert George Geyer went peacefully to his eternal home on May 1st, 2021. Bob was born on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1948 to William C and Esther Ruth Geyer. He graduated from Austin High school in 1966. In the fall of 1966 he attended Saint John's College in Winfield, Kansas. He returned to El Paso in 1967 and enrolled at Texas Western College. In March of 1969, he was injured in an automobile accident in southern New Mexico. His injuries left him a quadriplegic. After a recovering period of two months, he was transferred to a rehabilitation center in Houston, Texas (TIRR).

Bob attended the University of Houston and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in May 1973 with a major in Psychology. He then attended Graduate School at the University of Houston and graduated in May 1975 with a Master of Social Work Administration.

In March of 1975, Bob was employed at Houston Metropolitan Ministries as the Director of Social Services at a low income housing project for elderly persons. During this time, Bob also served four semesters as field instructor for the Graduate School of Social Work students at the University of Houston. From October 1976 through December 1978 he served as the Vista Director at Houston Metropolitan Ministries supervising 15 Vista volunteers in various community service projects.

From August of 1979 through September of 1998, Bob was employed at Sun Metro - City of El Paso as Transit Special Services Planner and Transit Planning Manager. While at Sun Metro, he was responsible for the development of improved transportation services for elderly and disabled persons served by Sun Metro and coordinated and monitored the ADA Paratransit Plan.

In September 1998, Bob worked for the Advocacy Incorporated- Disability Policy Consortium in Austin, Texas as Director. The Consortium consisted of 19 statewide advocacy organizations working for progressive public policy on behalf of Texans with disabilities.

Bob returned to El Paso in late 1999. He then joined the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality in El Paso and worked on the AmeriCorps VISTA Border Environmental Awareness Project. In October 2000, Bob began working for the County of El Paso as Transportation Manager. He retired from the County in April 2016.

His years of employment afforded him many opportunities to get involved in the communities in which he lived. While living in Houston, he served as President of the Coalition for Barrier Free Living and on the Board of Directors of the Houston Interfaith Hunger Coalition. Upon returning to El Paso, he served as the President of the El Paso chapter of the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities. In addition, Bob was on the Board of Directors of Lutheran Community Services and the El Paso Rehabilitation Center. He was also a member of Class 12 of Leadership El Paso.

In January 1991, Bob was appointed to the Texas Department of Human Services as a board member by then Governor Ann Richards. From January 1995 to March 1997, he served as Vice Chair of the Board. From June 2016 to June 2019, Bob served on the Open Space Advisory Board of the City of El Paso. Just this spring, he was reappointed to the Board.

He was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church all his life and served on the Board of Elders, as well as in other leadership positions for many years. Bob was a deep, creative, and faithful student of the Holy Scriptures from childhood 'til his Savior's welcoming words, "Well done good and faithful servant."

Despite his limitations he lived a full life and was often focused on improving a situation for others. As a result of his injury, he had deep compassion for the disabled and the elderly. This was evident not only by his career choice, but also in the various activities and causes he choose to support.

Bob was an avid fan of the Miner basketball program and was a season ticket holder for many years. Perhaps his favorite times were attending New Mexico State Basketball Championships in Albuquerque, especially when the Alamogordo Tigers and or Saint Michael's Horsemen won the championships.

He also had a deep love for animals and during the last two years, he became the adopted father of three cats, one skunk, one squirrel and numerous birds that frequented his backyard.

Bob so much appreciated all the support, love, and help he received from family, especially, from Mom and Dad, his many friends, associates at work and from those in the communities in which he lived. No doubt, Bob's faith in Jesus Christ enabled him to live a special life of service to others.

Bob is survived by a sister Marilyn Patten and husband Howard, a brother Bill Geyer and wife Mollie, and brother Ron Geyer and wife Cindy and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be June 4 from 5:30 to 7:30 at Funeraria Del Angel Restlawn located at 8817 Dyer. The funeral service will be at 10:30 in the morning of June 5 at Zion Lutheran Church located at 2800 Pershing. A family only interment will follow.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Zion Lutheran Church, KTEP Radio, the Animal Humane Society, the Carrie Elisabeth Geyer Endowed Scholarship Fund at NMSU, or a charity of your choice.

