

**Memorial Service of
Matthew Oliver Danforth
January 7, 2017**



First Lutheran Church
BOTHELL

Matthew Oliver Danforth

December 28, 2016–December 29, 2016

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME

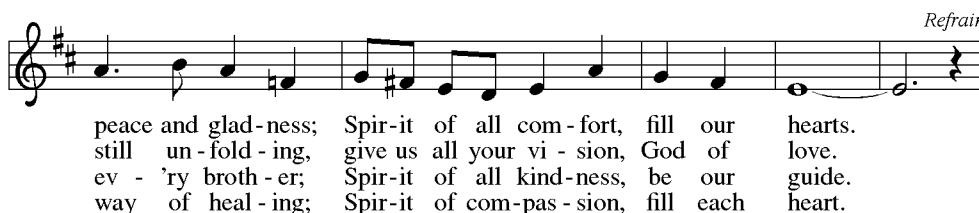
INTRODUCTION

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, Matthew Oliver Danforth, 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: *Healer of Our Every Ill* (ELW 612)



THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his baptism, Matthew was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory.

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

Let us pray.

Holy God, your beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them.

Help us to entrust Matthew to your never-failing care and love. Comfort us as we bear the pain of his death, and receive us all into your everlasting arms, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Word of God.

Word of life.

PSALM: Psalm 121 (*we read together*)

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills –
from where will my help come?

²My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

³He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:31-39

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He 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? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who 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. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

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

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

Word of God.

Word of life.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *On Eagle's Wings* (ELW 787)



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath on dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un - der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by

Refrain



day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All



4 For to the an-gels God's giv - en a com-mand to



guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will



bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain

All



And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the breath on dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

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 Matthew Oliver Danforth to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is observed.

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

CLOSING HYMN: *Children of the Heavenly Father* (ELW 781)



- Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra ään Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Assisting with Today's Service:

Presiding Pastor:	Rev. Tor K. Berg
Piano:	Lucy Kay Osborne
Reader:	Roger Steinke
Altar Guild:	Donna Hillard
Ushers:	Mark Bowers & Gordy Phelps
Sound Technician:	Ken Smith
Reception Coordinator:	Nancy Funsinn

Memorials may be made to:

[Soulumination](#) (1113 NW 52nd St., Unit A, Seattle, WA 98107)

or to the First Lutheran Church Endowment Fund



10207 NE 183rd Street
Bothell, Washington 98011
425-486-2314
www.flcbothell.org
Rev. Tor K. Berg