
Hymn Sing in Memory of

Rod Bollinger

Hymn 847 st. 1, 3, 4 — Be Still, My Soul

Hymn ³⁹⁵~~715~~ st. 1, 2, 5, 6 — What Grace is This

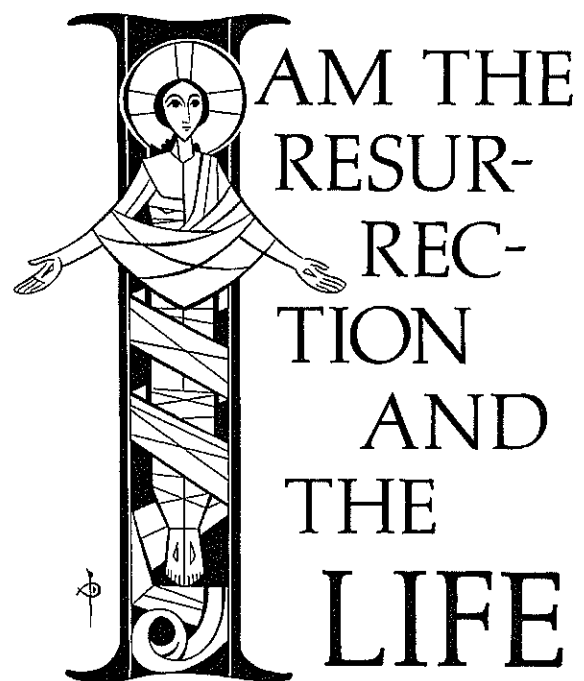
Hymn 783 st. 1, 5, 6, 7 — Abide with Me

Hymn ⁸⁸⁵~~727~~ — There is a Higher Throne

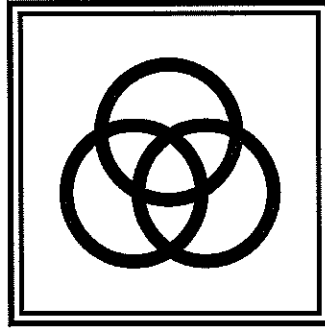
Hymn 510 — In Christ Alone

Hymn 850 st. 1, 3, 4 — It is Well with My Soul

Hymn 813 — He Will Hold Me Fast



A Celebration of the Entrance of
Rodney A. Bollinger
Into the Glories of God's Heavenly Kingdom



Remembrance of Baptism

In the name of the Father and of the $\dagger$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In Holy Baptism, Rod 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."

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."

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

God's Comfort

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."

The wages of sin is death,
but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!
He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

When Christ, who is our life, appears,
then we also will appear with him in glory.

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 Rod and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts; dispel our doubts and fears. We thank you for bringing Rod 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.

Amen.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

CW 835



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me
 2 When my way grows_ drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws_



stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 near, when my life is_ al - most_ gone,
 near and the day is_ al - most_ gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my



light. Take my hand, pre-cious Lord; lead me home.
 fall. Take my hand, pre-cious Lord; lead me home.
 hand. Take my hand, pre-cious Lord; lead me home.

Readings

Psalm 25

Rod requested this psalm be read for your consolation.

- ¹In you, LORD my God,
I put my trust.
- ²I trust in you;
do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- ³No one who hopes in you
will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those
who are treacherous without cause.
- ⁴Show me your ways, LORD,
teach me your paths.
- ⁵Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Savior,
and my hope is in you all day long.
- ⁶Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.
- ⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth
and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
for you, LORD, are good.
- ⁸Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.
- ⁹He guides the humble in what is right
and teaches them his way.
- ¹⁰All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful
toward those who keep the demands of his covenant.
- ¹¹For the sake of your name, LORD,
forgive my iniquity, though it is great.
- ¹²Who, then, are those who fear the LORD?
He will instruct them in the ways they should choose.

