
**A Service of Christian Celebration and Joy
in memory of Daniel George Jones
husband, father, brother, uncle, Christian friend,
and member of the Church Triumphant**

born on earth January 02, 1956.....called to heaven on February 17, 2017

Friday, February 24, 2017 10:00 a.m.

*"The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away.
May the name of the LORD be praised!" (Job 1:21)*

Grace Lutheran Church
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
415 N. 6th Place Lowell, Arkansas 72745

Silent Prayer upon entering the Chapel
Pre-service music

We Celebrate God's Grace

The Invitation and Introduction to Worship

Our Opening Hymn

"The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary. (Refrain)

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me. (Refrain)

To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
where His glory forever I'll share. (Refrain)

after which the Congregation shall rise

The Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ Who said, "*Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*" May we all find rest and peace from our sorrow through Him today.

The Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus, You wept at the grave of Your friend Lazarus, and You consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn for Dan, and who grieve with his family. Dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled spirit, dispel our doubts and fears, and lead us to praise You for having brought Dan to faith in You. Through Your rising from the dead You conquered death and opened the gates of heaven to everlasting life for all who believe. Comfort and strengthen us now, through Your Holy Word, and lead us through this earthly life until at least we are united with You and all the saints in heaven before Your glorious and gracious throne. Amen.

A Dialogue of Victory

P: We are here to give strength to one another and to find comfort and joy in God's holy Word.

C: *Our hope and comfort is in Jesus Christ.*

P: He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities.

C: *the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.*

P: But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead.

C: *He is risen indeed! The firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. Hallelujah!*

P: Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever.

C: *I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see Him with my own eyes --- I and not another.*

P: What shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

C: *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

P: For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 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.

C: *We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love Him.*

P: I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day. I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies.

C: *Find rest, o my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him. He alone is my Rock and my Salvation; He is my Fortress; I will not be shaken.*

P: My salvation and my honor depend on God; He is my mighty Rock, my Refuge.

C: *Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our Refuge.*

after which the Congregation shall be seated

We Draw Our Comfort And Our Strength From The Word of God

**God's Word Encourages Us About
The Blessings That Are Ours In A Believer's
Death And In Christ's Second Coming**

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 But 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. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For 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. 16 For 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. 17 Then 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. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Second Hymn

Hymn 440 "On Eagle's Wings"

The Gospel Lesson

John 11:1-44

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. 3 So the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, he whom You love is ill." 4 But when Jesus heard it He said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So, when He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was. 7 Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." 8 The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone You, and are You going there again?" 9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve

hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. 10 But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." 11 After saying these things, He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." 12 The disciples said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." 13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep. 14 Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, 15 and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." 16 So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

17 Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, 19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. 20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house. 21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" 27 She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, Who is coming into the world."

28 When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." 29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to Him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met Him. 31 When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. 32 Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in His spirit and greatly troubled. 34 And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept. 36 So the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not He Who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. 39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." 40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" 41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. 42 I knew that You always hear Me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that You sent Me." 43 When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." 44 The man

who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

The Sermon Hymn

Hymn 256 "How Great Thou Art"

The Sermon

based on Psalm 139:15-18, 23-24

15 My frame was not hidden from You, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; *in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.* 17 How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with You.....23 Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! 24 And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

It Was All According to God's Plan....

We Bring Our Prayers Before our God and Lord

following the conclusion of the sermon the Congregation will rise for

The Prayers of God's People

Almighty God, heavenly Father, our Eternal Lord....we turn to You in this hour of sadness. Though You exist through time and eternity, we are like grass that withers and a flower that fades. Teach us, then, to number our days, to know how frail we are, and to prepare daily by faith for a blessed end. Do not permit the sting of the death of our brother in Christ, Dan Jones, to make us afraid of our earthly or eternal future.

We praise and thank You for having brought to faith, the soul of our beloved husband, brother, father, uncle, and fellow believer in Christ. In the midst of our grief over our loss, we nevertheless rejoice that You guided Dan out of the darkness and damnation of unbelief into the light of saving faith in You. Thank You Lord, for keeping the promises You made to Dan by taking him from this sinful world this past Friday and – for Jesus' sake – receiving Him on that day into the mansions of

everlasting glory.

Help us at all times to look up to and to live for Jesus Who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Continue to comfort and encourage us through Your Word during this time of shock and sorrow for us. And please give us Your strength so that, though we may feel weak, we will be strong in the Spirit and in faith in You as the God Who always does what is right and best for His children.

Lead us to rejoice in the truth that when our loved ones die in the Lord they are blessed in going to be with You in heaven where there will be neither sorrow, nor crying, nor pain, and where You will wipe away every tear from their eyes. To that end, we pray that You would keep us faithful to You throughout our earthly journey, so that finally when our last hour comes, we may depart in peace, by faith laying hold of the same blessed assurance of eternal life through Jesus Christ, for Whom Dan Jones lived and in Whom he died to life everlasting.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. And in Whose name we join in praying.....

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.

