

# FUNERAL SERVICE

*For everything there  
is a season, a time  
for every matter  
under heaven.*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR LAUREL WIRTH  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, MENASHA, WI  
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022



# A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

## INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

## REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

**P** In Holy Baptism Laurel Wirth was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. St. Paul says, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"

**C** We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.

*Romans 6:3-5*

## INTROIT

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

**P** For everything there is a season,

and a time for every matter under heaven:

**C** a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

**P** a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

**C** a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

**P** a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

**C** a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

**P** a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

**C** a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

**ALL** 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.

**P** For everything there is a season,  
and a time for every matter under heaven.

**SONG** ~ *I Can Only Imagine*

B. Millard

**KYRIE**

*Mark 10:47*

**P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**P** Let us pray.  
O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Laurel Wirth and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT** ~ *Job 8:8-9, 20-21*

<sup>8</sup> “For inquire, please, of bygone ages, and consider what the fathers have searched out. <sup>9</sup> For we are but of yesterday and know nothing, for our days on earth are a shadow.

<sup>20</sup> “Behold, God will not reject a blameless man, nor take the hand of evildoers. <sup>21</sup> He will yet fill your mouth with laughter, and your lips with shouting.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE** ~ *Philippians 4:9-13*

<sup>9</sup> What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

<sup>10</sup> I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. <sup>11</sup> Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. <sup>12</sup> I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**VERSE**

**P** Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;

**C** to Him be glory and power forever.

Alleluia.

[Revelation 1:5-6]

**HOLY GOSPEL** ~ *St. John 5:24-30*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>24</sup> “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

<sup>25</sup> “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. <sup>26</sup> For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. <sup>27</sup> And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup> Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

<sup>30</sup> “I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

# HYMN

## I Was There to Hear Your Born-ing Cry

J. Ylvisaker

1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are  
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you  
 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger

old. I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to  
 on; you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to  
 young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, com -

see your life un - fold. I was there when you were but a  
 whom you now be - long. If you find some-one to share your  
 plete what I've be - gun. When the eve - ning gent-ly clos - es

child, with a faith to suit you well;  
 time and you join your hearts as one,  
 in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,





in a blaze of light you wan - dered off to  
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from  
I'll be there as I have al - ways been with

find where de - mons dwell."  
dusk till ris - ing sun."  
just one more sur - prise." 4 "I was there to hear your

born - ing cry, I'll be there when you are old. I re -

joiced the day you were bap-tized, to see your life un - fold."

Text: John Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
Music: John Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
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WATERLIFE  
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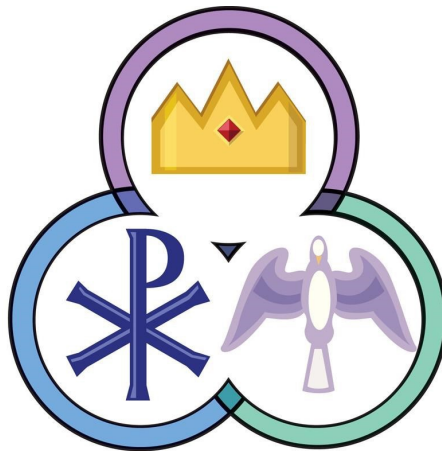
## APOSTLES' CREED

