



IN THE NAME OF JESUS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

THOMAS DAVID MEREDITH

SEPTEMBER 22, 1948 – JANUARY 25, 2024

PROCESSIONAL HYMN, LSB 744, stanzas 1-4

“Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
 mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
 now am found, Was blind but now I see!
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
 then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.

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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

THE PLACING OF THE PALL

- P** The funeral pall is placed on the urn as a reminder that in Holy Baptism, Thomas David Meredith, 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 were baptized into Christ were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through Baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with Him in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection.” (*Romans 6:3-5*)

PSALM 23 (KJV)

- P** The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- C** He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- P** He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- C** 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.

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

C 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.

All: 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

PRAYER

P Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before You today our brother, Thomas Meredith. 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 us who mourn. Give us faith and confidence, so that we may see a Christian's death as the gate to eternal life. Grant us faith to follow You, to walk with You in newness of life, until You call us home, to be reunited with all those who walked by faith, died in grace, and now live in eternal glory forevermore; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING, Joshua 1:1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING, 2 Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

MUSIC, "Enter In" by Chuck Girard

(From "Fire and Light" Album)

THE HOLY GOSPEL READING, John 14:1-6

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In 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? And 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. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN, LSB 722

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;

>



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

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THE SERMON

Pastor Gehrke

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.

C 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Gathering in Your name today, may You bless our fellowship with Your love. For the food we will share, for those who have prepared it, and for those who will serve it, may all these gestures be a reflection of Your abundant compassion and love for us all. In thankfulness, we join to pray:

C **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let all these gifts to us be blest.**

P Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise every day to newness of life, looking forward to our passage through death, that we may by grace, see our joyful resurrection. Lifting our eyes to You, we pray:

C **Comfort and cheer us, dear Lord.**

P As we are still in our earthly pilgrimage, walking by faith, grant that Your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days:

C **Guide and keep us, dear Lord.**

P Acknowledging Your gifts of life and breath here on earth, and Your eternal victory and heaven's reality:

C **Receive our thanks and praise.**

P Grant to all who mourn in Christ, here and everywhere, a sure confidence in Your loving care, casting our sorrow on You, that we may know the consolation of Your love. Give us courage and faith, that we may have the strength we need to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with all Your sainted souls in heaven. We humbly pray:

C **Strengthen our faith and lift our hope.**

P Help us, we pray 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:

C **Our trust remains in You, our Shepherd, our Savior, and our King.**

P Grant us grace to accept and respect Your holy will in all matters of life and death, that we may confidently commend all matters of our bodies and souls into Your almighty, loving, and eternal hands:

C **Trusting in Your almighty power and eternal love, we now pray:**

All: 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

THE BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**


COMMITTAL

PRESENTATION OF THE FLAG


HYMN, LSB 837, verses 1,2,5, and 6

“Lift High the Cross”

Refrain




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
5 Let ev - 'ry race and ev - 'ry lan - guage tell
6 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.
Praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

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PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert Gehrke
Organist: Dr. Jeff Burkart
Elder: Ed Lundgren
Ushers: Vance England
Technician: Jayne Kurpius

The family invites you to join them downstairs for lunch following this service.

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The funeral service from Lutheran Service Book

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Thomas (Tom) David Meredith, also known as TD, passed away on January 25, 2024, at the age of 75 in White Bear Lake, MN. He was a dedicated husband, father of two sons, and a wonderful grandfather who cherished his three granddaughters. Tom had a deep love for the outdoors and eagerly anticipated his annual fishing trips with family and friends at Lake Kabetogama.

Tom is survived by his loving wife, Sheryl, his two sons, Cale (Trish) and Jeff (Charlee), and his three adored granddaughters. He also leaves behind his siblings Cecil (Becky) Meredith, Sue Meredith, Laura (Mike) Kalisch, and Shelly (Brian) Winkler, as well as numerous nieces and nephews, cousins Steve (Ellen) Widman and Craig (Evangeline) Widman, and their families whom he loved and cared for deeply. Tom was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Dolores Meredith, his brother Jeffrey S. Meredith, and his uncle Mont and aunt Marcine Widman.

Tom was a 1966 graduate of White Bear Lake High School. He completed a two-year degree at Control Data Institute and was a computer technician at Control Data, 3M, Imation, and Kodak.

He spent his retirement years as part of the grounds maintenance crew at the White Bear Yacht Club enjoying being able to be outdoors.

Tom served proudly in the US Air Force 1968-1972.

Tom will be remembered for his unwavering devotion to his family, his love for the outdoors, his dogs, Duck and Mac, and his warm and caring nature. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.