

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

*Ai Norton*

January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 3:00 p.m.  
**Born: May 8, 1981**



**BAPTIZED IN CHRIST  
June 24, 2007**

**DIED IN CHRIST  
December 31, 2020**

***"There is a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance..."***  
**Ecclesiastes 3:4**

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Pre-service song - Trust In You** by Lauren Daigle (*solo*)

**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.

## **Be Still My Soul**

(All verses sung in Japanese- English below for meditation)

1. Be still, my soul: The Lord is on thy side;  
With patience bear thy cross of grief or pain.  
Leave to thy God to order and provide;  
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: Thy best, thy heav'nly Friend  
Thru thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
  
2. Be still, my soul: Thy God doth undertake  
To guide the future as he has the past.  
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.
  
3. Be still, my soul: The hour is hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord,  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul: When change and tears are past,  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

## THE PSALM (Portions of Psalm 23 and 96)

P: <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup>He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. <sup>3</sup>He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

**C: <sup>4</sup>Yea, 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: Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

**C: <sup>2</sup>Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.**

P: <sup>11</sup>Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**C: <sup>12</sup>let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy <sup>13</sup>before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.**

**ALL: <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## 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.

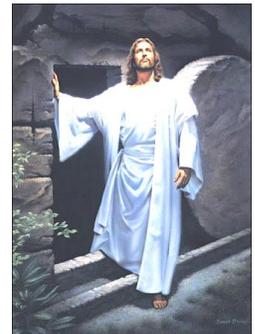
**C: Grant us comfort as we trust in Your resurrection promise.**

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 NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

### 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11

<sup>9</sup> For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. <sup>10</sup> Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. <sup>11</sup> So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

### Romans 8:28, 35-39

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things **God works for the good** of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

<sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present, nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Day School Children – Go Light Your World

### THE GOSPEL READING

*Jesus Comforts His Disciples*

**John 14:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> **"Do not let your hearts be troubled.** Trust in God; trust also in me. <sup>2</sup> In 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. <sup>3</sup> And 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.

<sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going."

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, "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: Thanks be to God.**

**God will make a way**

(first sung in English, then in Japanese)

**God will make a way**

**Where there seems to be no way  
 He works in ways we cannot see  
 He will make a way for me  
 He will be my guide  
 Hold me closely to his side  
 With love & strength for each new day  
 He will make a way  
 He will make a way (sung 2x)**

*Verse: solo (ソロ)*

*By a roadway in the wilderness*

*He'll lead me*

*Rivers in the desert*

*Will I see*

*Heaven & earth will fade*

*But his word will still remain*

*& He will do something new today*

**God will make a way**

**Where there seems to be no way  
 He works in ways we cannot see  
 He will make a way for me  
 He will be my guide**

**A TIME OF ENCOURAGEMENT**

**Amazing Grace** (sung in Japanese)

**Hold me closely to his side**

**With love & strength for each new day  
 He will make a way  
 He will make a way**

*Verse: solo*

**God will make a way**

**Where there seems to be no way  
 He works in ways we cannot see  
 He will make a way for me  
 He will be my guide  
 Hold me closely to his side  
 With love & strength for each new day  
 He will make a way  
 He will make a way**

**主は道を造られる**

主は道を日々つくられる

何もないように思えるときでも

主はみ手でみもとでささえ

新しい明日へ主は道を造られる

天と地が滅び失せても

主のみことばは滅びず

荒野に道を砂漠に川を

今日も造られる



P: Let us pray.

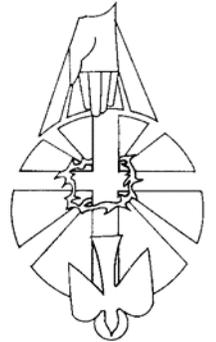
Almighty God, You have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give Your whole church in heaven and on earth Your light and Your peace.

**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 Ai-chan to Your never failing love which sustained her in this life. Receive her into the arms of Your mercy, and remember her 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.**

## THE COMMENDATION

P: Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend to care, your servant, Ai Norton. 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 her into the arms of Your mercy.

In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, we commit her body to its resting place: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless her and keep her. The Lord make His face shine upon her and be gracious to her. The Lord look upon her with favor and give  her peace.

P: Let us go forth in peace.

**C: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## In Christ Alone

(verse 1 sung in Japanese, then verse 1-4 sung in English)

1) わたしの望みは主イエスだけにある

ゆるがぬいしずえまことのひかりよ

その高き愛ととこしえの平和

まことのなぐさめ すべてのすべてよ

1) In Christ alone my hope is found;  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all—  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2) In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

3) There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine—  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4) No guilt in life, no fear in death—  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home—  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand."

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### SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Preacher: Pastor Christopher D. Fairbairn

Liturgist: Pastor Jim Frusti

Pianist/Solo: Paul Ventimiglia

Japanese Interpretation: Megumi Kurata

"Be Still, My Soul"

Singers: Naomi Inamura  
Mika Kuramochi  
Piano: Ayumi Uchino

"Amazing Grace"

Singer: Miyuki Mori  
Piano: Paul Ventimiglia

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*St. Paul Lutheran Church Northville, MI*

**Memorial** contributions may be made to *St. Paul Lutheran School*

