

Our Savior Lutheran Church



We welcome our musicians:
Arpeggio Brass Quintet

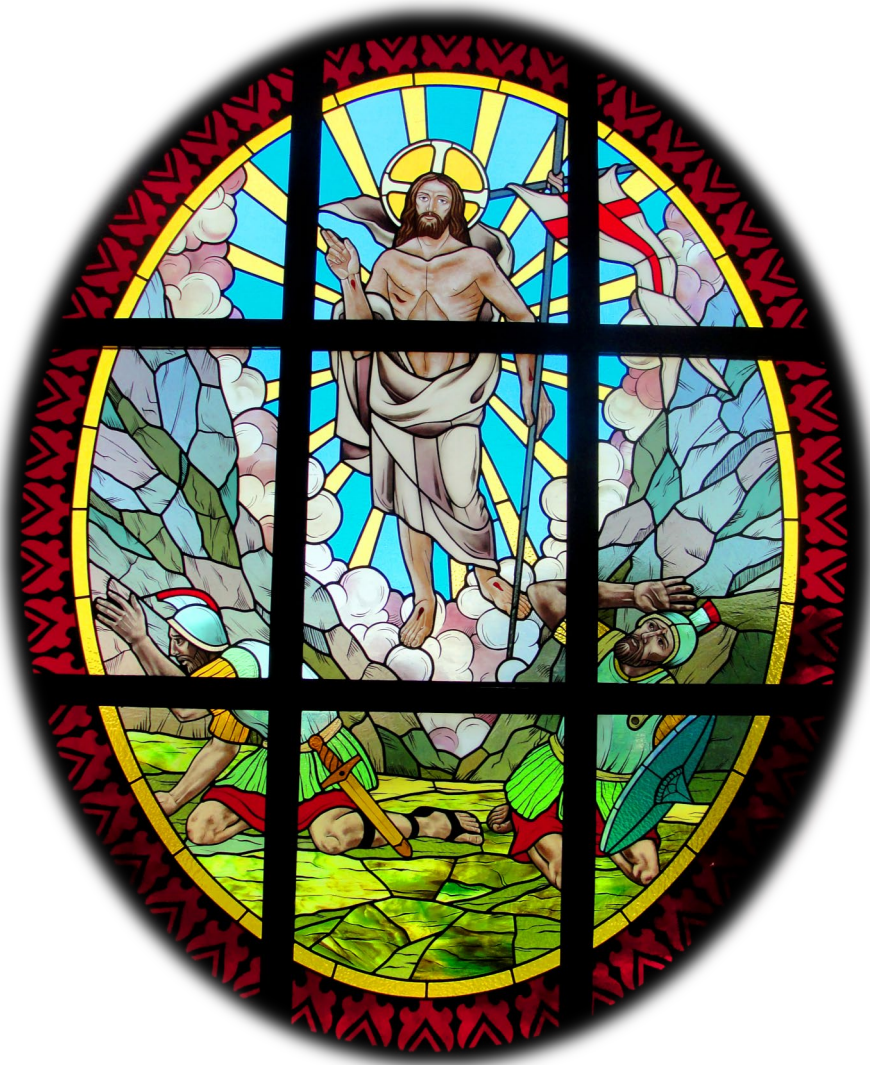
Demetrius Sheats Jr - Trumpet
Jennifer Rogers - Trumpet
Ray Wadenpfohl Jr - French Horn
John Siebern – Trombone/Organizer
Dr. Matthew Lamm - Tuba



Prelude

Arpeggio Brass

Achieved is The Glorious Work*F. J. Haydn/D. G. Miller/J. Siebern*
I Trust in You, Lord*H. Schutz/M. Rondeau/J. Siebern*
Goin' Home.....*Anton Dvorak/J. Villanueva*
It Is Well With My Soul.....*H. Spafford/P. Bliss/D. Lafferty*
Dixieland Revival Meeting*Traditional/Arr. P. Nagle*
Salvation Is Created.....*Tschesnokoff/Houseknecht/J. Siebern*



A Service of Thanksgiving
Celebrating God's Gift of Eternal Life For
Norman Earl Adams

