



The Funeral of Bruce Hoyt

July 15, 2025

11:00 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road

Bedford, Massachusetts 01730

The Funeral Service

Welcome

Opening Hymn: LSB 801 How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou



art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989.

Tune: Swedish; arr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989

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Stand

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

Invocation

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

The casket may be covered with a funeral pall.

Remembrance of Baptism

- P** In Holy Baptism Bruce was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his 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.**
- P** Let us pray.
Lord God, maker of heaven and earth and giver of life, we give thanks for all the mercies You granted Bruce during his earthly life, especially for calling him to faith in Jesus Christ through Holy Baptism. Comfort all who mourn his death with the hope of the glorious resurrection of the body and a happy reunion in heaven. Remind us that we, too, are mortal, and prepare us to fall asleep in faith and on the Last Day receive the glory promised to all who trust in Your beloved Son, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- R** Amen.

The casket is brought to the front of the sanctuary as the processional hymn is sung.

Processional Hymn: LSB 727 On Eagles' Wings



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

Text and Tune: Michael Joncas, 1951

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Kyrie

- 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.

- P** Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Bruce 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.

Sit

Psalmody

Psalm 23

- A** Together, we speak Psalm 23:

- C** The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;

Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:1–3

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 34

A Together, we speak Psalm 34 responsively:

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**²My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

³Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

**⁴I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.**

⁵Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

⁶**This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him,
and delivers them.

⁸**Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
Blessèd is the man who takes refuge in him!**

⁹Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!

¹⁰**The young lions suffer want and hunger;
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

¹¹Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹²**What man is there who desires life
and loves many days, that he may see good?**

¹³Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴**Turn away from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous
and his ears toward their cry.

¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
to cut off the memory of them from the earth.**

¹⁷When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

¹⁸**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.**

¹⁹Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

²⁰**He keeps all his bones;
not one of them is broken.**

²¹Affliction will slay the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

²²The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

- C** 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.

Epistle

Revelation 21:2–7

²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶And 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 from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse

A Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;

C to Him be glory and power forever.
Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 6:37–40

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁷All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And 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. ⁴⁰For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

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.**

Sit

Eulogy

Bruce Hoyt, Jr.

Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Zachary Hoyt, Tyler Hoyt

Sermon

Kneel/Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.
- P** 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 Bruce 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 Help us, we pray, when in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Receive our thanks for Bruce and for all the blessings You bestowed on him in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with him 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.**

Lord's Prayer

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

A "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.

A "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."

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.

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction and Dismissal

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.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord. Amen.

Recessional Hymn: LSB 461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
 4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
 plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
 guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
 me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
 He lives to wipe away my tears;
 He lives to calm my troubled heart;
 He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
 He lives and loves me to the end;
 He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
 He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 He lives, and I shall conquer death;
 He lives my mansion to prepare;
 He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.
 Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793
 Text and tune: Public domain

The service continues with the committal at Fox Hill Cemetery in Billerica.

Committal

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heav'n and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade on your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.

**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.**

The pastor stands at the head of the casket or next to the urn. When all have arrived at the place of interment, the prayer appropriate to the setting is spoken.

P Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, by Your three-day rest in the tomb You hallowed the graves of all who believe in You, promising resurrection to our mortal bodies. Bless † this grave that the body of our brother may sleep here in peace until You awaken him to glory, when he will see You face to face and know the splendor of the eternal God, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

One or more of the following are read.

The perishable is raised imperishable

1 Corinthians 15:42–49, 51-57

⁴²So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven....

⁵¹Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We grieve in hope

1 Thessalonians 4:13–17

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God.

And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

Sand or earth may be poured on the casket in the sign of the cross while the pastor says:

P We now commit the body of our brother, Bruce, to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him to subdue all things to Himself.

The pastor may place his hand on the head of the casket as he says:

P May God the Father, who created this body; may God the ✠ Son, who by His blood redeemed this body; may God the Holy Spirit, who by Holy Baptism sanctified this body to be His temple, keep these remains to the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

C Amen.

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.

P Almighty God, by the death of Your Son Jesus Christ You destroyed death, by His rest in the tomb You sanctified the graves of Your saints, and by His bodily resurrection You brought life and immortality to light so that all who die in Him abide in peace and hope. Receive our thanks for the victory over death and the grave that He won for us. Keep us in everlasting communion with all who wait for Him on earth and with all in heaven who are with Him, for He is the resurrection and the life, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Let us go forth in peace, in the name of the Lord.

C Amen.

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.

Acknowledgments

Funeral Service from Lutheran Service Book

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Bruce J. Hoyt

March 5, 1940 – July 10, 2025

Bruce J. Hoyt, age 85, beloved husband of the late Bette M. (Stetson) Hoyt died Thursday, July 10, at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center after a period of declining health.

He was born in Somerville, March 5, 1940, a son of the late Harold J. and Grace (Pirainen) Hoyt, and was a lifelong Billerica resident.

Bruce was employed as an Engineer for Raytheon Corp., and after retiring from Raytheon, he went on to work as a driver for MITRE Corp. He also served as an auxiliary Police Officer in the Town of Billerica, attaining the rank of Chief.

Along with his late wife, he was an active member of The Lutheran Church of the Savior in Bedford.

He is survived by his six children, Bruce Hoyt, Jr., and his wife, Lynn, of Gulf Port, MS; Lisa Hurley and her husband, William, of St. Augustine, FL; Darlene Barsalou of Deering, NH; Aprille Abbott and her husband, Scott, of Billerica; Harold Hoyt and his wife, Andrea, of Tyngsboro; and Gregory Hoyt and his wife, Ann, of Billerica; one sister, Brenda Soubosky, of Hudson, NH, as well as thirteen grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and many friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Central Food Ministry, Lowell at www.cfministry.org.