

*“...I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

*John 14:6*

**ALL ARE WELCOME AT EMANUEL!**

Recognizing that we live in a broken world, Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness. As members of Emanuel Lutheran Church and children of a loving and merciful God, we acknowledge that this reconciliation extends to people of any gender identity,



gender expression, sexual orientation, age, race, culture, physical or mental ability, economic circumstances, relationship status, or any person that has ever experienced pain or oppression. Because members of different communities may have been excluded from the Church in the past, we wish to make explicit our welcome to all. It is for this purpose that we affirm that ALL people are welcome here, just as they are, contributing their individuality to the wholeness of the Body of Christ.

**SERVING TODAY**

Presiding Minister ..... Pastor Mark Olsen  
Readers ..... Ellyott Martinez, *Michael's grandson*  
Lisa Smith, *Milano-Martinez family friend*  
Director of Music ..... Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

**A/V TECHNICIAN**

David Counterman

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Given in memory of Michael Milano

**If you have any questions or need assistance of any kind,  
please feel free to ask an usher.**

A Memorial Worship Service Celebrating the Life of

**Michael David Milano**

November 19, 1955 – February 5, 2025

Monday, January 17, 2025 at 11:00am

**PRELUDE**

**\*GATHERING**

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P: When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new 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.

P: Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

**C: We glorify you.**

P: Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

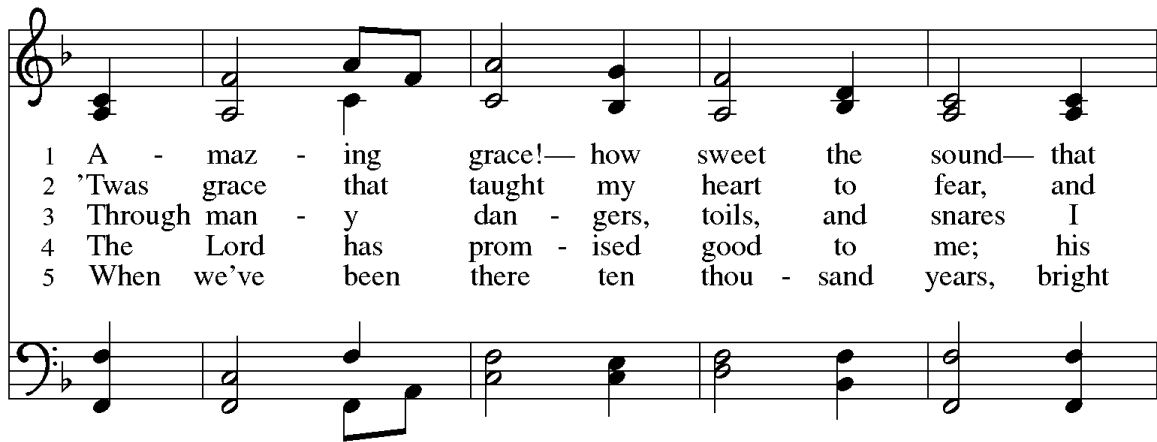
**C: We praise you.**

P: Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.


**C: We worship you.**

P: To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.


**C: Amen.**



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

## \*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:** Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Michael Milano. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE**

Brittany Milano-Martinez, *Michael's daughter*  
Joseph Zazzaro, *Michael's close friend*  
Nora Smith-Perez, *Brittany's mother*

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Tears in Heaven*

recorded by Eric Clapton

## **FIRST READING: PSALM 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;

<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;

for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff —  
they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.

**R:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:31-35, 37-39

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

### \*GOSPEL: JOHN 14:1-6

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

I Know that My Redeemer Lives

ELW 619

v. 1-4, 7-8

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
 he lives my mansion to prepare;  
 he lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!  
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
 what joy this blest assurance gives:  
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.  
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**P:** Let us join together in professing our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P:** Let us pray. (*A brief silence is kept.*) Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

**P:** Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

**P:** Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

**P:** Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**



P: Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain 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 in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **\*PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*We offer each other a sign of God's peace.*