December 21, 1944 - August 8, 2026

*The death of a Christian has been transformed from tragedy into victory by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. At the moment of physical death the soul of the believer is safe at home in heaven with their Lord. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that those who remain - for a time - here on earth, would gather to celebrate God's gift of life and savor the memories of blessings received through our beloved who now lives with Christ in heaven. We affirm the faith in which they lived and through which they have been given eternal life in the sanctuary where they received the forgiveness of sins in Word and sacrament. **"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."** (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)*

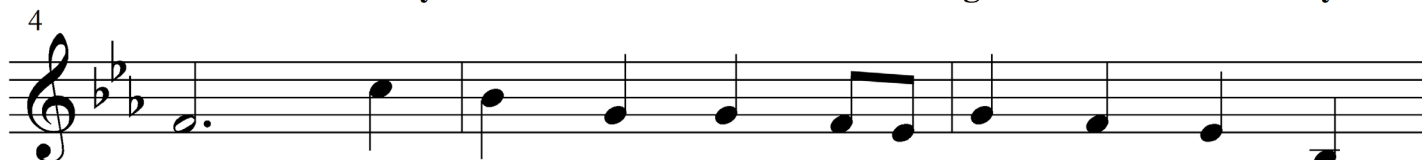
Opening Hymn

This Is My Father's World

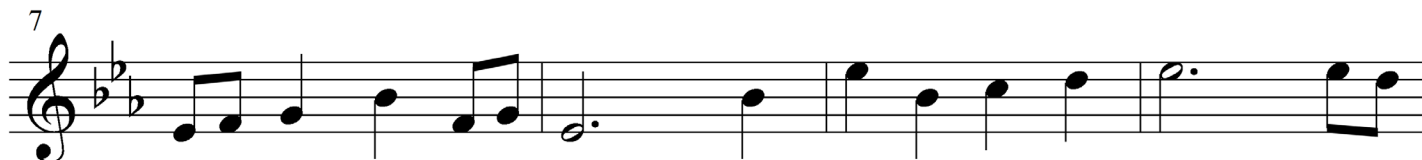
Text: Maltbie D. Babcock; Tune: "Terra Beata"



1. This is my Fa-ther's world, And to my lis - tening
2. This is my Fa-ther's world, The birds their car - ols
3. This is my Fa-ther's world, O let me ne'er for -
4. This is my Fa-ther's world: He gave His on - ly



ears All na - ture sings, and round me rings the
raise, The morn - ing light, the lil - y white, De -
get That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God
Son To win His child - ren back from sin That



mu - sic of the spheres. This is my Fa-ther's world: I
clare their mak - er's praise. This is my Fa-ther's world: He
is the Rul - er yet. This is my Fa-ther's world: Why
we might all be one. This is my Fa-ther's grace A



rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of
shines in all that's fair; In the rus - tling grass I
should my heart be sad? The Lord is King: let the
love so firm and strong And still so gen - tle,



skies and seas His hand the won - ders wrought.
hear Him pass, He speaks to me ev - ery - where.
heav - ens ring! God reigns: let earth be glad!
ten - der, true, to right His child - ren's wrong.



Invocation

Opening Prayers

Ministry of Music

When Peace, Like a River

Text: Horatio G. Spafford; Music: Philip P. Bliss; Arranged by David Ashley White © 1995 Augsburg Fortress Jubilate Choir

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;

Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

*My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, oh my soul!*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, oh my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;

The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6–9

[6] On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

[7] And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

[8] He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

[9] It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C *Thanks be to God.*





Second Reading

Luke 6:47-48

[47] Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: [48] he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C *Thanks be to God.*

