

# Farewell Service

## For Pastor Mark Voss



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CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
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### Opening Hymn -

### *“Not Unto Us”*

CW 392 Text and Tune ©1992 Kurt J. Eggert Setting: ©1993 Mrs. James E. Engel



Not un - to us, not un - to us be glo - ry, Lord;  
A - maz - ing grace - - that chose us e'er the worlds were made;  
O faith - ful love - - that shep - herd - ed through faith - less years;  
Not un - to us but to your name be glo - ry, Lord,



Not un - to us but to your name be praise;  
A - maz - ing grace - - that sent your Son to save;  
For - giv - ing love - - that led us to your truth;  
For grace so rich, so wide, so high, so free.



Not un - to us but to your name all hon - or be giv'n  
A - maz - ing grace - - that robed us in your right - eous - ness  
Un - yield - ing love - - that would not let us turn from you  
A - bide with us till trav' - ling days are ov - er and done,



For match - less mer - cy, for - give - ness, and grace.  
And taught our lips to sing glo - ry and praise.  
But sent us forth to speak par - don and peace.  
And pil - grim feet lead us home, Lord, to you.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**ALL: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore as a called servant of Christ and by his authority. I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

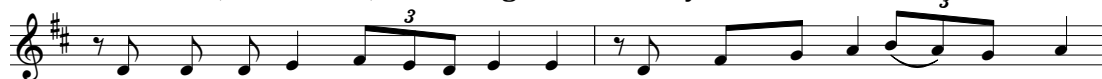
P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

**C: Amen.**

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



O Lord, our Lord, how glo-ri-ous is your name in all the earth.



Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa-ther, you crown our life with your love.



You take a - way our sin; you com - fort our spir - it;



you make us pure and ho - ly in your sight.



You did not spare your on - ly Son, but gave him up for us all.



O Lord, our Lord, how glo-ri-ous is your name in all the earth.



O Son of God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther, you came to live with us;



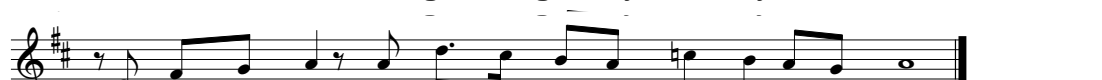
you made your Fa - ther known;



you washed us from our sins in your own blood.



You are the King of glo - ry; you are the Lord!



O Lord, our Lord, how glo-ri-ous is your name in all the earth.

## Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, look with favor on those whom you have called to minister to your people. Fill them with faithfulness to your doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life that they may joyfully serve to the glory of your name and for the benefit of your Church; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## THE WORD

### Isaiah 43:1-3a – I am the Lord your God

<sup>1</sup> But now, this is what the Lord says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

<sup>3</sup> For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;

## Verse of the Day

P: Alleluia. Let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. Alleluia.

*Jeremiah 23:28*

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! These words are writ-ten that  
we may be-lieve that Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

### Mark 10:13-16 – Jesus blesses the little children

<sup>13</sup> People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” <sup>16</sup> And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

## Apostles' Creed

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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 Hymn

### *"Speak, O Lord"*

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Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To re - ceive the food  
Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly rev - er - ence,  
Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us grasp the heights



of your hu - mil - ly Word. Take your truth,  
true hu - mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts  
of your plans for us. Truths un - changed



plant it deep in us; Shape and fash - ion us in your  
and our at - ti - tudes In the ra - di - ance of your  
from the dawn of time, That will e - cho down through e -



like - ness That the light of Christ might be seen to - day  
pur - i - ty. Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
- ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on your pro - mis - es,



In our - acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Your ma - jes - tic love and as au - thor - i - ty.  
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.



Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us All your  
Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail, Let their  
Speak, O Lord, as your Church is built And you



pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.  
truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.  
fill the earth with your glo - ry.

# SERMON

## *Everything Changes . . . Nothing Changes*

### **1 Peter 1:18-25**

<sup>18</sup> For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,

<sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

<sup>20</sup> He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

<sup>21</sup> Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.

<sup>23</sup> For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. <sup>24</sup> For,

“All people are like grass,  
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;  
the grass withers and the flowers fall,

<sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord endures forever.”

And this is the word that was preached to you.

**Musical Selection**

***“How Beautiful”***

Words & Music by Twila Paris Choral Setting by Lloyd Larson © 2003 Ariose Music

# FAREWELL TO PASTOR

P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, Pastor is retiring from his pastorate at Christ Our Redeemer. As we bid him farewell, we look to the Word of our Lord for comfort, peace and guidance.

Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together. Know that the LORD is God.

**C: It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

P: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

**C: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

P: O Lord Almighty, blessed are those who dwell in your house.

**C: O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.**

P: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

**C: His delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.**

P: He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

**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.**

## Prayer

P: O Lord God, merciful and gracious Father, we give thanks for all the blessings you have given this congregation through the ministry of your servant Pastor Voss. By your Holy Spirit give him grace, that by his example of faithful devotion to your Word, he may be a blessing to many. In your mercy support and strengthen him in his life, and grant him peace and blessedness now and forever, through your Son, our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## Blessing

P: Dear brother in Christ, the Lord will keep you from all harm; he will watch over your life. The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Closing Song

## “Go My Children”

CW 332 Text: ©Jaroslav J. Vajda Tune: Public Domain Setting: Harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to me;  
I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free.  
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched him,  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here his ten - der  
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort -



mine for - ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing - You are my own.  
saw his glo - ry. Go, my child - ren sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
com - fort stilled you, Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.  
- er, and Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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## Speakers and Presentation of Gift to Pastor

## Outdoor Fellowship

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