**P** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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.**



## SERMON



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

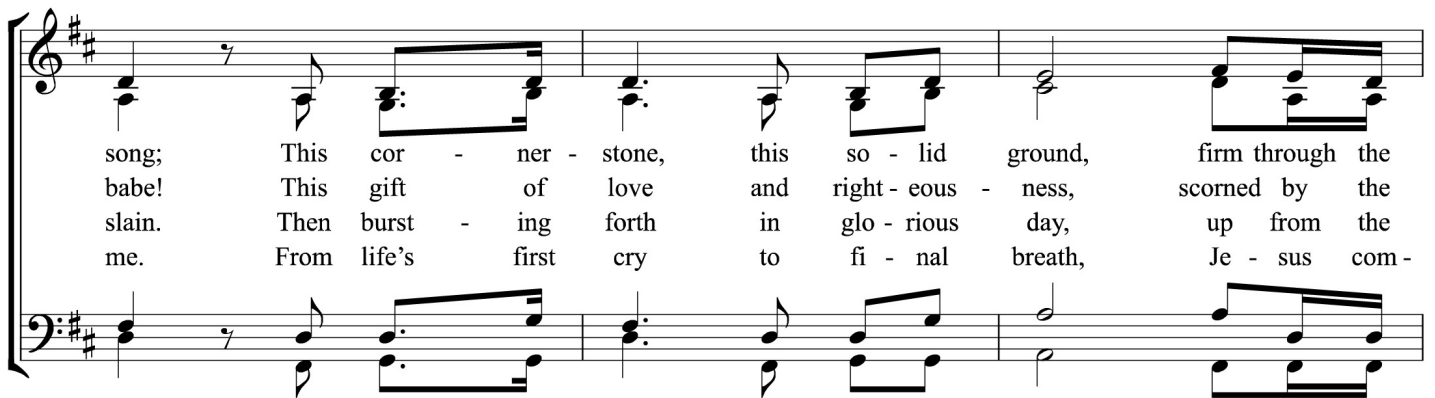
- P** Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give to the family of Laurel Wirth and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Receive our thanks for Laurel and for all the blessings You bestowed on her in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with her we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence 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, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

# HYMN ~ In Christ Alone

K. Getty and S. Townend



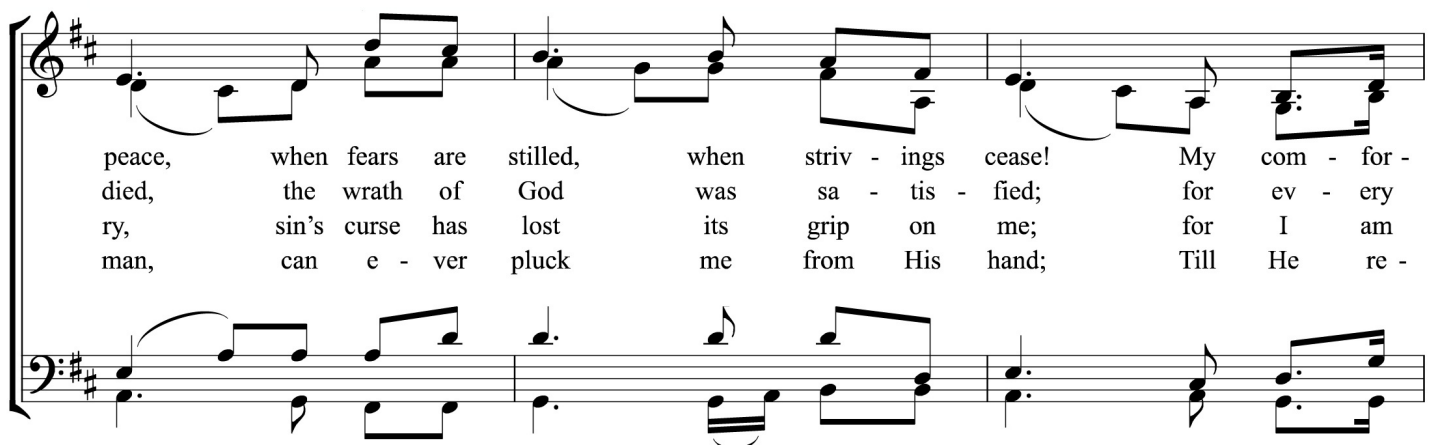
1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my  
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less  
 3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, light of the world by dark - ness  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death- this is the pow'r of Christ in



song; This cor - ner - stone, this so - lid ground, firm through the  
 babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the  
 slain. Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the  
 me. From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com -



fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of  
 ones He came to save. Till on that cross as Je - sus  
 grave He rose a - gain! And as He stands in vic - to -  
 mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of



peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - for -  
 died, the wrath of God was sa - tis - fied; for ev - ery  
 ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am  
 man, can e - ver pluck me from His hand; Till He re -

1.2.3.

ter, my all in all— here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 sin on Him was laid— here in the death of Christ I live.  
 His and He is mine— bought with the pre-cious blood of Christ.  
 turns or calls me home— here in the pow'r of Christ I'll

4.

