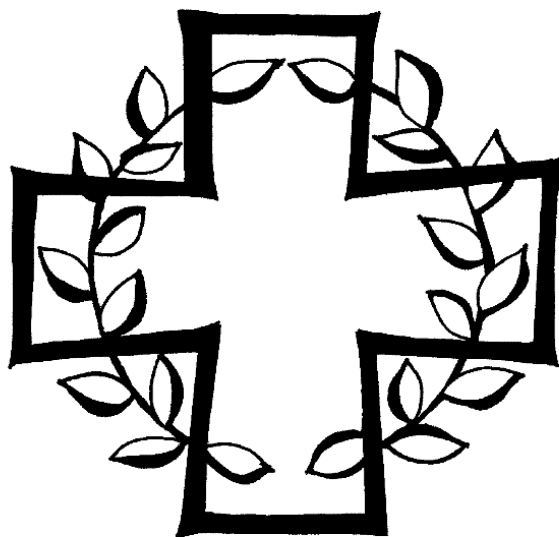


MEMORIAL SERVICE
FOR
HOWARD KASTNER
DECEMBER 21, 1941 – AUGUST 3, 2025



AUGUST 19, 2025
11:00 A.M.

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
143 CHOTA CENTER
LOUDON, TENNESSEE
865.816.4756

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain”. 1 Corinthians 15:58 RSV

PRELUDE

Please stand

INTRODUCTION

Welcome in the name of Jesus,
the Savior of the world.
We are gathered to worship,
to proclaim Christ crucified and risen,
to remember before God our *brother Howard*,
to give thanks for *his* life,
to commend *him* to our merciful redeemer,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

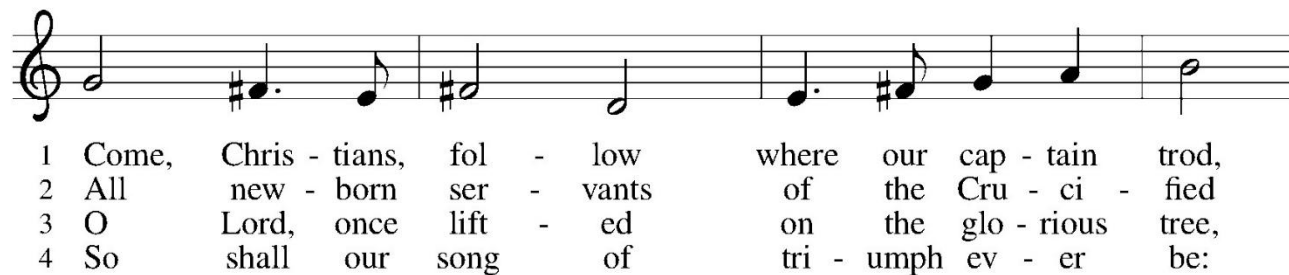
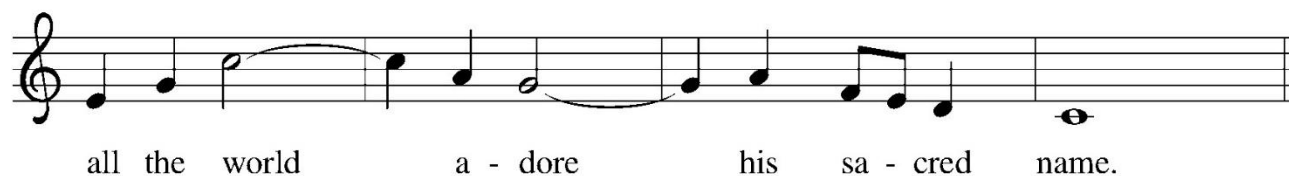
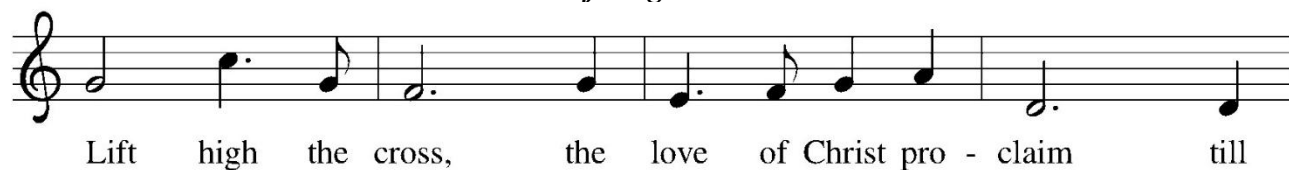
We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

