



Redeemer
Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ congregation,
celebrating the diversity of God's children
and fostering understanding
and healing in community



Celebration of Life and Witness to the Resurrection

Donald F. Williams

November 1, 1941 - October 12, 2020



September 25, 2021 + 11:00 am

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and Opening Prayer

In body or spirit, please stand

Hymn

Amazing Grace

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading

John 10: 7, 9-10 (The Message)

The Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, "I am the Gate for the sheep.... Anyone who goes through me will be cared for – will freely go in and out, and find pasture.... I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of."

The Gospel of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reading

Madeline Williams

The Dash

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning... to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time they spent alive on earth and now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars... the house... the cash.
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard: are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left that still can be rearranged.

To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people
in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...
remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash, would
you be proud of the things they say about how you lived your dash?

By Linda Ellis, Copyright © 2020 Inspire Kindness, thedashpoem.com

Spoken Reflections

Dave Shull

Howard and Elizabeth Williams

Musical Reflection

Wings of Your Love

Joseph M. Martin, Patti Drennen

Linda Williams, Judy Sells, Phyllis Park, and Nena Park

Refrain: Lift me up, Lord, let me catch the wind.
Heal my broken spirit, teach me how to fly again.
Make me stronger than an eagle, make me gentle as a dove,
Let me soar on the wings of Your love.

Lord, lift me far beyond the mountains.
Let me rise above the canyon floor.
Take me past the clouds that cause my shadows;
For You alone can make my spirit soar.

Refrain

Lord, come refresh me with Your Spirit.
Lift the heavy heart that holds me down.
Blow upon my life winds of renewal,
Give me back the joy I once had found.

Refrain

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.**

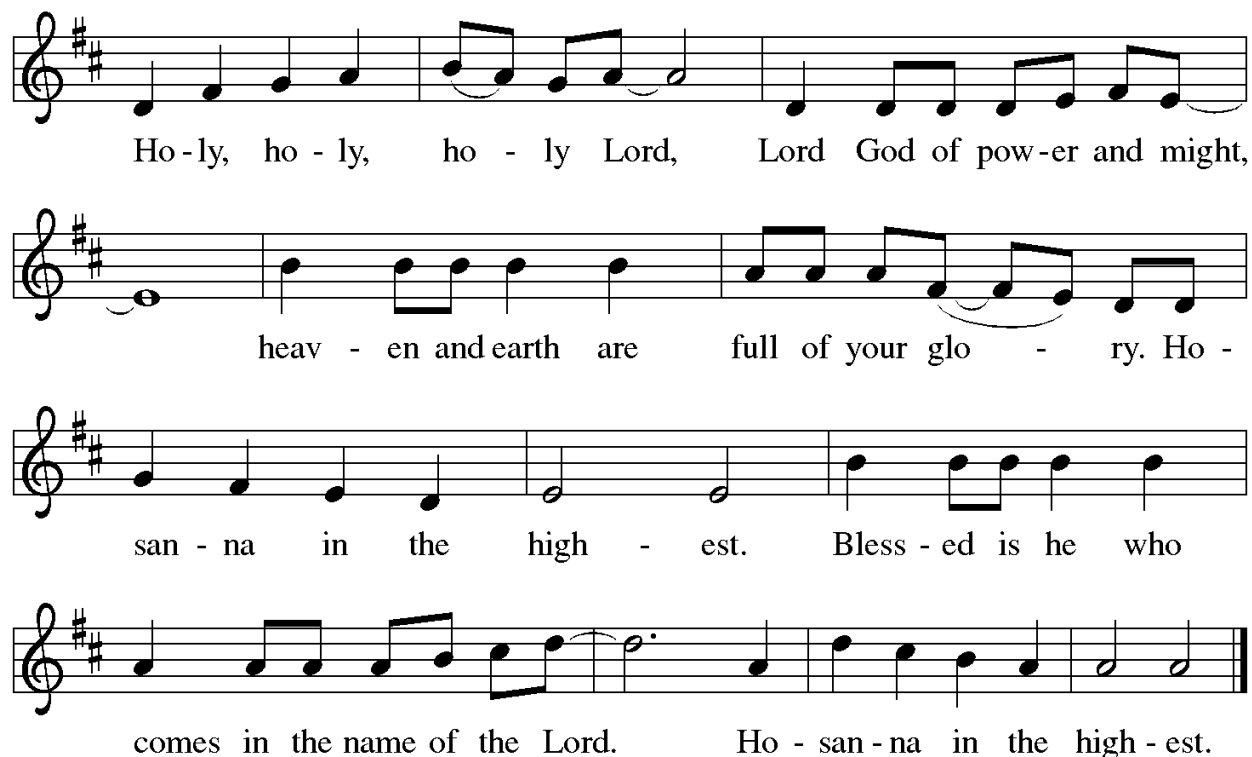
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God, you are before all things; you are beyond all things; and in the midst of all things and all peoples you have made yourself known.

