

# Homecoming Celebration for Kandie Darmody

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

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

We come together to seek God's comfort in our time of sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn for Kandie and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts, dispel our doubts and fears, and lead us to praise you for having brought Kandie to faith and now to heaven. For her you opened the gate to everlasting life in heaven. Strengthen us with your Word and lead us through this life until we are reunited with Kandie and all the saints who have gone before us to your side. Amen.

## **Reading - Psalm 23**

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me along 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. 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 will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

## **Reading - Romans 8:35-38**

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## A Devotion based on Luke 2:29

*"Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace."*

### Prayer of the Church on Earth

P: Almighty God, we praise you for the great company of saints who have finished their lives in faith and now rest from their labors. We remember especially our loved one, Kandie, whom you bought as your own through the blood of your Son and received as your dear child through baptism. We thank you for giving her to us as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your compassion, comfort all who are sad in this hour.

We praise you for your love in Christ, which sustains us in life and death. In our earthly sorrows, help us find strength in the fellowship of believers, joy in the forgiveness of sins, and hope in the resurrection to eternal life. You do not leave us comfortless but strengthen and care for us through your Word and Supper. You give us family, friends, and neighbors to help when there is loneliness now and in the days to come. Brighten our future with a firm trust in your promises and your care. In Jesus' name we ask these things. Hear us as we join in praying the prayer he taught us...

### The Lord's Prayer

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**All: Amen.**