### **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

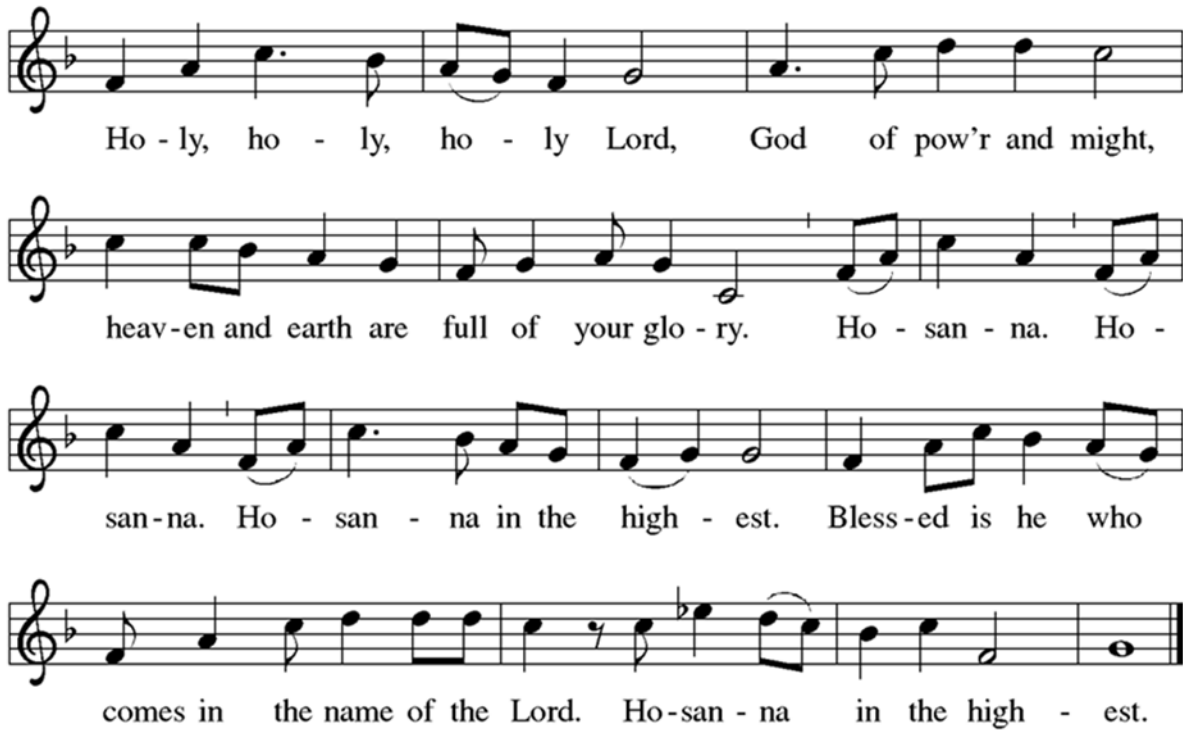
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns.  
The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### \*LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.**

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All Are Welcome at the Table!

P: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

*This is the Lord's Table and all are welcome to receive the bread and wine of communion.*

*Gluten-free wafers are served by the communion assistant in the middle and white grape juice is available in each communion tray, as needed.*

*The ushers will guide you out of your pew down the center aisle to the front of the church. Once you receive communion, please return to your seat by the side aisles. If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let an usher know. If, for any reason, you choose not to receive the bread and wine, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.*

## \*LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**\*COMMENDATION**

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Michael. 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 everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: **in the name of Christ. Amen.**



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



*Refrain*  
 Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

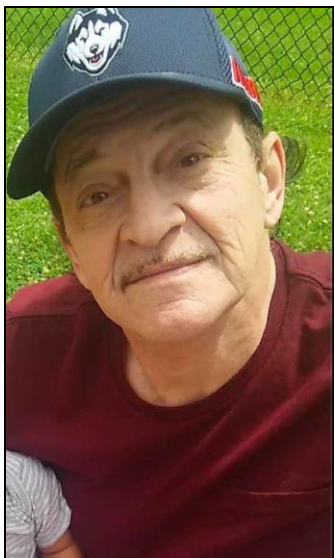


call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946  
 Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte  
 Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



Michael David Milano, of Hartford, CT, passed away unexpectedly on February 5, 2025. Born on November 19, 1955, in Hartford, CT, he was the beloved son of the late Sheila and Saverio Milano of Wethersfield, CT. Michael was truly one-of-a-kind. He spent time working for The City of Hartford, Manchester Movers, and Comstock Ferry, but he was best known for his larger-than-life personality. A die-hard New York Yankees and New York Giants fan, he never missed a chance to cheer on his teams. He had a deep love for playing basketball and could often be found on the court. He also enjoyed playing Setback with his close

friends, where the games were always filled with friendly competition and laughter. A true jokester, Michael had a gift for making people laugh, and his sense of humor will be missed by all who knew him. Above all, Michael's greatest joy was his family. He adored his daughter, Brittany Milano-Martinez, and her husband, Jonathan Martinez. But his most cherished role was being "GoGo" to his beloved grandchildren: Ellyott, Millany, Khaleesi, and Leonydas Martinez. He filled their lives with love, laughter, and unforgettable memories. Michael will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. His legacy of love, kindness, and humor will live on in the hearts of those he touched.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Michael's name to  
Emanuel Lutheran Church  
311 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106

**Emanuel Lutheran Church**

311 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Office: 860-525-0894 | Emergency: 860-263-9096

[www.emanuelhartford.org](http://www.emanuelhartford.org) | [www.facebook.com/emanuelhartford](https://www.facebook.com/emanuelhartford)



**Pastor Mark Olsen**

Senior Pastor—extension 1

[pastorolsen@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:pastorolsen@emanuelhartford.org)

**Naomi Ngoma**

Community Life & Outreach—extension 3

[Naomi.Ngoma@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:Naomi.Ngoma@emanuelhartford.org)

**Vicar Christine Pelfrey**

Intern—extension 2

[Christine.Pelfrey@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:Christine.Pelfrey@emanuelhartford.org)

**Hannah Maynard**

Education Coordinator

[Hannah.Maynard@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:Hannah.Maynard@emanuelhartford.org)

**Jonathan Reuning-Scherer**

Director of Music

[Jonathan.rs@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:Jonathan.rs@emanuelhartford.org)

**Morgan Pope**

Administrative Assistant—extension 5

[adminassist@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:adminassist@emanuelhartford.org)

**Kate Bozzo**

Operations Manager—extension 4

[Kate.Bozzo@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:Kate.Bozzo@emanuelhartford.org)

**Rachid Chelali**

Sexton

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.