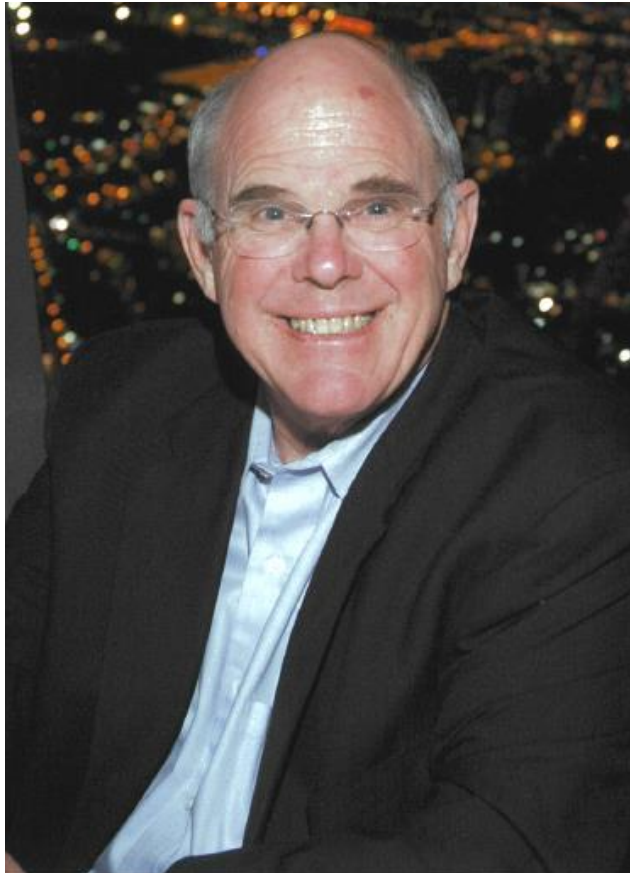


Thanksgiving to God for the Life of  
Jeffrey Nelson Simas  
12/12/1940 – 4/17/2025



Central Lutheran Church  
May 10, 2025  
1:00pm

## **TOLLING OF THE BELLS**

The Carillon

*The bells toll, one for each year of Jeff's life.*

## **PRESENTATION OF THE FLAG**

## **CANDLE LIGHTING**

**PRELUDE** *Trumpet Tune* - Johann Hemlich Roman    Zichao Liu, Trumpet

## **WELCOME**

Pastor Laurie Jones

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 in Christ, Jeff, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

## **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.

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.

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.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

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

# HYMN #645 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation *(please stand)*



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and  
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of  
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from  
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,  
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er  
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est  
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter  
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.  
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.  
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!



## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother in Christ, Jeff. 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 all 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.**

*(please be seated)*

## **FAMILY REMEMBRANCES**

### **ANTHEM**

*Beautiful Savior*

F. Melius Christiansen

The Chorale with Alyse Jamieson, Mezzo Soprano

### **FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 41:8-10**

Frank Simas

But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; <sup>9</sup> you whom I took from the ends of the earth and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are my servant; I have chosen you and not cast you off”; <sup>10</sup> do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

**PSALM 23** (*read in unison*)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul:  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
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.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth 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.

**ANTHEM**

*Ave verum* - Mozart

Chorale

*All Hail, O true Body of the blessed Virgin born, which in anguish to redeem us, did suffer upon the cross; From whose side, when pierced by spear, there came forth both water and blood; be to us at our last hour the source of consolation.*

**GOSPEL**     **John 14:1-7**

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In 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? <sup>3</sup>And 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. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

**SERMON**

Pastor Ben Nickodemus

# HYMN #574 Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



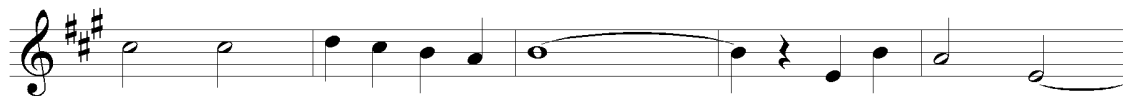
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 Fin - est bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have



heard you call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord,



if you lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

## ANTHEM

*Sanctus* from **The St. Cecilia Mass**

Charles Gounod

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth,*

*Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory, Hosanna in the highest.*

The Chorale with David Gustafson, Tenor & Andy Strietelmeier, Violin

## **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.**

God of all grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection has 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 shall 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**

Malotte

David Gustafson, Tenor

## **COMMENDATION**

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

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.**

## HYMN When in Our Music God Is Gloried



1 When in our mus - ic God is glo - ri - fied,  
2 How oft, in mak - ing mu - sic, we have found  
3 So has the Church, in lit - ur - gy and song,  
4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night  
5 Let ev' - ry in - stru - ment be tuned for praise;

And ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,  
A new di - men - sion in the world of sound.  
In faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,  
When ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?  
Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise;

It is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:  
As wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found  
Borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - 'ry tongue:  
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:  
And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

## POSTLUDE

*Fantasia in G Minor, BWV542.1*

J. S. Bach

*Immediately following this portion of the service, you are invited to follow the Simas family to Central's Memorial Courtyard for a brief Service of Committal as Jeff's cremains are placed in Central's Columbarium. Or, if you prefer, you may go directly to the Parish Hall where the family will join you shortly for refreshments and a time of informal sharing.*