In Israel's ancient codes and prophetic oracles, in stories of women and men, of communities and nations seeking identity, feeling their strength, and struggling with their weakness, you have made yourself known.

In Jesus of Nazareth, in compassion for the outcast, forgiveness for the fallen, hope for the poor and hungry; in his life poured out for others and broken by hatred and fear, you have made yourself known.

Therefore we join our praises with countless men and women before us, celebrating your power in goodness and your might in compassion, as we sing:



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We greet the one who comes in your name: your true light, your true love, the bread of compassion, the wine of renewal.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take this and eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to remember me."

Come to us, Spirit of our Lord of love, and let the bread and wine before us bear your life to our life, nourish us with his vision of hope, and unite us in one body of peace.

Nourish us with your brokenness, renew us with your poured out life, empower us with your powerlessness, that we may take root in your risen life and bear fruit in your world.

We commit ourselves to walk in your way as we pray:

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, given for you.

As Jesus welcomed all to this meal, so do we.

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of compassion, we thank you for nourishing us with the bread of life and the wine of hope. As in Christ your love flowed out to those around him, so let your love flow through us to others. As in Christ your life was broken, so let your life meet us in our brokenness and fill us all with joy, through Jesus, our life and our joy. **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT

Lord, I'm Coming Home

William J. Kirkpatrick, arranged by Gilbert M. Martin
Emily Kent, Wendy Stoica, John Kennedy, and Bruce Collins

I've wandered far away from God, now I'm coming home;
The paths of sin too long I've trod, Lord, I'm coming home.

I've wasted many precious years, now I'm coming home;
I now repent with bitter tears, Lord, I'm coming home.

I've tired of sin and straying, Lord, now I'm coming home;
I'll trust Thy love, believe Thy word, Lord, I'm coming home.

My soul is sick, my heart is sore, now I'm coming home;
My strength renew, my hope restore, Lord, I'm coming home.

Coming home, coming home, nevermore to roam,
Open wide Thine arms of love, Lord, I'm coming home,
Lord, I'm coming home.

Commendation

Let us commend Don to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.
Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Don.

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

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister
Musicians
Readers
Speakers

Dave Shull, Pastor
Karen Kent, Kathy Rapp
Madeline Williams
Howard and Elizabeth Williams

CCLI License # 11287796; One License A-728105
The Message (MSG) Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002 by Eugene H. Peterson

Donald F. Williams passed away peacefully on October 12, 2020, in New Albany, Ohio. He was born on November 1, 1941, in Silverton, West Virginia. Don was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Wanda (Mallett) Williams; and sister, Doris Jean Merrill. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Linda (Huber) Williams; children, Howard (Elizabeth) Williams, Greg Williams, and David Williams; grandchildren, Alexis, Aubrie, and Madeline Williams; many relatives, in-laws, and friends.

You are invited to a meal after the service at Dave Williams' home,
6348 Brauning Dr., Reynoldsburg, 43068.