

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



*Donna Jean Thomas*

April 17, 2024 1:30 pm

**Born: November 19, 1932**

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST  
**December 1, 1932**

CONFIRMED IN CHRIST  
**June 1, 1946**

DIED IN CHRIST  
**Sunday April 14, 2024**

***"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**

**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.

## THE SONG OF HOPE      **How Great Thou Art**

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
     Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,  
 I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
     Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; Refrain

ref Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
     How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
     How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
     I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
 When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
     And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain

3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
     Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—  
 That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
     He bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
     And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
 Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
     And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" Refrain

## THE PSALM (Psalm 23) *The LORD is the Shepherd of His People*

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: <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

**C: <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.

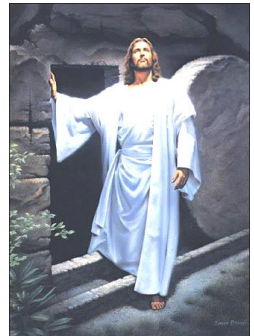
**C: Grant us comfort as we trust in Your resurrection promise.**

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 READING *Romans 8:28, 35-39* More Than Conquerors

<sup>28</sup> And we know that for those who love God **all things work together for good**, for those who are 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."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

<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.

## THE GOSPEL READING *John 15:5-13*

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## *I Am the Vine*

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: **Love each other as I have loved you.** <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.



## THE MESSAGE

## 10,000 Reasons

### Chorus

**Bless the Lord, O my soul  
O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before  
O my soul  
Worship Your holy name**

The sun comes up,  
it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass,  
and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing  
when the evening comes

### Chorus

You're rich in love,,  
and You're slow to anger

Your name is great  
and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons  
for my heart to find

### Chorus

And on that day when my  
strength is failing  
The end draws near  
and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing  
Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years  
and then forevermore

### Chorus

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.

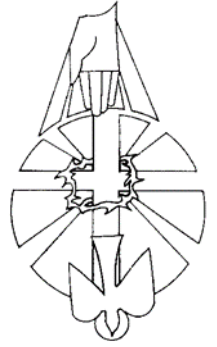
**C: Hear us, Lord.**

P: Grant us grace to entrust Donna 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.**



## 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.**

## Concluding Collect

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**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.**

## The Commendation

P: Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend to Your care, your servant, Donna Thomas. 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.

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.


## Benedicamus and 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.**

## 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

**Chorus:**

**Great is Thy faithfulness**

**Great is Thy faithfulness**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see**

**All I have needed Thy hand hath provided**

**Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me**

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love **Chorus**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
 Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
 Blessings all mine with 10, 000 beside

**Chorus:**

**Great is Thy faithfulness**

**Great is Thy faithfulness**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see**

**All I have needed Thy hand hath provided**

**Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me**

*Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.<sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.<sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.<sup>4</sup> 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be **no more death**' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."*

*Revelation 21:1-4*

**SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

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Preacher/Liturgist: Rev. Christopher Fairbairn

Organist: Tony Viviano

*St. Paul Lutheran Church + Northville, MI*

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Per Request of the family, memorial donations may be made to:

St. Paul Lutheran Church

201 Elm St. Northville, MI 48167

or

Custom Hospice, 888 West Big Beaver, Suite 900, Troy, Michigan 48084