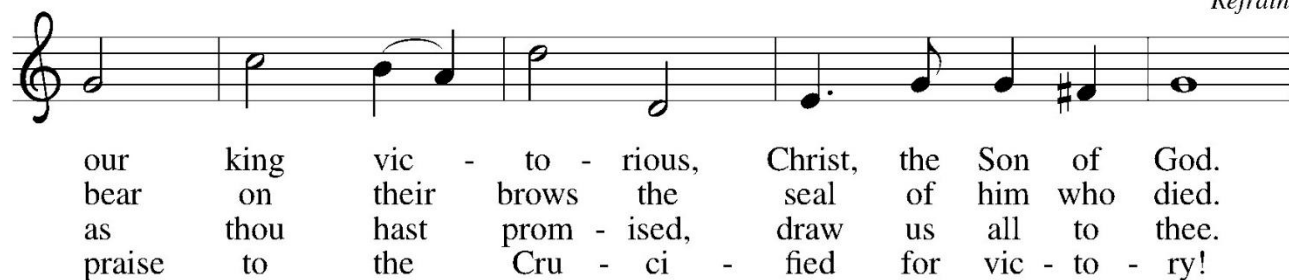
Amen.

MUSIC

Lift High the Cross



Refrain



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of grace and glory,
we remember before you today our *brother Howard*,
We thank you for giving *him* to us to know and to love
as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.
In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.
Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up
in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call,
we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

READINGS

Claire Moxim

Micah 6:6-8

⁶ “With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

Psalms 128

¹ Happy is everyone who fears the Lord,
who walks in his ways.
² You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you.

³ Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.
⁴ Thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the Lord.

⁵ The Lord bless you from Zion.
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.
⁶ May you see your children’s children.
Peace be upon Israel!

Revelation 21:1-6a

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”
⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

GOSPEL**John 6:37-40****Pastor Phil Vickers**

³⁷ Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away, ³⁸ for I have come down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.”

SERMON**Pastor Phil Vickers****MUSIC***My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (vs 1 & 4)*

☆ 1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
 ☆ 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

Please stand

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn,
and a sure and certain hope in your loving care,
that, casting all their sorrow on you,
they may have strength for the days ahead.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith,
that, where this world groans in grief and pain,
your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us, 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.

God of mercy,

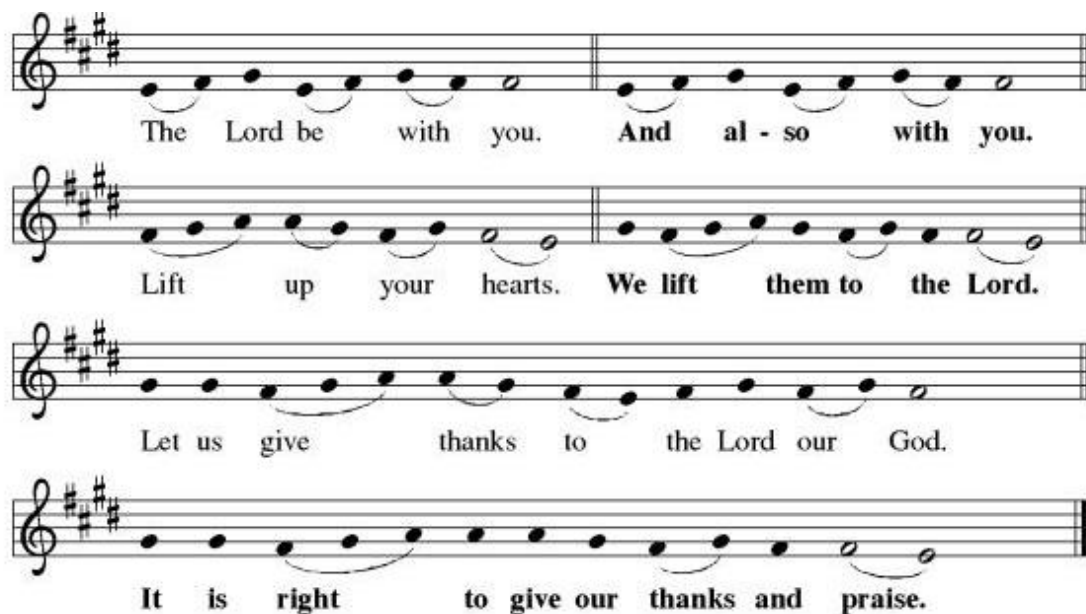
hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain 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 in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

