

FUNERAL SERVICE

*He who has clean hands and
a pure heart ... will receive
blessing from the Lord and
righteousness from the God
of his salvation.*

Psalm 24:4-5

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR DONALD GEHRT
FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

INVOCATION

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

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

P In Holy Baptism Donald Gehrt 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?"

C 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 6:3-5

INTROIT

Psalm 23

P The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

C He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

P He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

C Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

P You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

C Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.


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.





1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?





What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol-ace there.



KYRIE

Mark 10:47

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Lord, have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

2 Timothy 4:22

- P** Let us pray.
O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Donald Gehrt 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.**

OLD TESTAMENT ~ Psalm 24:1-6

¹ The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, ² for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. ³ Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? ⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. ⁵ He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation. ⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE ~ 1 Corinthians 15:50-57

⁵⁰ I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body

must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” ⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

P Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;

C to Him be glory and power forever.

Alleluia.

[Revelation 1:5-6]

HOLY GOSPEL ~ *St. John 14:1-6*

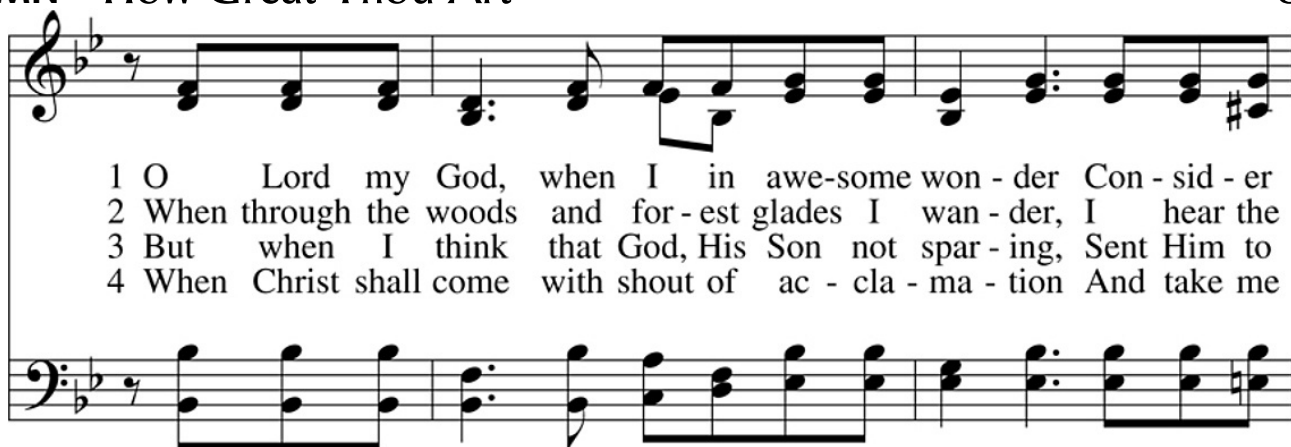
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ [Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ 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.

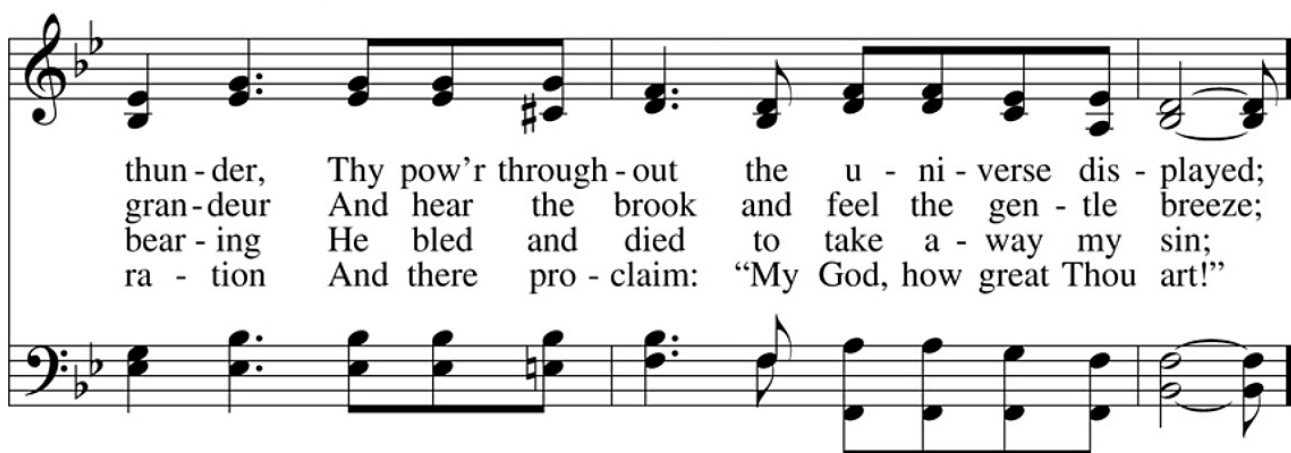
C Praise to You, O Christ.



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



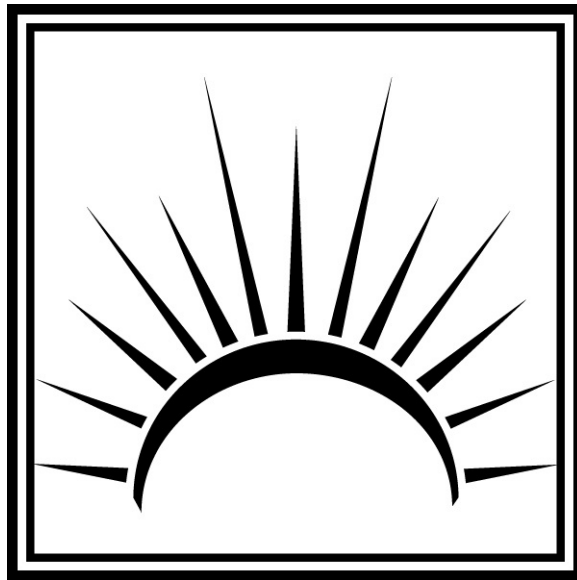
thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"



Refrain
 Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou

art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to

Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!