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-33

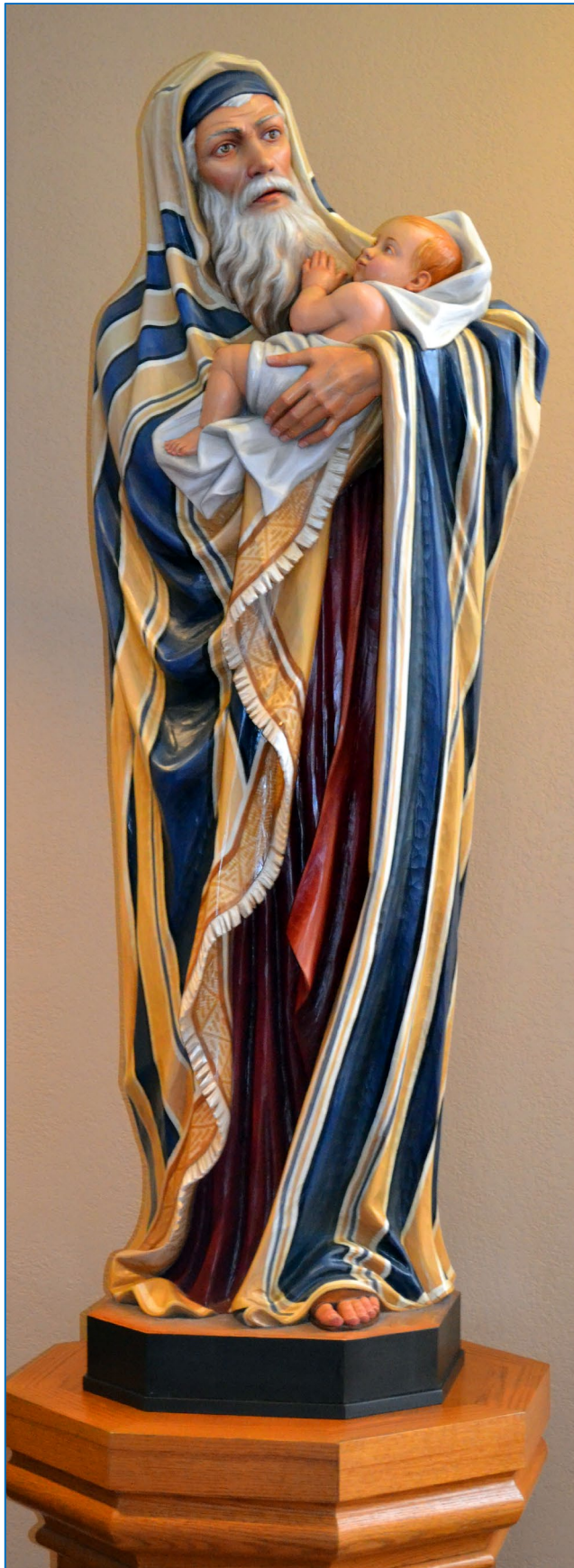
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C *Glory to You, O Lord.*

[22] And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord [23] (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) [24] and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” [25] Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. [26] And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. [27] And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, [28] he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, [29] “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; [30] for my eyes have seen your salvation [31] that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, [32] a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” [33] And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C *Praise to You, O Christ.*





Canticle - Nunc Dimittis - Luke 2

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Sermon Hymn

How Great Thou Art

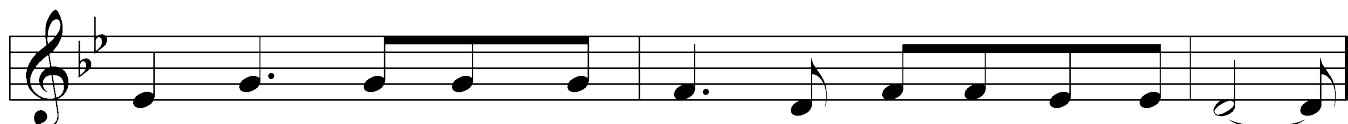
Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg; Tune: Swedish; arr. Stuart W. K. Hine – “O Store Gud”; LSB #801 © 2006 CPH



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 and tune: © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust, admin. EMI CMG and Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005129

Sermon

“DEPART IN PEACE”

Text: Luke 2:22-33

Pastor White

There is no more poignant or powerful opportunity for the proclamation of the biblical message of Law and Gospel than the moments in which Christians celebrate the home-going of a loved one to eternal life in the mansions of heaven. A Funeral Sermon is designed to declare that wondrous Gospel and to set before all present here today the truth that every believer is a sinner saved by grace through faith alone. Salvation cannot be earned. It can only be given as a free gift by the God whose love for us moved Him to give His only Son to die in our place upon a cross to make it possible for us to live with Him forever.



