

In Memoriam
Robert Arthur Watts
April 1, 1936 – May 16, 2025



Memorial Service and Celebration of Life
Saturday, June 28, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.

*Officiants: The Rev. Daniel Fournier and
The Rev. Joan Scandrett
Organist: Susanne Reul-Zastre*

Order of Service

Scripture Sentences *(Please stand)*

I am the resurrection and I am life, says the Lord. Those who believe in me will live, even if they die. And everyone who has life, and is committed to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

(John 11: 25-26)

Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. *(1 Thessalonians 4: 14,17b,18)*

What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

(1 Corinthians 2: 9-10a)

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8: 38, 39)

Words of Welcome: The Rev. Daniel Fournier
(Please be seated)

Opening Prayer

Holy God, creator of all,
we praise your name
for all who have finished this life loving and trusting you,
for the example of their lives,
the life and grace you gave them,
and the peace in which they rest.

We praise you today for your servant *Robert*
and for all that you did through *him*.

Meet us in our sadness
and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving,
for the sake of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Remembering Bob

Given by Megan Pratt, Rob Watts, (Daughter and Son)
John Pratt and Michael Watts (Grandchildren)

Opening Hymn: CP 1 Morning Has Broken

(tune: Buinessan) (Please stand)

**Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world.**

**Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day.**

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 *(Please be seated)*

Reader: Dick Tuckey

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Corinthians

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 (said antiphonally)

The Lord is my shepherd;

therefore can I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.

He shall refresh my soul

***and guide me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.***

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.

You spread a table before me

in the presence of those who trouble me;

***you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.***

*Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11: 25-30 (Please stand)

Reader: Sally Tuckey

God be with you.

All: And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection: *The Rev. Daniel Fournier (Please be seated)*

Hymn: CP 486 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

(tune: Hyfrydol) (Please stand)

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come don,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.**

Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love and praise.

The Apostle's Creed *(Remain standing)*

I believe in God,

All: the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ,

his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again

to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers *(Please be seated)*

Let us pray...

God of all, we thank you for Bob, and for all by which he is remembered: for all that he was to those who loved him, for the gifts and talents he freely gave, and for all in his life that reflected love, kindness and laughter. We pray that what was good in his life will not be lost but will continue to be of benefit to the world; that all that was important to him will be respected by those who follow; and that everything in which he was great will continue to mean much to us. We pray that those who were close to him may now be even closer to one another, and that we all may live in peace and friendship on earth, ever conscious of your promise to be faithful to us in death. May God grant us courage and hope in the time ahead. All this we pray in the name of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

God, whose love holds in its embrace
Your children in this world and the next;
Look with compassion on all who mourn.
Unite us to you, that in our oneness with you,
We may always be united to our loved ones.
Give us the courage to entrust Bob to you in death,
As in life you entrusted him to us.
Give us hope and peace through him who died,
and was buried and rose again for us,
Christ Jesus, our Saviour. **Amen.**

God of all comfort, we pray to you for those we love but see no longer. Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eternal God, we thank you for caring for us in life and for your promise to be faithful to us in life beyond death. We give thanks for the love that Bob and Rofey shared and that they are now reunited deeper in your heart where love never ends. We pray in confidence and hope, **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Hymn: CP 24 Abide with Me

(tune: Eventide) (Please stand)

**Abide with me: fast falls the even-tide;
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see:
O thou, who changest not, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless:
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting?
Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

**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.**

The Prayer Over the Gifts

God of mercy, accept the worship we offer you this day.
Increase, we pray, our faith, deepen our hope, and confirm us
in your eternal love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
our risen Saviour. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
Creator of heaven and earth;
We give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
Whose victorious rising from the dead
Has given to us the hope of resurrection
And the promise of eternal life.

Therefore, with angels and archangels
And all who have served you in every age,
We raise our voices
To proclaim the glory of your name.

