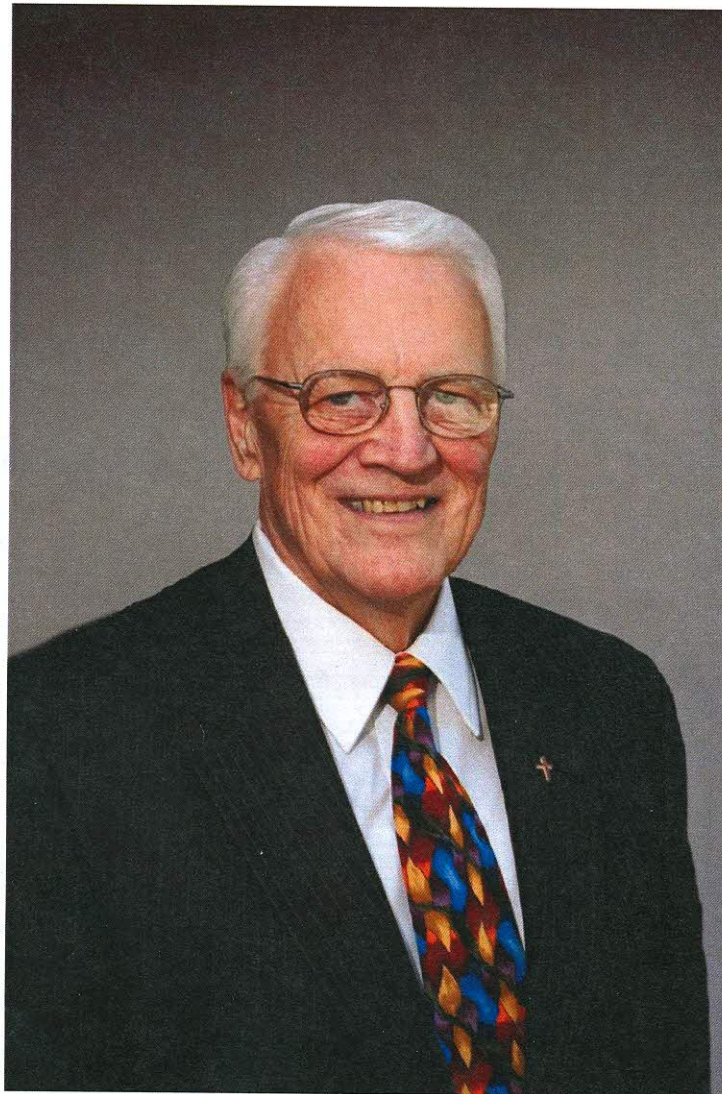


*The Order of Worship
for the Funeral of*



***Ralph Arthur Bohlmann**
February 20, 1932 ~ July 24, 2016*

*July 27, 2016
2:00pm*

*Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus
Concordia Seminary
Saint Louis, Missouri*

Prelude

Processional Hymn (Please rise)

"Thy Strong Word"

LSB 578

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth

speaking it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -

light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,
 Alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord will give strength to His people.

C: The Lord will bless His people with peace.

Psalmody

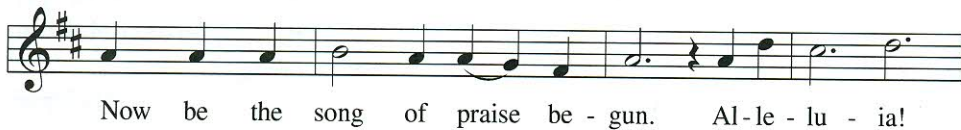
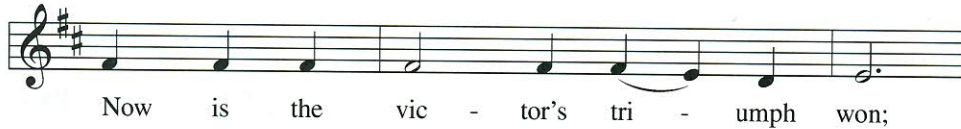
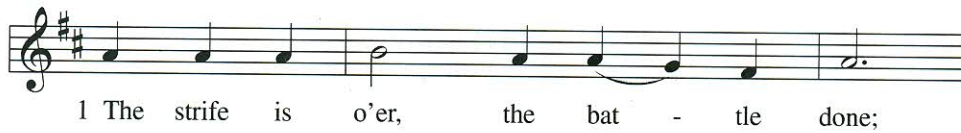


P: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

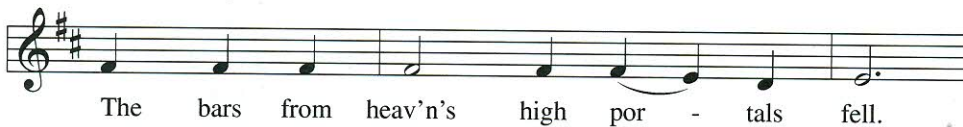
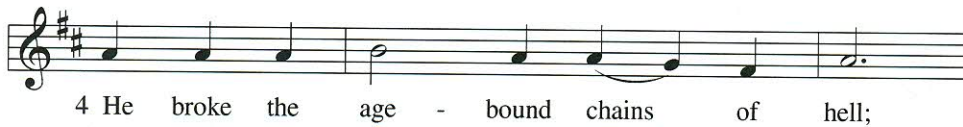


P: He leads me in paths of righteousness for His Name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.



P: 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 forever.