Ministry of Music

Going Home

Text: William Arms Fisher; Music: Antonin Leopold Dvořák; Arranged by: Mike Magatagan 2012

Jubilate Choir

*Going home, going home, I'm just going home. Quiet-like, slip away, I'll be going home.
It's not far, just close by; Jesus is the door; work all done, laid aside, fear and grief no more.
Friends are there, waiting now, He is waiting too. See His smile! See His hand! He will lead me through.
Morning star lights the way; restless dream all done; shadows gone, break of day, life has just begun.
Every tear wiped away, pain and sickness gone; wide awake there with Him! Peace goes on and on!
Going home, going home, I'll be going home. See the light! See the Sun! I'm just going home.
I'm just going home.*



Obituary
Norman Earl Adams

Norman Earl Adams was called home by Christ Our Savior and reunited with his bride Debbie Sue on August 8, 2026. Norman was born on December 21, 1944, to Maurice Griffin (M.G.) and Dorothy Adams in Bainbridge, Georgia, the second of their three children. Donald (Don) was his older brother, and Shirley was his younger sister. The Adams family settled in the Houston area in 1947. Norman attended elementary school at Our Savior Lutheran School, where he met the love of his life, Debbie Sue Sherrill, in the first grade. Norman and Debbie were confirmed together at Our Savior Lutheran Church. They attended Black Junior High, Reagan High School, and Waltrip High School where Norman played varsity football as a 148- pound defensive safety under the legendary Coach Les Burton.

After graduating from Waltrip High School, Norman went to work as a draftsman for Capitol Iron and Steel and he attended night school at the University of Houston, but he soon found that he did not have the patience for either pursuit. Norman and Debbie married in 1964 and that same year Norman went to work with Maurice at Adams Insurance Service.

Norman quickly discovered that he had a talent for salesmanship and customer service. So began a six-decade career in insurance. Norman built a reputation for bringing energy and passion to everything he did. In the 1990s, “Stormin’ Norman” stuck as a nickname. It was not always meant as a compliment. Through the years, many of his business associates became his close friends. Norman forged deep and life-long friendships with men like Ralph and John L. Marek and the entire Marek family. Jack Fields, Jerry Stovall, J.R. Moseley, and John Norkus were friends, mentors, and counselors. Norman also had a talent for recruiting and building a team to work with him at the Agency. Many enjoyed 30 and 40-year careers working with Norman and Adams Insurance. Norman looked upon them all as his family and they returned that same love in kind over the years.

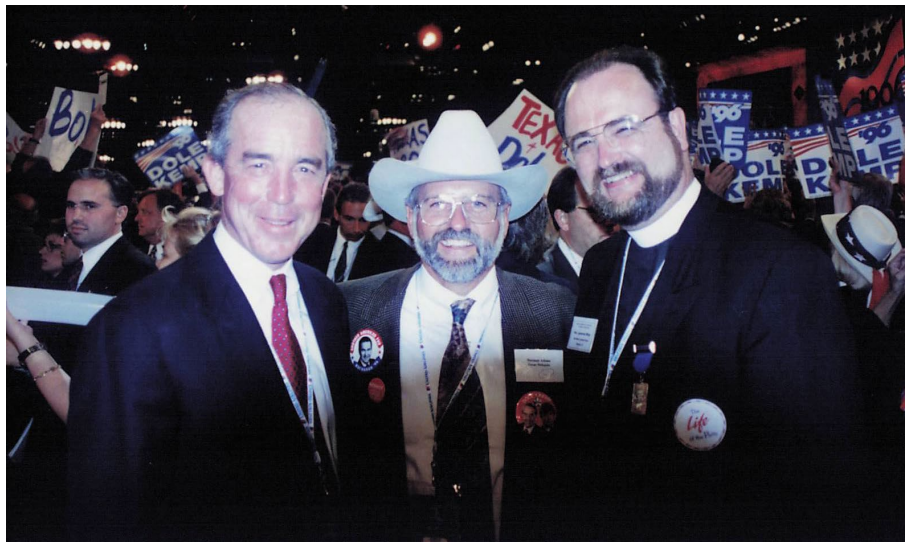


Norman and Debbie raised two children, Tracy Lynn and Andrew Allan. Norman took a “full contact” approach to parenting. Half efforts were not acceptable, and quitting was NEVER an option. But, once the job was done, no one was more generous at rewarding the accomplishment or better at consoling an effort that came up short. Norman was never shy about saying “I love you” or . . . belting out “Bad, Bad Leroy Brown” at the top of his lungs at the cruise ship piano bar. Your degree of

