

# Funeral Service for Deloris "Dee" Jane Mehrens



## As We Gather

We are gathered to remember the life of Dee and to pray for those who mourn her loss. The death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ are God's sure promise that His love does not end in death but opens the way to everlasting life for all who trust in Him.

**"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).**

## What a Friend We Have in Jesus

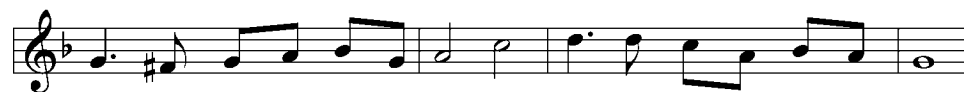
LSB 770



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

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*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 Dee was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. St. Paul says, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"

**G** 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.

**P** 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 Dee 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 her to faith. In Your rising from the dead, You conquered death and opened the gates to eternal life. Strengthen us with Your word and lead us through this earthly life until at last we are united with You and all the saints in glory everlasting.

**G** Amen.

**Introit** *Psalm 23 (Spoken together.)*

**The Lord is my shepherd;**

**I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;**

**He leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul;**

**He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;**

**thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.**

**Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will 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.

**G** **Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Collect of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Dee 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.

**G** Amen.

*Sit*

## First Reading *Revelation 21:3–7*

<sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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."

<sup>5</sup>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." <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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.

**Epistle** *Romans 8:31–39*

<sup>31</sup>What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am sure 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.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

JESUS CHRIST

HIS RESURRECTION

## 281 BECAUSE HE LIVES

*In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.*  
*John 14:19*

1. God sent His Son, they called Him Je - sus,  
 2. How sweet to hold a new - born ba - by,  
 3. And then one day I'll cross the riv - er,

He came to love, heal, and for - give;  
 And feel the pride, and joy He gives;  
 I'll fight life's fi - nal war with pain;

He lived and died to buy my par - don, An  
 But great - er still the calm as - sur - ance, This  
 And then as death gives way to vic - t'ry, I'll

emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior lives.  
 child can face un - cer - tain days be - cause He lives.  
 see the lights of glo - ry and I'll know He lives.

Stand

Verse

- P** Alleluia, alleluia.  
Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
- C** to Him be glory and power forever.  
Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *John 3:13-17*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>[Jesus said:] "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Please sit.

CROSS AND COMFORT

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Hearer, My God, to Thee

Gen. 28: 10-19  
Sarah F. Adams, 1841

6. 4. 6. 4. 6. 6. 6. 4.

Bethany  
Lowell Mason, 1856

1 Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee.  
2 Tho' like the wan - der - er, The sun gone down,  
3 There let my way ap - pear Steps un - to heav'n;

E'en though it be a cross That rais - eth me,  
Dark - ness be o - ver me, My rest a stone,  
All that Thou send - est me In mer - cy giv'n;

Still all my song shall be, Near - er, my God, to Thee,  
Yet in my dreams I'd be Near - er, my God, to Thee,  
An - gels to beck - on me Near - er, my God, to Thee,

Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee.  
Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee.  
Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee. A - men.

## Sermon

*Please Stand.*

### 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.**

### Prayer 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,

**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 newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** Give to the family of Dee 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,

**C 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,

**C 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,

**C hear our prayer.**

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

**C 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

**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

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**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."

### Abide with Me



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,  
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.  
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.  
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.  
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

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## Concluding Collect

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**G Amen.**

## Benedicamus and Benediction

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**G 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.

**G Amen.**

**P** Let us go forth in peace,

**G and in the name of the Lord. Amen.**

## I Know That My Redeemer Lives



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 bless me with His love; He lives to  
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry  
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.  
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;  
He lives to wipe away my tears;  
He lives to calm my troubled heart;  
He lives all blessings to impart.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;  
He lives and loves me to the end;  
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;  
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

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 Jesus, still the same;  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!