# The Order

# Christian Funeral



Baptized into Christ Jesus – May 10, 1930

₩ Virginia (Vicki) G. Samuli ₩

Entered into His Glory – August 25, 2020

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Westminster, MA

SCRIPTURE ALONE ₩ GRACE ALONE ₩ FAITH ALONE

The Funeral Service for Virginia (Vicki) Samuli (1923–2020)......August 29, 2020

Thank you for wearing your masks during the service. The congregation sings the hymns and speaks the liturgy in bold.

OPENING HYMN - TUNE: TLH 651 - TEXT: LSB 752

- 1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
  Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
  Leave to your God to order and provide;
  In ev'ry change He faithful will remain.
  Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly Friend
  Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
- 2 Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
  To guide the future as He has the past.
  Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
  All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
  Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
  His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.
- 3 Be still, my soul; though dearest friends depart
  And all is darkened in this vale of tears;
  Then you will better know His love, His heart,
  Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
  Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
  From His own fullness all He takes away.
- 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
  When we shall be forever with the Lord,
  When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
  Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
  Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
  All safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.

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THE INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with sincere hearts to confess our sins to God, our Father, and to plead in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ for His forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,

and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

All-Powerful God, merciful Father, I, a poor, pitiful sinner, confess to You all my sins and unrighteousness. By them I have continually offended You and fairly deserved Your punishment, both now and eternally. But from my heart I am sorry for them, and I sincerely repent of them, and I pray You, in Your limitless mercy for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

THE ABSOLUTION

[John 20:19-23]

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all yours sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

THE INTROIT

Revelation 7:9-10: Psalm 84:1: 97:12a

A huge multitude that no one could count stood before the throne and before the Lamb,

Clothed in white robes, with palms in their hands,

And they shouted aloud:

"Salvation belongs to our God upon the throne and to the Lamb!"

Oh, rejoice in the Lord, you righteous!

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of Hosts!

THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory to God on high:

and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

(Continued on the next page.)

You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
For You only are holy; You only are the Lord.
You only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, are most high
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

2 Timothy 4:22

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You were dead; now You are alive forever. Strengthen us, who must die soon, so that we turn from our sins and follow You through this world, and then follow on, through death into life everlasting; for You live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one eternal God, now and in the endless world to come. Amen.

# The Reading of God's Word

from the Old Testament: Job 19:21–27

After the reading:
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

the Psalmody: Psalm 23

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 Ghost as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

from the Letters: Hebrews 12:1–3

After the reading:
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hallelujah, hallelujah! Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; to Him be glory and power forever. Hallelujah!

from the Holy Gospel: Luke 2:36–38

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY - TEXT & TUNE: LSB 744

- 1 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.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
  I have already come;
  His grace has brought me safe thus far,
  His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease,
  Amazing grace shall then prevail
  In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5 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.

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## The Sermon

HYMN OF RESPONSE - TUNE: TLH 394 - TEXT: LSB 702

- 1 My faith looks up to Thee,
  Thou Lamb of Calvary,
  Savior divine.
  Now hear me while I pray;
  Take all my guilt away;
  O let me from this day
  Be wholly Thine!
- 2 May Thy rich grace impart
  Strength to my fainting heart;
  My zeal inspire!
  As Thou hast died for me,
  Oh, may my love to Thee
  Pure, warm, and changeless be,
  A living fire!
- 3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away, Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.
  - 4 When ends life's transient dream,
    When death's cold, sullen stream
    Shall o'er me roll,
    Blest Savior, then, in love,
    Fear and distrust remove;
    O bear me safe above,
    A ransomed soul!

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# The Prayer of the Church

after each petition: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

#### PRAYERS

Dear Lord Jesus, hear Your disciples as we pray, for we long to leave and be with You, which is far better. When we are with You, we need nothing else on earth, but we are always with You. You lead us by the hand. You guide us with Your counsel, and afterward, You will take us into glory. In Your presence is fullness of joy and at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. How beautiful is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! Our souls long, they ache for the courts of the Living God. We shall be satisfied when we awake to see Your face. Until then, as You have taught us, we pray:

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.

"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."

Now, Lord, You dismiss Your servant in peace, as You have promised, for my eyes have seen the Salvation You prepared before the face of all people, a Light to enlighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Your people Israel!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

"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."

#### THE THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, and His mercy endures forever.

#### THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT

Let us pray. Blessed Lord Jesus, God and Savior, we thank You for every earthly gift You gave to Virginia in this world, from life itself to the love of those who are gathered here now, and for every gift, earthly and heavenly, that You gave to us through her. But above all, we thank You that You loved her and carried her sins in Your own body on the cross, and that You rose from Your grave to find her, and through Your Church held out to her Your wounded hands, and through Your Word and Sacraments gave her forgiveness of all her sins and eternal life.

O Christ, Judge and Master of us all, grant that all of us who loved her here may now look to Your love, that we may grasp Your hands, scarred for us, and believe and receive Your forgiveness. Give each of us grace to follow You in this life, that each of us may also leave this life with You and enter the Paradise prepared for those who love You. Amen.

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

THE BENEDICAMUS

[Psalm 103:1]

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save; He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 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.
- 4 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!

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Following the service, you are invited to join the procession to Woodside Cemetery.

Officiant Rev Peter F. Gregory Organist Anne Bennet