

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

James David Josephson

March 29, 1963 – January 9, 2017



January 13, 2017

DeWitt Community Church

3600 Erie Boulevard, East

DeWitt, NY 13214

THE GATHERING

Gathering Music

Greeting

Rev. Alan Rudnick

Words of Grace

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and I am life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. I died, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I hold the keys of hell and death. Because I live, you shall live also.

*Hymn of Hope

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

1. Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, when shall I come to thee?
2. O hap - py har - bor of the saints, O sweet and pleas - ant soil!
3. Thy saints are crowned with glo - ry great; they see God face to face;
4. Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, God grant that I may see

When shall my sor - rows have an end? Thy joys, when shall I see?
In thee no sor - row may be found, no grief, no care, no toil.
they tri - umph still, they still re - jice: most hap - py is their case.
thine end - less joy, and of the same par - tak - er ev - er be!

*Prayer of Life *in unison*

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray:

Eternal God, we praise you for the great company of all those who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labor. We thank you for Jim, who is at rest. Let your perpetual light shine upon us; and help us so to believe where we have not seen, that your presence may lead us through our years, and bring us at last with the joy of your home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION

Psalm

Psalm 23

David Lansdowne

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff-- they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Gospel Lesson

John 14:1-4, 18-19, 25-27

Tom Gleason

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Family Reflections

Megan, Henry, and Charles Josephson
Tom and Marc Josephson

Homily

Rev. Alan Rudnick

THE RESPONSE

Duet

Grace Tiso and Erin Whyland

*Prayers of Thanksgiving

Leader: God of mercy, Lord of life, you have made us in your image to reflect your truth and light: we give you thanks for Jim, for the grace and mercy he received from you, for all that was good in his life, for the memories we treasure today.

People: We thank you God for life and hope.

Leader: You promised eternal life to those who believe. Remember for good, Jim, as we also remember him. Bring all who rest in Christ into the fullness of your kingdom where sins have been forgiven and death is no more.

People: We thank you Lord for your kingdom and your grace.

Leader: Your mighty power brings joy out of grief and life out of death. Look in mercy on all who mourn. Give them patient faith in times of darkness. Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love.

People: We give thanks for your compassion, O Lord.

Leader: You are tender towards your children and your mercy is over all your works. Heal the memories of hurt and failure. Give us the wisdom and grace to use the time that is left to us here on earth, to turn to Christ and follow in his steps in the way that leads to everlasting life.

People: We give you thanks for healing and salvation, O Lord.

Leader: God of mercy, entrusting into your hands all that you have made and rejoicing in our communion with all your faithful people, we make our prayers through Jesus Christ our Savior. And now, with confidence of the children of God, we are bold to pray:

All: 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. Amen.

***Song of Celebration**

Amazing Grace

#422

***Benediction**

Rev. Alan Rudnick

Postlude



**Congregation stands*

Celebrant: Rev. Alan Rudnick

Organist: Abel Searor

Hymn Leader: Dr. Kay Paulsen