

**Service of Celebration of the  
Life and Resurrection of  
Nicholas Erling Griffith  
January 12, 1993 - September 4, 2016**



**First Lutheran Church**  
**BOTHELL**

**A Celebration of the Life and Resurrection of  
Nicholas Erling Griffith  
September 17, 2016**

**PRELUDE**

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME**

**INTRODUCTION**

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our brother Nicholas, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## GATHERING HYMN: *How Great Thou Art*



- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er  
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the  
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to  
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y  
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain  
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;  
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;  
bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;  
ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

### *Refrain*



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

In his baptism, Nicholas, was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory.

Let us pray.

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.**

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.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope,

**We worship you.**

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

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Join me in prayer:

**O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Nicholas. 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. Amen.**

**TIME OF REMEMBRANCE:** *We take time to share our stories about Nicholas. If you have a short remembrance, please come forward to the podium and tell us your story.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**FIRST READING: Psalm 34:17-18 - Reader: Jyoti Muschler**

<sup>17</sup>When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears,  
and rescues them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>The LORD is near to the brokenhearted,  
and saves the crushed in spirit.

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

**SECOND READING: Song of Solomon 2:8-17 - Reader: Larissa Ashby**

Look, he comes,  
leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.

<sup>9</sup>My beloved is like a gazelle  
or a young stag.

Look, there he stands  
behind our wall,  
gazing in at the windows,  
looking through the lattice.

<sup>10</sup>My beloved speaks and says to me:  
"Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away;

<sup>11</sup>for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone.

<sup>12</sup>The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.

<sup>13</sup>The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away.

<sup>14</sup>O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,  
in the covert of the cliff,  
let me see your face,  
let me hear your voice;  
for your voice is sweet,

and your face is lovely.

<sup>15</sup>Catch us the foxes,  
the little foxes,  
that ruin the vineyards —  
for our vineyards are in blossom."

<sup>16</sup>My beloved is mine and I am his;  
he pastures his flock among the lilies.

<sup>17</sup>Until the day breathes  
and the shadows flee,  
turn, my beloved, be like a gazelle  
or a young stag on the cleft mountains.

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

**GOSPEL READING: John 6:37-40 - Reader: Eline Ashby**

Jesus teaches: "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; <sup>38</sup>for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup>And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup>This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**SERMON**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

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

Let us pray.

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,  
**hear our prayer.**

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,  
**hear our prayer.**

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,  
**hear our prayer.**

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,  
**hear our prayer.**

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,  
**hear our prayer.**

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.  
**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father in heaven,  
    hallowed be your name,  
    your kingdom come,  
    your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
    as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial  
    and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
    and the glory are yours,  
    now and forever. Amen.

## **COMMENDATION**

Let us commend Nicholas to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence for reflection.*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Nicholas.  
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.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

May the silence of the hills,  
the joy of the winds,  
the peace of the fields,  
the music of the birds,  
the fire of the sun,  
the strength of the trees,  
and the faith of a little child,  
in all of which is God  
go with you and be with you today and always.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: *Beautiful Savior*



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

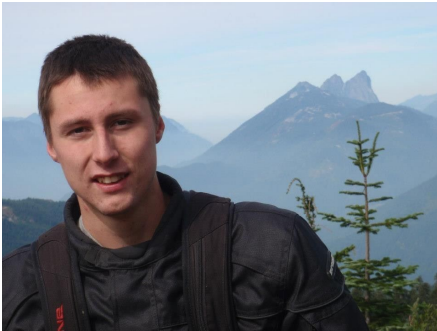


light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

## POSTLUDE

## Nicholas Erling Griffith

January 12, 1993 - September 4, 2016



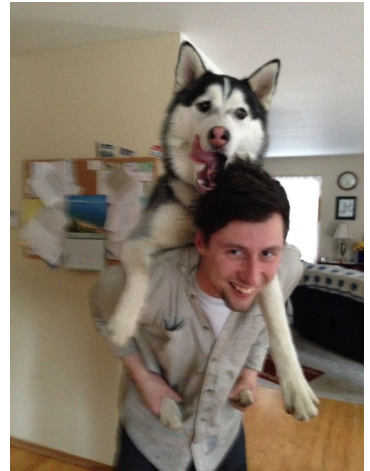
Nicholas Erling Griffith left us way too early. He was born on January 12, 1993 and died at the age of 23. He always lived life to the fullest and especially loved outdoor adventuring. In a tragic accident on September 4, 2016, the four-wheeler he was riding in overturned on a trail in the Naches wilderness.

Nick graduated from Bothell High School in 2011 and then attended

Northwest Lineman College in Idaho. Through his hard work, he landed his dream job as a Lineman Apprentice with Seattle City Light. He was excited and full of life with his work, his family and friends, and his beloved dog, Loki.

He leaves behind a broken-hearted family; parents Greg and Anita Griffith and brother, Nathan Griffith; loving grandparents Erling ("Beste") and Hjordis ("Mor Mor") Berg and Grandma Jean Griffith; and a large extended family of aunts, uncles and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to Lakeside Bible Camp, P.O. Box 310, Clinton, WA, 98236.



**Assisting with Today's Service:**

<b>Presiding Pastor:</b>	<b>Rev. Tor K. Berg</b>
<b>Organ/Piano:</b>	<b>Lucy Kay Osborne</b>
<b>Readers:</b>	<b>Jyoti Muschler, Larissa Ashby &amp; Elene Ashby</b>
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	<b>Jan Anderson, Dawn Bastin &amp; Marilyn Kay</b>
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>Dan Bormann &amp; David Osborne</b>
<b>Sound Technician:</b>	<b>Ann Bormann</b>
<b>Reception Coordinator:</b>	<b>Nancy Funsinn</b>

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