Now Dismiss Us, Lord

The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look with favor upon you, and give you His peace. Amen.

after which the Congregation may be seated for

The Closing Hymn

Hymn 152 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"
Verses 1, 5, 7, & 8

silent prayer

recessional music

Daniel George Jones

Dan Jones, age 61, a resident of Lincoln, Arkansas, passed away Friday, February 17, 2017 near Natural Dam. He was born January 2, 1956 in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, the son of Floyd Lee and Irene Helen (Draeger) Jones. Dan owned and operated World Wide Pets in Van Buren for the past 25 years. He was an avid sportsman and did animal rehabilitation for Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Dan enjoyed helping his son raise show hogs that were shown at the local, state and national level.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife, Debra Jones; one son Heath Jones of Lincoln; one brother Dennis Lee Jones and his wife Becky of Ft. Atkinson, Wisconsin; one sister Connie Sue Miller and husband Don of McKinney, Texas and several nieces and nephews. Dan's family received friends Thursday evening from 6-8 p.m. at the Luginbuel Funeral Home in Prairie Grove. Today's funeral service began at 10 a.m. Friday, February 24th, 2017, at Grace Lutheran Church WELS in Lowell, Arkansas. Burial will be at 2 p.m. this afternoon in the Prairie Grove Cemetery.

An online guest book is being maintained at www.luginbuel.com.

Memorials may be given either to: 1) the "Dan Jones Memorial Fund" at any Avest Bank. The account number is 0035521415; or 2) the Grace Lutheran Church Benevolence Fund.

The Family of Dan Jones

.....is grateful for your participation in this worship service in his memory. Your presence, your kind words, your comfort, and your prayers all help to ease the pain connected with the loss of such a dear family member, friend, and fellow child of God.

As Christians, our greatest comfort in this time of personal loss rests in the knowledge that Dan was a believing child of the One True God, who was washed of his sins and brought to faith in Christ through the promises and power of Baptism. By the grace of God, he was led by the Holy Spirit's working through the Word of God to trust in and love his (and our) Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For Dan, God's call out of this earthly existence on February 17th was an unspeakable blessing that resulted in the beginning of a new life in heaven in the company of all those saints who have died in faith and gone before us into Paradise. Even more important, having passed from this life as a believing child of God, Dan is now experiencing an incomprehensibly glorious life in the presence of the Son of God, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, our risen

Redeemer and Savior, Christ Jesus.

Were he among us today, Dan would undoubtedly be asking us to join him in thanking and praising the God of his salvation – and ours, Who redeemed him from all his sins, and Who graciously removed him from this world of sickness, suffering, and sin for everlasting life in heaven.

This morning, then, as we close our worship service, please bow your head and offer a prayer of thanksgiving to this one, true and only God, Who answers prayer and Who blesses His children who die in the faith with the promise of a glorified bodily resurrection on the Last Day, and the certainty of everlasting life in heaven for their souls from that moment when He calls them home to His side.

*The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away.
May the name of the LORD be praised!" (Job 1:21)*

Pall Bearers: Doug Baker; Don Miller; Chad Miller; Curt Hebbe; Tyler Dix; Zach Willhite

(If You will be attending the committal service at the cemetery, please keep this worship flyer with you, so that you might follow along in the service at that time)

The Service of Committal – at the grave side

*(After family and friends have gathered at the grave side
at the Prairie Grove Cemetery, the Committal Service will commence.)*

The Invocation

Let us continue in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Word of God

I Corinthians 15, selected verses

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.

We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that He raised Christ, Whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not

even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.....

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed -- in 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. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

When 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." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Our Hymn

"Amazing Grace"

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound — That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.

The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Twas grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

The Rite of Committal

Pastor We brought nothing into this world and it is certain that we will not carry anything out. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. May the name of the Lord be praised.

For as much as it has pleased Almighty God, in His wisdom to take out of this world the soul of our departed brother, Daniel Jones, we therefore commit his body to this resting place; earth to earth; ashes to ashes; dust to dust; in the hope of the resurrection to eternal life, though our Lord Jesus Christ, Who by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body.

May God the Father, Who has created this body;
May God the Son, Who by His blood has redeemed this body together with the soul;
May God the Holy Spirit, Who by baptism has sanctified this body to be His temple
– keep these remains unto the day of the resurrection of all mankind. Amen.

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me: "Write, blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."

Our Prayer

Almighty God, we praise You for the great company of saints who have finished their lives in faith and now rest from their labors. This afternoon we particularly remember our loved one, Dan Jones, but especially Your child whom You have redeemed by the blood and righteousness of Your Son, his Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. We thank You for giving him to us as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In Your compassion, comfort us all as we deal in sadness with our loss, yet rejoice at heaven's gain.

We praise You for Your love in Christ, which sustains us in life and death. In our earthly sorrow, help each of us to find spiritual strength in the fellowship of Your Church, peace in Your forgiveness of all our sins, and certain hope in Your guarantee of the resurrection to everlasting life for all who, by Your grace, have been led by the Holy Spirit to believe in You as the One true God.

You have not left us without comfort for this moment. Strengthen us now through Your Word, reminding us that all of Your promises always come true. Having promised Dan a place in Your heavenly mansions, through faith in Christ, You have graciously granted him the goal of his faith -- and ours -- eternal life with You in glory.

Grant to us all who are still in our pilgrimage here on earth, that Your Holy Spirit may keep us strong in our faith in Christ, so that each of us may be prepared for that day when we also will be called from this world to Your side in glory. On that day, whenever it comes, may we depart in peace, with that certain hope in the bodily resurrection that only Your children know. Grant us then, as You have given Dan, our brother in Christ, the goal of our faith: everlasting life in heaven, where

we will also receive the crown of life which You promise to all who, by faith, share in the victory of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever, and in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want; He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside 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 for ever.

The Final Blessing

May the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
And the Love of God the Father,
And the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

Our Closing Hymn

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, Ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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