2. In Christ a- stand.  
 3. There in the  
 4. No guilt in

## LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C** 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.”  
*John 11:25-26*

**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.

*Luke 2:29-32*

**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.”  
*John 11:25-26*

## CONCLUDING COLLECT

**P** The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

**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.

## BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

**P** Let us bless the Lord. *[Psalm 103:1]*

**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.

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

# HYMN ~ On Eagles' Wings

727



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, Who a -  
 2 snare of the fowl - er will nev - er cap-ture you, And  
 3 You need not fear the \_\_\_\_\_ ter - ror of the night, Nor the  
 4 For to His an - gels He's giv - en a com-mand To



bide in His shad - ow for life,  
 fam - ine will bring you no fear;  
 ar - row that flies \_\_\_\_\_ by day; Though  
 guard you in all of your ways; Up -



Say to the Lord: "My \_\_\_\_\_ ref - uge, My \_\_\_\_\_  
 Un - der His wings your \_\_\_\_\_ ref - uge, His \_\_\_\_\_  
 thou - sands \_\_\_\_\_ fall a - bout you,  
 on their \_\_\_\_\_ hands they will bear you up, Lest you



rock \_\_\_\_\_ in whom \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ trust!"  
 faith - ful - ness \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ shield.  
 Near you it shall \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_ come.  
 dash \_\_\_\_\_ your foot a - gainst a stone.

## Refrain



And He will raise you up on ea - gles' wings,



Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the



sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand. 2 The

## PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

Officiant  
Assisting Minister  
Organist

*Rev. Keith E. GeRue*  
*Rev. Steven S. Billings*  
*Mrs. Nancy Lephart*

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### Acknowledgments

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Laurel was called home by her Savior on April 26, 2022. She was born on August 4, 1959 as the oldest of 8 children to Gerald and the late Ruth (Wolter) Greisinger. She graduated from Antigo High School in 1977 and went on to get her Associate Degree in Legal Secretary from North Central Technical College in 1980. Laurel met Tim Wirth – the soon-to-be love of her life – on a bus trip to Madison for 4-H. They were married on September 6, 1980, at St. Peters Lutheran Church of Polar, WI.



Laurel was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church of Menasha for over 35 years, serving on a number of boards, as a Sunday school teacher, member of the alter guild, lector, and, most recently, on the Ladies Aid.

Laurel loved being a mother and grandmother. She was always up for an adventure and creating mischief. She enjoyed traveling by planes, trains, and automobiles to 48 states and 13 countries with her family and travel group. She loved working at the WI State Fair for the WI Potato and Vegetable Growers Association Auxiliary for many years, alongside many friends and family members. Laurel loved spending time at Pelican Lake and taking the boat to get ice cream. She enjoyed the quietness of the hunting cabin and taking the 4-wheelers to the wettest part to fall in the mud. Decorating the house, especially for Christmas, was one her favorite things to do. Never one to sit still for long, quick to smile and a laugh that lit up the room, her passion was to spend time around family and friends.

She was loved by her husband of 41 years, her children, their spouses, and her grandchildren. She had a large impact on many different people. Her compassion and strength were admired by all who met her. She was strong in her faith, and it was unwavering, even at the end.

Laurel is survived by her husband, Tim, children Nathaniel (Ashley) of Menasha and Amanda (Jasen) of Pembine, and grandchildren Riley, Finley, and Mackenzie, her father Gerald of Antigo; siblings: Gerald (Rachel), Greg (Julie), Rod (Sue), Paula (Fuzzy), Susan (Dooner), and Mark (Mary); brother-in-law Steve; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, in-laws, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her mother, her sister Theresa, her father-in-law Don, and her brother-in-law Brian, along with many cherished aunts and uncles.

The family has asked that, in lieu of flowers, you would please consider a donation in Laurel's name to Trinity Lutheran School.