

**MEMORIAL SERVICE OF PRAISE TO GOD
FOR
HIS BLESSINGS THROUGH THE LIFE OF**



Thomas E. Wooderson

April 10th, 2026 11:00 a.m.

Born: November 15, 1954

REBORN IN CHRIST

May 8, 1955

CONFIRMED IN CHRIST

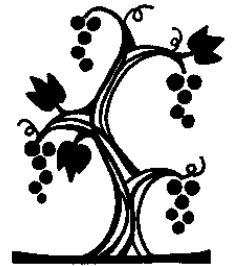
May 29, 1969

DIED IN CHRIST

March 26, 2026

*"There is a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance..."*

Ecclesiastes 3:4



THE INVOCATION

C: AMEN.

THE PASTORAL GREETING

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

C: Thanks be to God!

P: 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.

OPENING HYMN**Amazing Grace**

1 Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

6 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
the sun forbear to shine;
but God, who called me here below,
will be forever mine.

THE READINGS*John May* **1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Roger Degen **2 Timothy 4: 7-8**

⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store 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 longed for his appearing.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gary Bolohan **1 Thessalonians 4: 13-14**

¹³ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE

P: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

C: HE IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA.

P: Jesus, our confidence is in You.

C: We know that You have won the victory over death.

P: Even in the midst of our sorrow, we know Your love never fails.

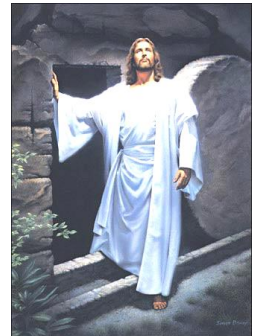
C: Grant us comfort as we trust in Your resurrection promise.

P: No one lives to himself, and no dies to himself.

C: Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

P: Be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

C: Amen.



THE GOSPEL READING *Jesus Comforts His Disciples*

John 14:1-6

¹**Do not let your hearts be troubled.** Trust in God; trust also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me so that you also may be where I am.

⁴You know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through Me".

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE SONG OF HOPE**I Can Only Imagine***Solo Kurt Menhart*

[Verse 1]

I can only imagine
 What it will be like
 When I walk by Your side
 I can only imagine
 What my eyes will see
 When Your face is before me
 I can only imagine, yeah

[Chorus]

Surrounded by Your glory
 What will my heart feel?
 Will I dance for You, Jesus
 Or in awe of You, be still?
 Will I stand in Your presence
 Or to my knees, will I fall?
 Will I sing hallelujah?
 Will I be able to speak at all?
 I can only imagine
 I can only imagine

[Verse 2]

I can only imagine
 When that day comes
 And I find myself
 Standing in the sun
 I can only imagine
 When all I will do
 Is forever, forever worship You
 I can only imagine, yeah
 I can only imagine

[Chorus]

Surrounded by Your glory
 What will my heart feel?
 Will I dance for You, Jesus
 Or in awe of You, be still?
 Will I stand in Your presence
 Or to my knees, will I fall?
 Will I sing hallelujah?
 Will I be able to speak at all?
 I can only imagine, yeah
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Surrounded by Your glory
 What will my heart feel?
 Will I dance for You, Jesus
 Or in awe of You, be still?
 Will I stand in Your presence
 Or to my knees, will I fall?
 Will I sing hallelujah?
 Will I be able to speak at all?
 I can only imagine, yeah
 I can only imagine

[Post-Chorus]

I can only imagine, yeah
 I can only imagine
 I can only imagine
 I can only imagine

 I can only imagine
 When all I will do
 Is forever, forever worship You
 I can only imagine

A Time of Encouragement**On Eagle's Wings**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord
 Who abide in His shadow for life
 Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom
 I trust!"

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
 Bear you on the breath of dawn
 Make you to shine like the sun
 And hold you in the palm of His hand

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
 Bear you on the breath of dawn
 Make you to shine like the sun
 And hold you in the palm of His hand

You need not fear the terror of the night
 Nor the arrow that flies by day
 Though thousands fall about you,
 near you it shall not come

The snare of the fowler will never capture you
 And famine will bring you no fear
 Under His wings your refuge,
 His faithfulness your shield

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
 Bear you on the breath of dawn
 Make you to shine like the sun
 And hold you in the palm of His hand

For to His angels He's given a command
 To guard you in all of your ways
 Upon their hands they will bear you up
 Lest you dash your foot against a stone

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
 Bear you on the breath of dawn
 Make you to shine like the sun
 And hold you in the palm of His hand

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. Give Your whole church in heaven and on earth Your light and Your peace.

