



A Service of Witness to the Resurrection
and Thanksgiving for the Life of

Stephen D. MacKellar

April 1, 1968 - June 30, 2023

Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

PRELUDE

GATHERING

INTRODUCTION

P: Welcome in the name of the Holy One. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim hope in Christ, to remember before God our brother Steve, to give thanks for his life, and to commend him to God's care and keeping.

May the God of consolation who comforts us in sorrow,
give us strength to comfort one another, today and always.

C: Amen

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
In his baptism, Steve was clothed with Christ and named "Child of God."

By water and the word, God continues to deliver us,
Setting us free from grief and fear, and inviting us into new life
Defined by love, abundance and grace.

This goodness we struggle to perceive here on earth,
is the promise Steve has claimed in death.

Thanks be to God for the gift of baptism.

C: Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: 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

P: Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort, graciously tend those who mourn, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 11:5

Just as you do not know how the breath comes to the bones in the mother's womb,
so you do not know the work of God, who makes everything.

SECOND READING

Micah 6:8

[God] has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

PSALM 121

"God is Holding Your Life"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

GOSPEL READING

John 14:25-27

Pastor Lisa Janke

Jesus said, "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom [God] 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.

SERMON

Pastor Lisa Janke

HYMN OF THE DAY (*please stand*)

"Borning Cry"

ELW #732

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, guitar

Insert

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition:

P: God of comfort,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The holy Trinity, one God, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let our thoughts, minds, and hearts be lifted up.

C: **They are with you, O God.**

P: Let us give thanks to God in awe.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us,

C: **Holy One, our only Home, blessed be your name,
may your day dawn, your will be done, here, as in heaven.**

Feed us today, and forgive us, as we forgive each other.

Do not forsake us, but deliver us from evil.

For the glory, the power, and the mercy are yours now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

COMMENDATION

P: Let us commend Steve to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

P: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend Steve, child of God. 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 ever lasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

C: Amen

P: We go forth with audacious grief, but keep living with hope that comes from Christ.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN (*please stand*) “My Life Flows on in Endless Song”

Glenn Monson, Trombone

ELW #763

Insert

BLESSING

P: May the God who creates, ✠ redeems and restores us to new life, bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: Held in love and grace. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Following the service, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a luncheon.

**This service will be available on YouTube.*

Visit <https://molive.org/index.php/funeral-services>

Service Participants	
Pastors	Rev. Lisa Janke and Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson
Organist	Ruth Monson
Special Music	Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
Ushers	Tim and Nancy Sersen