embarrassment was not a consideration. With Norman, nothing was ever left to the imagination.

As the President of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Norman’s defining work was pouring all of himself into the purchase, development, and construction of OSL’s campus on Tidwell Road. No detail was too small to notice. Norman insisted on being with the crew that set the three pieces of the 32-ton steeple in place to make sure it fit. It was a perfect fit. But Norman’s support for this ministry went beyond the physical structures. He was a fervent supporter of the called workers serving the congregation in the church and the school. Norman and Debbie spared no effort to support the ministers and teachers at OSL. They had great admiration for their sacrifice and dedication to the ministry of the church and school.

In politics, Norman was never content sitting on the sidelines. He knew its impact on his city, state, country, and his business and his customers’ business. He was a Texas Republican long before it was cool to be a Texas Republican. But if Norman believed in an issue, the labels did not matter. He was a fierce defender of the unborn and every pro-life cause. He fought Republicans over state franchise and property taxes, and he worked with Democrats on immigration reform. Over the last few years, Norman’s favorite political “engagement” was handing out free “Make America Great Again” hats to anyone who wanted them . . . and a few who did not.



Perseverance and fearlessness were Norman’s greatest strengths. He was incapable of resting on his laurels, always looking for the next challenge or project. Temperance and patience were NOT virtues that came easy to Norman. He was often at his most fiery and ill-tempered with his closest friends and family. But a harsh word would soon give way to a kind one if you waited long enough for the storm to pass. Norman knew he was a broken vessel in need of a Savior, and Our Lord used Norman’s talents AND his flaws to accomplish His purposes at every step of the way.

These last few years since the loss of Debbie Sue have been among the most challenging for Norman. His body was breaking down physically and he could no longer be the active and energetic “Stormin’ Norman” we loved, admired, or sometimes found to be really, really annoying. He was ready to be with Debbie again and he was ready for Jesus to take him home. He received the body and blood of Jesus Christ at home on Friday afternoon and on Saturday evening he was in the presence of his Lord and Savior and his beloved Debbie Sue.



Norman is preceded in death by his father and mother Maurice (M.G.) and Dorothy Adams, his brother Don Adams and wife Francis, and Norman’s beloved wife of 58 years, Debbie Sue. Norman is survived by his daughter Tracy and husband Mark Dacus, his son Andrew Adams and wife Amy and their children, “Pappy’s” grandchildren, Isabella Adams, Benjamin Adams, Samuel Adams, and Livia Adams, Norman’s sister Shirley and husband Bo Roddenberry, his brother-in-law Bill Sherrill and wife Pat and his sister-in-law Wendy Carter, and many nephews, nieces and cousins as well as a great host of church family, business associates, and friends who loved and respected him.

***“Lord, now you are letting Your servant depart in peace according to Your word;
For my eyes have seen Your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all people;
a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people, Israel.”***

Luke 2:29-32

A Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance For Norman E. Adams will be held on Saturday, August 22nd at 2:00 PM at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5000 W. Tidwell Rd., Houston, Texas 77091. Immediately following the service, refreshments will be served and the family will be available for visitation in the cafeteria of Our Savior Lutheran School. The family respectfully requests that in lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Forward Faithfully Building Fund of Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Hymn