C: Hear us, Lord.

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.

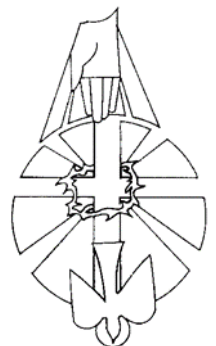
C: Hear us, Lord.

P: Grant us grace to entrust Tom to Your never failing love which sustained him in this life. Receive him into the arms of Your mercy, and remember him according to the favor You bear for Your people.

C: Hear us, Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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."

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.

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.

The Commendation

P: Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend to Your care, your servant, Thomas Wooderson. Acknowledge, we humbly ask You, a sheep of Your own fold, a lamb of Your own flock, a sinner of Your own redeeming. Confident of your victory over sin and death—receive him into the arms of Your mercy.

BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

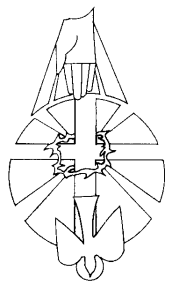
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: in the name of the Lord. Amen.



THE CLOSING HYMN (The bagpipes lead the family outside, then congregation sings)

Abide With Me

1 Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Preacher: Rev. Christopher D. Fairbairn

Liturgist: Rev. Jim Frusti

Pianist: Phil Kelly

Soloist: Kurt Menhart

Pallbearers:

Tom Wooderson Jr/ Lincoln Wooderson-grandson

Noel Keane/ Grandson

Chuck Wooderson/ brother

Bob Wooderson/ brother

John May/ nephew

David Burland/ nephew

Gary Bolohan/ friend

Roger Degen/ friend

*After the service, please join the family for
a luncheon at Genitti's in downtown Northville*

Memorial contributions may be made to:

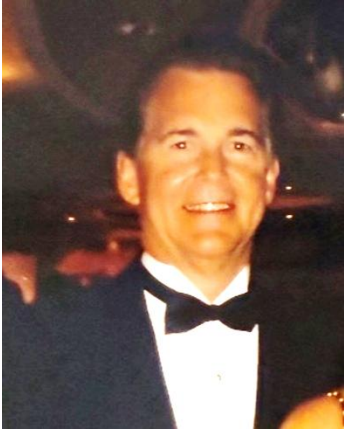
St. Paul Lutheran Church of Northville, MI 48167

Or

Tunnel To Towers



Thomas Edmund Wooderson



Thomas Wooderson, 71 years old, passed away March 26, 2026 in Sarasota, Florida. He was a longtime resident of Northville, raising three children in the community he loved. Tom was a devoted husband, loving father, proud grandfather, and an accomplished automotive executive who lived his life with strength, kindness, and deep love for his family. His career in the automotive industry was marked by leadership and global impact, including his role as Vice Chairman of Beijing Jeep in China. Tom attended GMI institute 1972 sponsored by Oldsmobile, followed by Chief Engineering roles with Ford, American Motors, Magna and Chrysler.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Laurie Wooderson; his daughters, Natalie and Emily (Erin Harvey); and his son, Thomas (Monica), Jr. He was the proud and adoring grandfather of Noel, Lincoln, Roman, and Ariana, who were truly the light of his life. Also survived by his King Charles granddogs Rusty & Cash.

Tom found great joy in his lake house on Torch Lake, where he loved skiing, boating, and spending time outdoors.

He was a devoted member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Northville, holding many board positions through the years. His faith remained an important part of his life.

On their wedding day at St. Paul's, Laurie took Tom's hand and made a promise before God—to love him and stand beside him through all of life's seasons. For better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, she vowed to love and to cherish him. Through every joy and every hardship, that promise remained steadfast and true—a reflection of the deep bond they shared throughout their lives together.

Tom will be remembered for his leadership, his love of family, his strength of spirit, and the lasting impact he made on all who knew him. His memory will live on in the hearts of those who loved him.