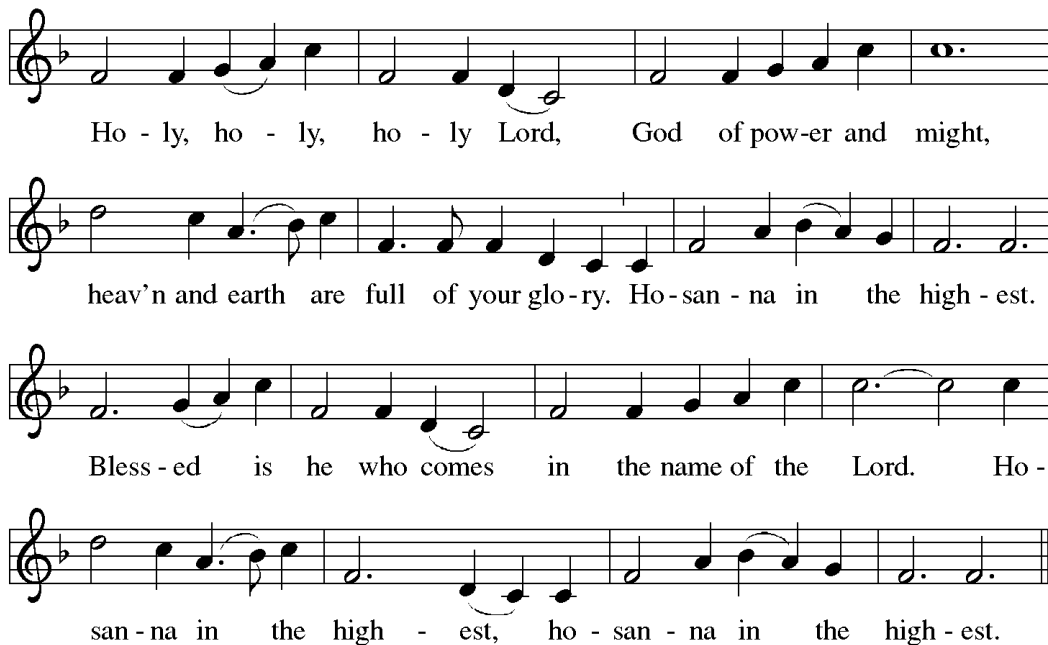
GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns.
The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit; let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

At Shepherd of the Lake, all who believe are welcomed to the Lord's table.

We will commune today by intinction. You will be invited by the usher to come forward and commune at the appropriate time. You will first receive a wafer and then are invited to dip it either into the chalice of wine or the chalice of grape juice before consuming. We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ offers us his body and blood in this sacrament. All are welcome to partake.

MUSIC

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (versus 1 & 4)



☆ 1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 ☆ 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

COMMENDATION

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, *Howard*.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.
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.

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

OBITUARY & PHOTO

Howard Kastner of Tellico Village, TN, passed away unexpectedly on the morning of Sunday, August 3, 2025.

Howard was born on Long Island in New York on Dec. 21, two weeks after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and was an only child. He graduated from Eastern Military Academy and earned his BS degree in Business Administration from Pennsylvania Military College. Howard achieved the rank of 2nd lieutenant in the United States Army. While waiting for basic training he met the love of his life, Susan Whitney, on Christmas Eve, 1964. They were married June 24th, 1967; they loved to say that they met on the 24th, were married on the 24th, and their first child was born on the 24th (All different years and different months, of course.) Child #2 broke the pattern but, since she arrived the day before their 6th anniversary, all was forgiven.



Howard was a hard worker, from his first job was with GE Credit to working in the credit department of the once famous Brooklyn department store, Abraham and Strauss, to his final role in sales at Chrysler Corporation. This longest part of his career involved moving from New York to Michigan, followed by California, Georgia, Colorado and back to Michigan over 20+ years.

In his retirement he never slowed down. Howard was a proud member of Tellico Village Volunteer Fire Department from 2002 until his death. A lifelong Lutheran, he was a charter and active member of the Shepherd of Lake Lutheran Church. He also supported the Good Shepard Center in Madisonville and delivered meals for the Friendship Kitchen. In his spare time, he enjoyed golf, card games, golf, visits with family and especially grandchildren, golf, and travel. He never met a stranger. The Tellico Singers song, Tellico, sums up his delight in having been a Tellico Villager.

He is survived by his wife, Susan, son Matthew Kastner and his wife Wendy, daughter Deborah Spresney and her husband Scott, along with five beloved grandchildren Olivia, Kate, Christopher, Margaret, and Melanie, five equally loved nieces and nephews and their spouses, and with his countless friends in Tellico Village and across the country.

A memorial service will be held at Shepherd of Lake Lutheran Church on August 19, 2025, at 11 am.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Shepherd of the Lake, Tellico Village Volunteer Fire Department, the Smoky Mountain Service Dogs, or the Public Library at Tellico Village.