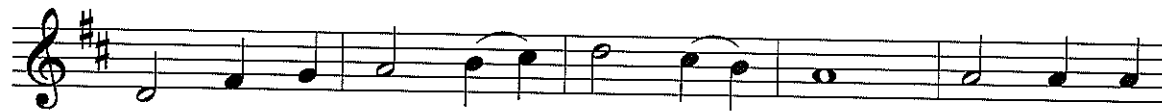
¹³They will spend their days in prosperity,
and their descendants will inherit the land.
¹⁴The LORD confides in those who fear him;
he makes his covenant known to them.
¹⁵My eyes are ever on the LORD,
for only he will release my feet from the snare.
¹⁶Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.
¹⁷Relieve the troubles of my heart
and free me from my anguish.
¹⁸Look on my affliction and my distress
and take away all my sins.
¹⁹See how numerous are my enemies
and how fiercely they hate me!
²⁰Guard my life and rescue me;
do not let me be put to shame,
for I take refuge in you.
²¹May integrity and uprightness protect me,
because my hope, LORD, is in you.
²²Deliver Israel, O God,
from all their troubles!

Job 19:23-27

²³"Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, ²⁴that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever! ²⁵I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; ²⁷I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

CW 441 sts. 1-2, 5, 8



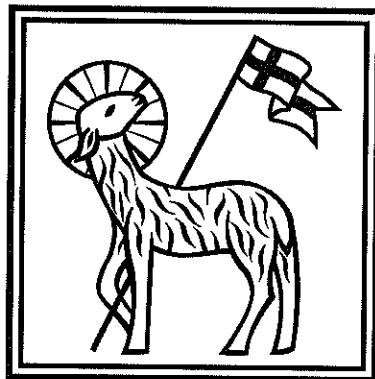
1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
 5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to
 8 He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives all - glo - rious
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
 Je - sus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 in the sky; he lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.
 sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!



Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.

¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

¹¹All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying:

“Amen!
Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!”

¹³Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

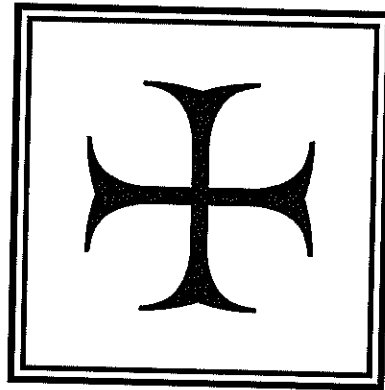
¹⁴I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶‘Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.
The sun will not beat down on them,’
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;
‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’
‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”



Luke 23:32, 39-43

³²Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

³⁹One of the criminals, who hung there, hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

⁴⁰But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

⁴³Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Jerusalem the Golden

CW 889

Rod first played Jerusalem the Golden on his trumpet in the 5th grade. As he sang this hymn, he would think about his loss at the death of his father, and how Rod, throughout his own life, would always look forward to the joys of heaven.



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, with milk and hon - ey blest -
2 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, the home of God's e - lect!
3 The Christ is ev - er with them, the day-light is se - rene;



the sight of it re - fresh - es the wea - ry and op - pressed.
O sweet and bless - ed coun - try that ea - ger hearts ex - pect,
the pas - tures of the bless - ed are ev - er rich and green.



I know not, oh, I know not what joys a - wait us there,
where they who with their lead - er have con - quered in the fight
There is the throne of Da - vid, and there, from care re - leased,



what ra - dian - cy of glo - ry, what bliss be - yond com - pare:
for - ev - er and for - ev - er are clad in robes of white:
the shout of them that tri - umph, the song of them that feast.



to sing the hymn un - end - ing with all the mar - tyr throng,
in mer - cy, Je - sus, bring us to that dear land of rest
To God en - throned in glo - ry the Church's voic - es blend,