Battle Hymn of the Republic

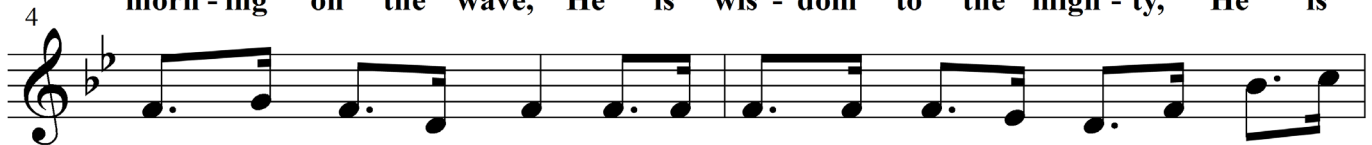
By Julia Ward Howe



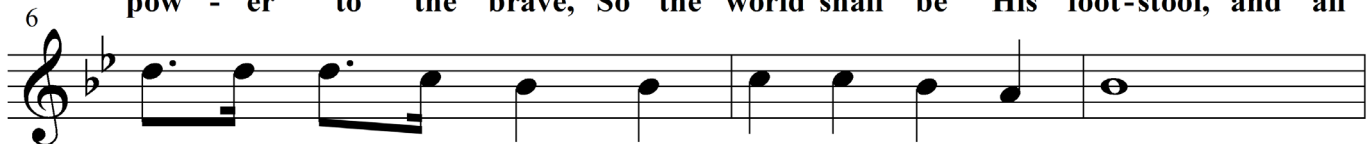
1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the
2. I have seen Him in the watch - fires of a
3. I have read a fie - ry mes - sage writ in
4. He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall
5. In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was
6. He is com - ing like the glo - ry of the



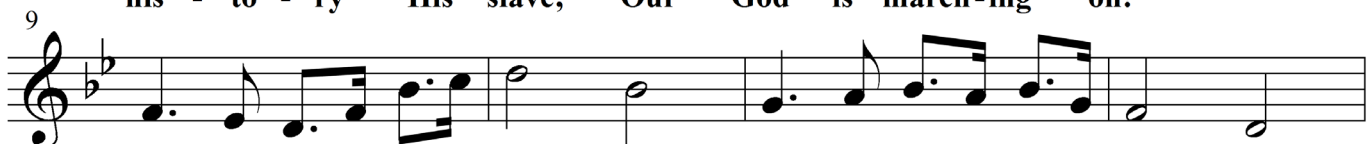
com - ing of the Lord; He is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the
hun - dred cir - cling camps. They have build - ed Him an al - tar in the
burn - ished rows of steel: "As ye deal with those who scorn Me, so with
nev - er call re - treat; He is sift - ing out the hearts of men be -
born a - cross the sea, With a glo - ry in His bos - om that trans -
morn - ing on the wave, He is wis - dom to the migh - ty, He is



grapes of wrath are stored; He hath loosed the fate - ful light - ning of His
eve - ning dews and damps; I can read His righ - teous sen - tence by the
you shall judge - ment deal; Let the He - ro born of wom - an, crush the
fore His judge - ment seat; Oh, be swift my soul to an - swer Him, be
fi - gures you and me; As He died to make men ho - ly, let us
pow - er to the brave, So the world shall be His foot - stool, and all



ter - ri - ble swift sword; His Truth is march - ing on.
dim and flar - ing lamps: Our God is march - ing on!
Ser - pent with His heel," His Truth is march - ing on!
ju - bi - lant my feet! Our God is march - ing on!
die to make men free, While God is march - ing on!
his - to - ry His slave; Our God is march - ing on!



Glo - ry! Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry! Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry! Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Our God is march - ing on.

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

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

Benediction

Postlude

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Taps

Reveille

Arpeggio Brass Quintet

At the benediction of his own funeral, Winston Churchill instructed that a bugler positioned high in the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral would play "Taps," the bugle call signaling the end of the day. But, Churchill had also placed a second bugler on the opposite side of the dome to next play the notes of "Reveille," the bugle call signaling that a new day has dawned and it is time to rise. The last note of a Christian's life is not Taps, it is Reveille. We have hope beyond the grave because Jesus Christ has opened the door to heaven for us by his death and resurrection. "It is time to get up and ARISE!"



Soli Deo Gloria!

Rev. Steven Cholak, Officiating • Dr. Laurence White, Preaching • Jeff Armstrong, Organist

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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