

**Funeral Service
Of
+James C. Hanson+
1937-2025**



*“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms...And I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”
John 14:1-3*



Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
West Bend, Wisconsin

June 4th, 2025

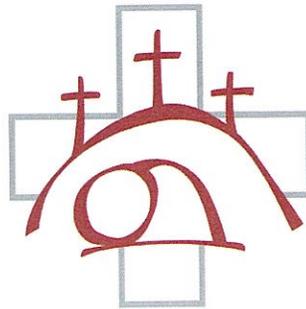


Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Let us remember with thanksgiving what God has done through His servant Jim.

James Conrad Hanson was given life by His heavenly Father and was born on January 4, 1937 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin to Conrad and Agnes (nee Aryes) Hanson. At his grandparents' home he was baptized by his grandfather, pastor Ayres, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit on June 9th 1937. At First Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, WI, he confessed his baptismal faith in the rite of Confirmation on October 5, 1952, and was admitted to the altar to receive the medicine of immortality, Christ's life-giving body and blood. He served his country faithfully in the United States Army from 1960 to 1963, spending three years in Germany at the height of the Cold War and providing quality control on atomic bombs.

On August 19, 1967, Jim was joined together in holy marriage to Beverly. They were blessed with the gift of two sons, Jeremy and Eric. God blessed Jim with many special people as he served God in his vocations at home and in the community, especially as a 7th grade science teacher at Kewaskum Middle School from 1968 to 1992. After settling in West Bend in 1970, Jim and Beverly, along with their two sons, built a life rich with community, activity, and service to God's church.

Finally, on May 16, 2025, God blessed Jim with a holy death and took him home to rest in the arms of Jesus to await the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord. We give thanks to our God and Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for our brother in Christ, Jim.



Opening Hymn

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.

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!

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Remembrance of Baptism

P In Holy Baptism Jim was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul says: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"

C We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.

Psalm 23

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

C He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters

P He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

C 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.

C Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Jim and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors.

Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 35:5-10

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

P This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading: Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

P This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse

P Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;

C to Him be glory and power forever. Alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

[Jesus said] "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. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

P This is the Word of the Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ

Apostles' Creed

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **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.**

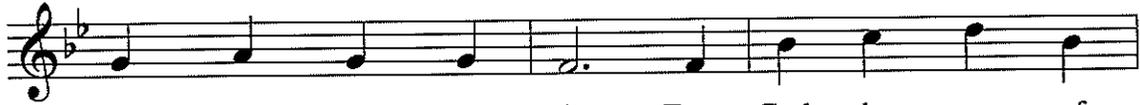
Sit.

Hymn of the Day:

Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing (LSB 737)



1 Re - joice, my heart, be glad and sing, A
 2 He is your trea - sure, He your joy, Your
 3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In
 4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard



cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of
 life and light and Lord, Your coun - sel - or when
 rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor
 ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in



ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.
 doubts an - noy, Your shield and great re - ward.
 cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.
 threat - 'ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?

5 He only will with patience chide,
 His rod falls gently down;
 And all your sins He casts aside
 In ocean depths to drown.

6 His wisdom never plans in vain
 Nor falters nor mistakes.
 All that His counsels may ordain
 A blessed ending makes.

7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,
 And trust His guiding love;
 Then like a rock your peace shall stand
 Here and in heav'n above.

Sermon

Stand.

Prayers of the Church

P Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.

P Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and peace. Lord, in Your mercy. **G Hear our prayer.**

P Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy. **G Hear our prayer.**

P Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy. **G Hear our prayer.**

P Give to the family of Jim and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy. **G Hear our prayer.**

P Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy. **G Hear our prayer.**

P Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy. **G Hear our prayer.**

P Receive our thanks for Jim and for all the blessings You bestowed on him in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with him we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy. **G Hear our prayer.**

P O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of

death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence 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, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

Nunc Dimittis

P "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

**C Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal You to the nations
and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

Concluding Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

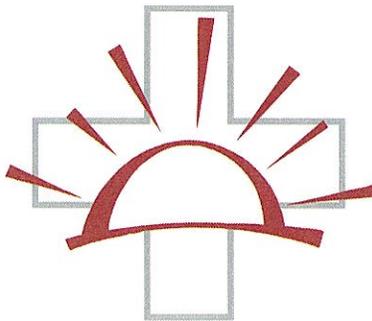
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord. Amen.



Closing Hymn

Jesus Lead Thou On (LSB 718)



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al-though the
2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faith-less
3 When we seek re - lief From a long-felt grief, When temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'n-ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, We will fol - low calm and fear - less.
fears o'er - take us; Let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing, Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing.
still di - rect us, Still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



Guide us by Thy hand To our fa - ther - land.
For through man - ya woe To our home we go.
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
Till we safe - ly stand In our fa - ther - land.

Liturgist: Rev. Joseph Fisher
Preacher: Rev. Christopher Raffa
Organist: Mr. Benjamin Grosskreuz