(From Common Praise # 719):

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest,**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, God our Creator,
For the goodness and love
You have made known to us in creation;
In calling Israel to be your people;
In your Word spoken through the prophets;
And above all in the Word made flesh,
Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him
To be incarnate from the virgin Mary,
To be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
And made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us
Out of error into truth,
Out of sin into righteousness,
Out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over
To suffering and death,
A death he freely accepted,
Our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
And when he had given thanks to you,
He broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
And said, "Take, eat:
This is my body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;
And when he had given thanks,
He gave it to them,
And said, "Drink this, all of you:

This is my blood of the new covenant,
Which is shed for you and for many
For the forgiveness of sins,
Whenever you drink it,
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice
Of praise and thanksgiving
To you, God of all;
Presenting to you, from your creation,
This bread and this wine.

We pray to you, gracious God,
To send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
That they may be the sacrament
Of the body of Christ
And his blood of the new covenant,
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
That we, made acceptable in him,
May be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fulness of time, reconcile all things in Christ,
And make them new,
And bring us to that city of light
Where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty God,
now and for ever

Amen. (*Sung 3 times - From Common Praise # 721*)

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

**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 them that trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread (*Setting: Land of Rest*)

**O Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world;
Have mercy on us, Lamb of God,
and grant us your peace.**

The Invitation to the Table

The table of bread and wine is now ready.
It is the table of company with Jesus,
and all who love him.
It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world,
with whom Jesus identified himself.
It is the table of communion with the earth,
in which Christ became incarnate.
So come to this table,
you who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been for a while;
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed;

Come.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please follow the directions of the sidespeople as the congregation is invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine.

If you would prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing. Crossing your hands over your chest will signal the priest to give you a blessing instead.

NOTE: *Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

Please remain seated as we sing the hymn after communion.

Hymn after Communion: CP 29 The Day Thou Gavest

(tune: St. Clement) (Please stand)

**The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended;
The darkness falls at thy behest.
To thee our morning hymns ascended;
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.**

**We thank thee that thy church unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.**

**As o'er each continent and island
The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
Nor dies the strain of praise away.**

**The sun that bids us rest is waking
Thy faithful 'neath the western sky;
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.**

**So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall never,
Like earth's proud empires, pass away;
Thy kingdom stands and grows forever,
Till all thy creatures own thy sway.**

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God,
we thank you that in your great love
you have fed us with the spiritual food
and drink of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ
and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet:
grant that this sacrament may be to us
a comfort in affliction
and a pledge of our inheritance
in that kingdom where there is no death,
neither sorrow nor crying,
but fullness of joy with all your saints;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

The Commendation *(please remain standing)*

Before we go our separate ways,
Let us take leave of our brother.
May our farewell express our affection for him;
May it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope.
One day we shall joyfully greet him again
When the love of Christ, which conquers all things,
Destroys even death itself.

And so we pray:

Into your merciful care, Loving God,
we commend our loved one, Robert Arthur Watts.
In the sure and certain hope
That, together with all who have died in Christ
he will rise with him on the last day.
Receive him into the arms of your mercy,
Into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
And into the glorious company of the saints in light.

Amen.

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Here follows a time of silence.

Rest eternal grant to him, O God.

And let light perpetual shine upon him.

May his soul, and the souls of all the departed,
by the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

The Blessing

May God give you
his comfort and his peace,
his light and his joy,
in this world and the next;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Closing Hymn: CP 381 Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

(tune: Praise My Soul)

**Praise my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Ever-more his praises sing.
Praise him, praise him, praise the Everlasting King.**

**Praise him for his grace and favour
To our forebears in distress;
Praise him, still the same for ever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless;
Praise him, praise him, glorious in his faithfulness.**

**Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him, praise him, widely as his mercy flows.**

**Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
Blows the wind and it is gone;
But, while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on:
Praise him, praise him, praise the high eternal one.**

**Angels help us to adore him;
You behold him face to face;
Sun and moon bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.**

Following this service, the family invites you to join them in the church hall (across the parking lot) for a time of fellowship and refreshments. Park on Synod Road for easy access via the side door of the hall.