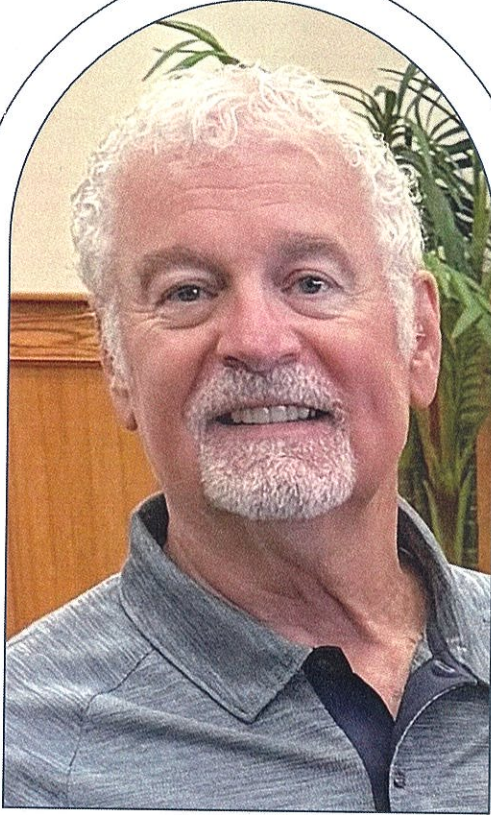
a - midst the halls of Zi - on re - sound - ing full with song.
where sings the host of heav - en your glo - rious name to bless.
the Lamb for - ev - er bless - ed, the Light that knows no end.

Rod Bollinger

January 19, 1954 –
May 27, 2026

“I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!”

Job 19: 25-27



In the morning of May 27, 2026, I entered the presence of the Lord I served and loved throughout my life.

I was born on January 19, 1954, in Eureka, South Dakota. I was made a child of God through Holy Baptism on February 21, 1954. I grew up in Zeeland, North Dakota, with my mom and two sisters. My father passed away when I was about to turn 6, and on my birthday, we buried him. This loss shaped my life deeply and taught me early the value of faith, family, and perseverance.

I was confirmed in the Christian faith on June 9, 1968, one of the many important days of my life.

I attended Northwestern Lutheran Academy in Mobridge, South Dakota, where I enjoyed choir, sports, friendships, and the lifelong bonds that came from those years. I treasured staying connected with classmates through reunions and friendships that endured throughout my life. Karen and I had the privilege of planning the last one in Manitowoc in 2024.

In 1977, I graduated from Dr. Martin Luther College and accepted my first Call to serve at St. Paul's in Norfolk, Nebraska. During my six years there, I served in many roles, including teacher, band director, athletic director, coach, and principal. Though the work was demanding, those years brought many blessings and joyful memories.

On December 29, 1978, I married the love of my life, Karen (née Cudnohoske). Together, we were blessed with three daughters: Danielle, Cara, and Hope. Karen faithfully served beside me through every season of ministry, working as a school secretary and assistant while supporting our family with love, patience, and unwavering faith.

In 1983, I accepted a Call to serve at St. Lucas Lutheran School in Kewaskum, Wisconsin, where I joyfully served for fifteen years as an upper-grade teacher, principal, and coach. Kewaskum holds a special place for me, since two of my three daughters were raised there, and my wife was born and raised there as well.

I was privileged to teach so many students about the love of their Savior and assist them in their education. I remained in contact with many of them throughout the years, which was tremendously special to me.

Then, in 1998, I accepted a Call to serve at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, where I served as a staff minister for 22 years. During my ministry there, I served on various boards and ministries and was blessed to be involved in ministering to those in senior residences, to shut-ins, and in hospitals. I ministered through prison Bible studies at local correctional facilities, directed youth music and teen ministry, and participated in various other service groups within the congregation. I felt honored to walk alongside so many people through both joyful and difficult moments in their lives.

Music remained one of my greatest joys. I loved singing in choirs, singing at weddings and funerals, and sharing the gift of music with my family. I also enjoyed woodworking, hiking, biking, fishing, traveling, and gathering with the multitude of friends God blessed us with.

In 2020, Karen and I retired and moved to the Port Washington/Grafton area of Wisconsin. We became members of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Grafton, where I continued serving as an elder and remained active in visitation ministry. Karen and I also enjoyed singing in the choir together.

