



The Christian Victory Service of
Rev. Alan Wayne Gumm
March 2, 1954 – January 14, 2025
January 25, 2025

David's Star Evangelical Lutheran Church
2740 David's Star Drive, Jackson, Wisconsin 53037

+ We Gather for Comfort and Prayer +

Opening Hymn

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord¹
Christian Worship 585

Remembrance of Baptism²

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

M: In Holy Baptism, Alan Gumm was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul affirms, "In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

Galatians 3:26-27

The apostle also writes, "All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his."

Romans 6:3-5

¹ This hymn was sung at each opening service at Northwestern Prep and College while Alan attended there from 1968-1976.

² Worship begins with the name of the triune God and the sign of the cross to remind worshipers that we approach the Lord as his baptized children.

M: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen, indeed!**

God's Comfort

M: We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

John 11:25-26

M: The wages of sin is death,

C: **but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Romans 6:23

M: Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!

C: **He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

1 Corinthians 15:57

M: When Christ, who is our life, appears,

C: **then we also will appear with him in glory.**

Colossians 3:4

M: 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 the loss of Alan Gumm, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts; dispel our doubts and fears. We thank you for bringing him to faith and giving him the gift of eternal life. Strengthen us with your Word and sacraments, and keep us in the saving faith until we are united with you and all the saints where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

+ We Hear God's Word +

Reading

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from?
² My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. ³ He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber;
⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand; ⁶ the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; ⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn

How Firm a Foundation
Christian Worship 800:1,3,5

Reading

Romans 8:31-39

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: *“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ 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.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn

In Christ Alone
Christian Worship 510

Reading

Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn

Oh, For a Faith That Will Not Shrink³
Christian Worship 1993 405:1,2,5,6

1. Oh, for a faith that will not shrink
though pressed by many a foe,
that will not tremble on the brink of poverty or woe.
2. That will not murmur nor complain
beneath the chast'ning rod,
but in the hour of grief or pain can lean upon its God.
5. A faith that keeps the narrow way
till life's last spark is fled
and with a pure and heav'nly ray lights up the dying bed.
6. Lord, give us such a faith as this,
and then, whate'er may come,
we'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss of an eternal home.

³This hymn was Alan's class hymn when he was confirmed at David's Star in 1968.

Reading

2 Timothy 4:1-8

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ²Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ³For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Christian Worship 563

Sermon

We Are Not Ashamed
Romans 1:16

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

+ We Respond to God's Word +

Confession of Faith⁴

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty.**

From there 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.**

⁴ Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians developed the Apostles' Creed during Christianity's first 200 years as a simple confession of faith for baptismal use.

Prayer

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, you are always with us, especially when our hearts are heavy with grief. Send us your Spirit so that even as we grieve we are filled with hope. You have convinced us that your Son Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that our loved ones who have fallen asleep in Christ are resting in peace with you. Let nothing shake our confidence in your promise that we will be united with you and them in glory forever. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: What great mercy you have shown us, Father in heaven! Through your Son's resurrection, our hope is alive and our inheritance is certain. The bliss and security we will enjoy in your presence are blessings that will never perish, spoil, or fade. Shield us with your power and give us faith to trust in you in every trial until we inherit the glorious riches you are keeping for us in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Gracious God, we see your abiding love in the kindness shown to us by family and friends. As we receive comfort and encouragement from others, we are experiencing your care. Help us bear all our burdens patiently. Be the strength of your people, now and in difficult days to come. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: O Lord, support us all day long, till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

M: 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.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story
Christian Worship 746:1,3

Anthem

Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See
Christian Worship 884

Lord, when your glory I shall see
and taste your kingdom's pleasure,
your blood my royal robe shall be,
my joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before your throne,
your righteousness shall be my crown;
with these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought,
as your own bride I shall be brought,
to stand in joy beside you.

The committal will take place immediately after the service in the cemetery.

A luncheon in the gymnasium will follow the committal.

May Christ, our living Savior, bless you with his comfort.

Remember Jesus loves you!

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Preacher

Rev. Charles Westra

Presiding Minister

Rev. Michael Woldt

Pianist

Cris Sturm

Trumpet

Paul Hein

Pallbearers

Scott Bates, Michael Graffenius, Jeff King, Ryan Klemann
Walter Miller, Jeremiah Gumm, Joseph Gumm, Jonathan Gumm,
Joseph Mueller, Benjamin Gumm, Matthias Gumm, Aaron Gumm

Funeral Directors

Myrhum-Patten Funeral & Cremation Service
West Bend, Wisconsin

Williams Funeral Home
Columbia, Tennessee

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Memorials can be directed to The Gumm Family Scholarship
at Luther Preparatory School, 1300 Western Ave. Watertown, WI 53094.

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+ Rev. Alan Wayne Gumm +

Reverend Alan Gumm, 70, entered eternal rest on January 14, 2025, at Maury Regional Medical Center in Columbia, Tennessee. Born on March 2, 1954, to the late George and Betty Gumm in Port Washington, Wisconsin, Alan spent his life devoted to his faith, his family, and his calling as a pastor.

Alan served as a Lutheran pastor for 43 years, touching countless lives with his unwavering kindness, caring heart, and vibrant personality. Known for his larger-than-life presence, Alan's love knew no bounds. He embraced life with a passion that radiated in everything he did—whether sharing the message of his Savior Jesus or pouring his love into his family.

Alan's pastoral journey led him to serve congregations across the United States, creating deep and lasting friendships in every community he and his family called home. His ministry began as a vicar in South St. Paul, Minnesota, and continued in Hazelton, North Dakota; Kekoskee, Wisconsin; Gillette, Wyoming; Yuma, Arizona; West Chicago, Illinois; North Fort Myers, Florida; and Port Charlotte, Florida. After retiring in 2023, Alan and his beloved wife, Carolyn, settled in Columbia, Tennessee.

Alan is survived by Carolyn, his devoted wife of 47 years; his children, Rev. Jeremiah (Lisa) Gumm, Prof. Joseph (Annie) Gumm, Hannah (Joey) Mueller, and Jonathan Gumm; his grandchildren, Adelaide, Matthias, Clara, Muriel, Benjamin, Evangeline, Aaron, Lena, Gemma, and Cecilia; his brother, Rev. Thomas (Carol) Gumm; his sister-in-law, Nancy Eberhardt; his aunt, Jeanne Heidel; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and the entire Christian Church on Earth, whom he loved and served so faithfully.

Alan is preceded in death by his parents, George and Betty Gumm; his in-laws: Willard and Florence Degnitz; and many other loved ones.

Alan's profound impact on those who knew him is immeasurable, and his memory will live on in the lives he touched. He will be deeply missed but joyfully remembered as a faithful servant, loving husband, devoted father, cherished grandfather, and steadfast friend.

Alan always believed that everything that happened in a person's life was an act of God's grace. Now he enjoys that grace with his Savior.