

*Marilyn Elaine Anderson*  
*January 30, 1929 — April 24, 2026*  
*Celebration of Life Memorial*



*Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church,*  
*June 13, 2026*

*Prelude Music: Celice Clark*

# Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Presiding: Pastor Todd Bertani

Organist: Celice Clark

Usher: Mike Wold

AV: Robbi Telfer

*(Congregation responses are in bold print, noted with a C:)*

## *Marilyn Elaine Anderson A Celebration of Life in Christ*

### Welcome and Introduction: Pastor Todd Bertani

#### Gathering

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### Thanksgiving for Baptism

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In her baptism, Marilyn was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, she shall be clothed with glory.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you. **C: We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you. **C: We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you. **C: We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **C: Amen.**

*(Please stand, whether in body or spirit)*

# Opening Hymn: "Great is Thy Faithfulness" Hymn 733, ELW

1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

O God of grace and glory,  
we remember before you today our sister, Marilyn.  
We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love  
as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.  
In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.  
Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up  
in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
so that we may live in confidence and hope, until, by your call,  
we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## Remembrances

*Randy King, son-in-law*

*David Moore, family friend*

*Ben Johnson, grandson*

## Psalm 23, *read by Matthew Vail, grandson*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup>he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>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.

## **1 Corinthians 13: 4-7, 13** *read by Andrea Malpezzi, granddaughter*

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant  
<sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no  
record of wrongs; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the  
truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all  
things. <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the  
greatest of these is love.

## **Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani**



# Sermon Hymn: "When Peace like a River" Hymn 785, ELW

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*

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

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system includes a 1-measure and 4-measure vocal line. The second system continues the melody. The third system concludes the main text. The fourth system is the refrain, which is repeated twice. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888  
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

## Apostle's Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**C: 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.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray. *(a brief silence is kept)*

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ.

Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ.  
God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

Give courage and faith to all who mourn,  
and a sure and certain hope in your loving care,  
that, casting all their sorrow on you,  
they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith,  
that, where this world groans in grief and pain,  
your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life.  
God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand,  
to believe and trust in the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.  
God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please stand, whether in body or spirit)*

## The Lord's Prayer

**C: 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.**



## Closing Hymn: "Beautiful Savior" Hymn 838 ELW

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in the flow'rs of spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904  
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

## Commendation

Let us commend Marilyn to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Marilyn. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

**C: Amen.**

## Benediction

Let us go forth in peace. In the Name of Christ,

**C: Amen.**

## Postlude: “You Raise Me Up” *Josh Groban*

*When the song is complete, please allow the family to exit to the fellowship hall. Then follow to join them in the hall.*

## *Marilyn Elaine Anderson*

*Mom loved a good book, a scenic hike, counted cross-stitch, feeding her birds, and a 5,000-piece puzzle.*

*Marilyn Elaine was born on January 30, 1929, to Richard “Henry” and Anna (Jepsen) Ludwig, in Alcester, South Dakota. She left this earth on April 24, 2026, aged 97.*

*She grew up on the family farm with three siblings, attended a one-room schoolhouse, and graduated from Alcester High School.*

*She married Orrin “Andy” Anderson on February 22, 1948. They made their home in Sioux City, Iowa, where Marilyn became a homemaker and nurturing mom to three children. The family camped and hiked for many years, especially in Minnesota.*

*After Andy’s death in 2004, a new adventure beckoned. She was invited to move to Colorado with daughter Jill and son-in-law Stan. She fell in love with the mountains and refused to leave, even if living at lower altitude would have meant not wearing oxygen 24/7. Marilyn lived in a small dry cabin while an addition to the house was built. In 2013, she braved her fear of heights, flying to safety in a helicopter when floods ravaged the area, wiping out Highway 34.*

*Marilyn loved traveling with her family, going to Josh Groban concerts, playing cards, and beating her family members at Scrabble.*

*She was predeceased by her parents; brothers Stanley (Nellie) and Lowell (Lila) Ludwig; sister Mildred (Albert) Sorenson; nephew Gary Sorenson; and son-in-law Robert Danielson.*

*Family left to smile at many memories include daughters Kathleen Danielson of South Sioux City, Nebraska and Jill (Stan) Johnson of Drake, Colorado; son Todd (Randy King) Anderson of Omaha, Nebraska; 3 grandchildren, Matthew (Barb) Vail, Andrea (Jeff) Malpezzi, and Ben (Katie) Johnson; 4 great-grandchildren: Jase, Alayna, McKennen and Emmett Vail; and one great-great grandson, Gunther; sisters-in-law Delores Anderson and Gertrude “Tootie” Ludwig; many nieces and nephews; special friends at Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church; and honorary granddaughter, Lily Bruemmer.*

*A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, June 13, at 11:00 a.m. at Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, Estes Park.*

*In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to Crossroads Assistance Ministry, Marketplace, 1753 Wildfire Road, Estes Park, CO 80517, or Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church (designated for Metal Crosses), 2000 Ptarmigan Trail, Estes Park, CO 80517.*