Public domain

Collect for Peace

P: Let us pray.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels and all just works proceed,
 give to Your servants that peace with the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey
 Your commandments, and also that we, being delivered by You from the fear of our enemies,
 may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Greetings

Rev. Dr. Larry Rast
 Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer
 Rev. Dr. Herbert Mueller

Tribute

Rev. Dr. Samuel Nafzger

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

"Look at My servant, whom I strengthen. He is My Chosen One, who pleases Me. I have put My Spirit upon Him. He will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or raise His voice in public. He will not crush the weakest reed or put out a flickering candle. He will bring justice to all who have been wronged. He will not falter or lose heart until justice prevails throughout the earth. Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for His instruction."

God, the Lord, created the heavens and stretched them out. He created the earth and everything in it. He gives breath to everyone, life to everyone who walks the earth. And it is He who says, "I, the Lord, have called you to demonstrate My righteousness. I will take you by the hand and guard you, and I will give you to My people, Israel, as a symbol of My covenant with them. And you will be a light to guide the nations. You will open the eyes of the blind. You will free the captives from prison, releasing those who sit in dark dungeons."

"I am the Lord; that is My Name! I will not give My glory to anyone else, nor share My praise with carved idols. Everything I prophesied has come true, and now I will prophesy again. I will tell you the future before it happens."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

Philippians 3:7-16

I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with Him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with Himself depends on faith. I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised Him from the dead. I want to suffer with Him, sharing in His death, so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn

"Abide with Me"

LSB 878

1 A - bid with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;

Help of the help - less, O a - bid with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bid with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bid with me.

5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

The Gospel Reading

John 3:16-17, 14:1-3, 6

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third and fourteenth chapters.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms. 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, that where I am you may be also."

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

"Eternal Life"

Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick

Hymn of Response

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

LSB 733



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

Organ Only – Words for Reflection

5 *Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.*

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

Public domain

Apostles' Creed

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

Prayer of the Church

*At the conclusion of each prayer, the congregation
at the prompting of the liturgist responds, "Hear our prayer."*

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.**

Commendation

P: Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend Your servant Ralph. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech You, a sheep of Your own fold, a lamb of Your own flock, a sinner of Your own redeeming. Receive him 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

Recessional

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to
this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort
once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

Organ Only – Words for Reflection

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 7 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.

- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 8 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!

*Immediately following the service, congregants are invited
to a light reception hosted by Concordia Seminary in Koburg Hall,
located on the opposite side of the pool from the Chapel.*

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Scott Seidler, Senior Pastor, Concordia Lutheran Church, Kirkwood, Missouri
Lector: Rev. David Meggers, Associate Pastor, Concordia Lutheran Church, Kirkwood, Missouri
Organist: Mr. Jim Marriott, Director of Musical Arts for Concordia Seminary

Ralph Arthur Bohlmann

Ralph Arthur Bohlmann, a former president of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, passed from this life on Sunday, July 24, 2016. He was 84.

Ralph was born February 20, 1932, in Palisade, Nebraska, the second child of Rev. Arthur E. and Anne F. (Weeke) Bohlmann. He graduated from St. John's College in Winfield, Kansas, in 1951 and from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri in 1956. He studied at the University of Heidelberg, Germany, as a Fulbright Scholar from 1956 to 1957 and taught at Concordia College in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from 1957 to 1958.

Ralph was ordained on June 28, 1958, and served as pastor of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Des Moines, Iowa, from 1958 to 1960. There he met Patricia Anne McCleary, daughter of Carl and Aileen McCleary of Perry, Iowa; they were married on April 19, 1959, and spent over 53 years together as husband and wife.

Ralph joined the Concordia Seminary faculty in St. Louis in 1960 and taught there for many years, earning an S.T.M. degree from the seminary in 1966 and a Ph.D. from Yale University in 1968 on an academic leave. He was named Acting President of the seminary on May 20, 1974, and on May 3, 1975, he was elected as its seventh President.

During his seminary career, Ralph was also an assistant pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Pagedale, Missouri, from 1961 to 1971, and he served in several roles with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, including a 1965 appointment to its Commission on Theology and Church Relations, which he served as Secretary from 1967 to 1971.

Ralph was elected as the ninth President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod on July 5, 1981, and served in that office until 1992, when he was named President Emeritus.

Ralph is preceded in death by his parents, Arthur (May 15, 1975) and Anne (December 29, 2002); his brother Victor (July 14, 2004); and his wife, Patricia (September 14, 2012).

Ralph is survived by his two children, Paul (born February 18, 1960), who lives in New York, New York, and has recently been an Assistant Dean at Columbia University, and Lynn (born May 24, 1963), who lives in Jacksonville, Illinois, and is pastor of the Congregational United Church of Christ. Lynn is the mother of his two grandchildren, Lucas, age 16, and Jesse, age 12.

Ralph is also survived by his sister Gloria Stigge, of Iowa City, Iowa; his brother John (Mary), of Indian Shores, Florida; his brother Mark (Becky), of Columbus, Ohio; his sister-in-law Rebekah Williams, of Dunnellon, Florida; and many friends in the U.S. and abroad who have enriched his life.

Ralph and Patricia joined Concordia Lutheran Church in Kirkwood, Missouri, in 1988, and Ralph joined the Laclede Groves Independent Senior Living Community in Webster Groves, Missouri, in early 2013.

For those who wish to honor Ralph's life with a memorial gift, please consider donations to Concordia Lutheran Church, the Concordia Seminary Student Aid Fund, or the Lutheran Senior Services Benevolent Care Fund.