



# A Celebration of Life

November 25, 2023

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## Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

We are committed to being a loving and welcoming community centred in the good news of Jesus. We invite you to join us for worship and to take up your place with us on our journey. We'd be glad of your presence and grateful for your company.

Rev. Tanya Varner  
***Pastor***

Jamie Courtney  
***Minister of Music***

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# Hans Heinrich Christian Lass

February 7, 1929 – November 15, 2023

## Hazel Joyce Lass

April 6, 1934 – November 16, 2023

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### Gathering

#### Prelude

*We extend a warm welcome to Hans and Joyce's family and to the extended community of friends and mourners. If there is any way in which we may assist you, simply speak to a member of our leadership team.*

*The following is spoken at the entrance to the church:*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Thanksgiving for Baptism

All who have been baptized in Christ have put on Christ. In their baptisms, Hans and Joyce were clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, they shall be clothed in victory.

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 honour, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## Song

#423 – Shall We Gather at the River

## Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.**

Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Hans, and sister, Joyce. We thank you for giving them to us to know and to love as companions 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 Saviour and Lord.

**Amen.**

## Reflections

## Song

#656 – Blest Be the Tie That Binds

## Word

## First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

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

## Psalm Reading

Psalm 121

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

## Second Reading

Philippians 4:10-14

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

## Gospel

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 9:14-25

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## Song

#767 – Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

## Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the 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 in 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 Saviour Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all.

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**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## **Sending**

### **Announcements**

### **Commendation**

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

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your servant Hans and your servant Joyce. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, these sheep of your own fold, these lambs of your own flock, these beloved children of your own redeeming.

Receive them 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.**

**Song** #543 – Go, My Children, with My Blessing

**Postlude**

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*Following the funeral liturgy at Trinity Church, please join us for a reception, downstairs in Trinity Hall. All are invited, and all are welcome. A private family Interment will follow.*

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## **Committal**

Grace and peace from our Saviour Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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 brother, Hans, and sister, Joyce, who we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And, at the last, O God, raise them up to share with all your 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** John 11:25-26

### **Act of Committal**

*As the remains are committed to the earth...*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our brother, Hans, and sister, Joyce. We commit their bodies to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless them and keep them.  
The Lord's face shine on them with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon them with favour and give them peace.  
**Amen.**

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord;  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

### **Prayer**

Merciful God, you heal those whose hearts are broken 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, Hans, and sister, Joyce.

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

### **Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **Blessing and Sending**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

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

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**Al Junker**, president ▪ **Tanya Varner**, pastor  
**Jamie Courtney**, parish administrator & minister of music  
**Leanne Darlington**, visitation pastor ▪ **Heidi Van Schaik**, youth worker  
**Brian Racho**, sexton ▪ **Gywin Murray**, emerita director of music