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.**



SERMON ~ "My Father's House"

John 14:1-6

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
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright

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
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

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.
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

- 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,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give to the family of Donald Gehrt 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,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Receive our thanks for Don 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,
- C** **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.
- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

C 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

P “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.”
John 11:25-26

C 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.
Luke 2:29-32
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.

P “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.”

John 11:25-26

CONCLUDING COLLECT

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

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 those 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.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

Officiant
Assistant
Organist

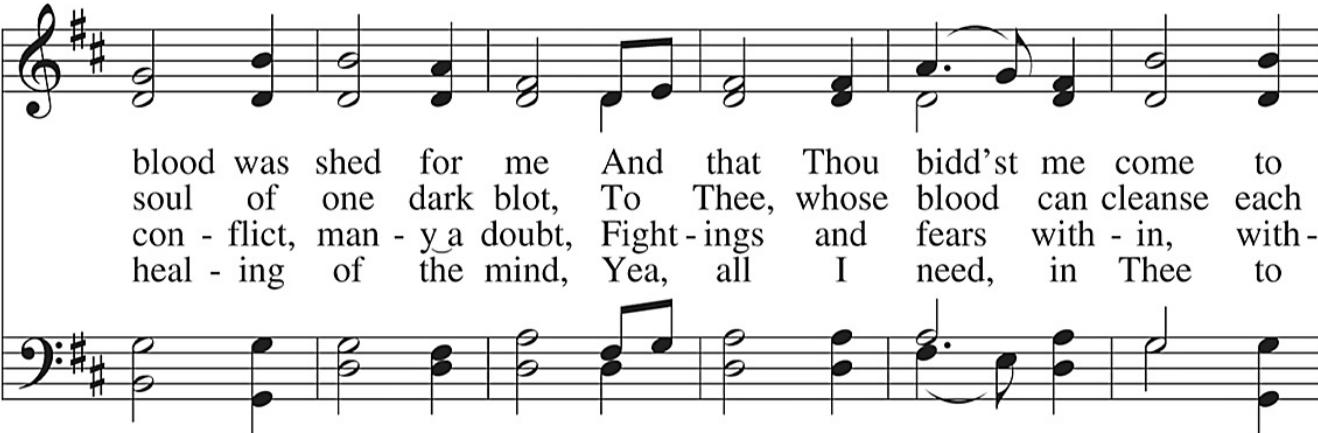
Rev. Steven S. Billings
Rev. Keith GeRue
Mrs. Nancy Lephart

Acknowledgments

Funeral Service from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not To rid my
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
 soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
 heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
 Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
 Because Thy promise I believe,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
 Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
 Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



Donald A. Gehrt, age 95, passed away peacefully in his sleep on April 26, 2023 at ThedaCare, Appleton. He was born on October 12, 1927 in Clintonville to Leonard and Elsie (Harke) Gehrt. On April 11, 1953, he married Dorothy Richter. They enjoyed 66 years of marriage together before Dorothy's death in 2019.

Don grew up in Embarrass, Wisconsin on the family farm. Don was always a hardworking entrepreneur. Even as a kid, he caught frogs in the Embarrass River and sold them for frog legs. Don and his beloved wife, Dorothy, moved to Oshkosh

and then Menasha – where he became a home builder and developer. Don built many homes over his lifetime in the Fox River Valley. When his crew wasn't busy building houses, they built duplex apartment buildings which Don and Dorothy then rented out. Don continued to manage his apartments well into his 90s. Don was very supportive of his family. He helped most of his brothers start out in the construction business in the Valley.

Don was a passionate hunter and fisherman. He is one of the few hunters who have a Grand Slam – all four types of bighorn sheep. He loved to fish for muskies at Roberts Lake and for sturgeons on Lake Winnebago. He took up scuba diving in his 60s just so he could find out where the fish were hiding out. He and Dorothy were lifelong members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Menasha.

Don is survived by his children: Randy Gehrt, Kevin (Denise) Gehrt, Kathy (Bob) Brost and Lori (Dale) McNamee; his grandchildren Chris (Sarah) Gehrt and their children, Charlie and Roger; Bryan Gehrt (significant other Anjela Powell) and his children, Brynn and Raegan; Adam (Miriam) Gehrt and their daughter, Zoe; Makenzie Gehrt and her children, Calyx and Mara; Allyse (Steve) Panaro; Trevor (Jessie) Brost; Nicole McNamee (significant other Logan Flood) and Elizabeth McNamee. He is also survived by his sister, Irna Kromm; and his brothers, Ed (Joanne); Herman; Roger (Delores); Charlie (Marge); Dennis (Carol); and Gary (Sallee) and numerous nieces and nephews, their children and their grandchildren.

Besides his parents, parents-in-law Dora and Oscar Burow, and his beloved Dorothy, Don was predeceased by his brothers, Benjamin and Kenneth; his sisters Shirley Gehrt and Edith Liebszeit; his brother-in-laws, John Liebszeit, Peter Kromm, Gus Fuhrmann, Bernie Streicher, and Don Richter; and his sister-in-laws, Verdell Gehrt, Shirley Gehrt, Marie Richter, Phyllis Fuhrmann, and Joyce Streicher.