Following retirement, I truly enjoyed working part-time at Five Corners Dodge as a shuttle driver and parts driver. I made many great friends during my four years working there.

In January 2025, I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Through this difficult journey, I was sustained by my faith, the love of my family, and the support of dear friends and church family. The support and prayers from all of you helped keep me fighting for as long as I could.

God sent me angels of mercy during the last year and five months of my life. Special thanks to Dr. Mandana Kamgar and PA Mary Beth Holden at Froedtert Cancer Center for their utmost care and for using their God-given gifts to keep me with my loving family a little longer. To the 8th floor CFAC team: thank you for the patience, kindness, compassion, and mercy you showed me and my family every day during my 13-day stay with you. My family will be forever grateful.

Those I leave behind who are mourning me deeply are my loving wife, Karen; my three daughters, Danielle (Jon McClure), Cara (Todd) Ziesemer, and Hope (Nathan) Friedenfels; my grandchildren, Cameron (Kimberlyn) Hachtel, Madelyn and Mason Ziesemer, and Caysen Friedenfels; and my great-grandchild, Joseph Rodney Hachtel. I thank my dear sisters, Margo (Chuck) Schwehr and Julie Dockter, for flying in to say goodbye to me. I had great visits recently from my brothers and sisters in law: Rick Cudnohoske, David (Sherri) Cudnohoske, Dale (Lori Pritzl) Cudnohoske, and Jeanne (Pastor Earle) Treptow. All of my nieces and nephews: I hope you know what a true blessing in my life you have been to me.

Those who greeted me at the gates of heaven this morning were my parents, Adam and Irene Bollinger; my father- and mother-in-law, Wally and Jeanette Cudnohoske; my brother-in-law, Kevin Dockter; and my sister-in-law, Karen Cudnohoske.

Above all, I thank God for the countless blessings He gave me throughout my life: the privilege of ministry, the joy of music, the gift of friendship, and, most especially, my beloved wife, daughters, grandchildren, and family. My prayer is that those I loved will continue walking in faith, serving others with kindness, and trusting in God's promises. What a blessing it was to spend my years sharing God's Word, encouraging others in faith, and walking beside so many through life's joys and sorrows. Now the promises I spoke about for so many years have become reality for me. I am at peace in the arms of my Savior.

Reading of the Obituary

Rodney A. Bollinger

January 19, 1954 — May 27, 2026

Sermon

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

¹For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ²Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, ³because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

⁶Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷For we live by faith, not by sight. ⁸We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Apostles' Creed

**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.**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

CW 563



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus'
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I



blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no
 his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 in the rag - ing flood; when ev - 'ry earth - ly
 then in him be found, clothed in his right - eous -



oth - er claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 prop gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore his throne.



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Prayer

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,

hear our prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

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.
Amen.

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.

Blessing

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.
Amen.

Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See

CW 884

Lord, when your glo - ry I shall see and taste your king-dom's
plea - sure, your blood my roy - al robe shall be, my
joy be-yond all mea - sure! When I ap - pear be - fore your
throne, your right-eous - ness shall be my crown; with
these I need not hide me. And there, in gar - ments rich - ly
wrought, as your own bride I shall be brought, to
stand in joy be - side you.

The musical score is written on seven staves. The first six staves contain the lyrics, and the seventh staff contains the final line of the song. The music is in a single melodic line, likely for a voice or piano. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the last staff.

The committal will take place at Lutheran Memorial Park in Kewaskum. Following the committal, the family invites everyone for a luncheon in the school gymnasium.

Serving Today

Pallbearers: Nate Friedenfels
Cameron Hachtel
Fritz Horn
John McClure
Stephen Schultz
Todd Zieseimer
Mason Zieseimer

Presiding Minister: Rev. Timothy Henning
Preacher: Rev. Jonathan Fischer
Accompanist: Coralee Henning

Acknowledgments

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