

**The Celebration of the
Life and Resurrection of
Hildur Linnea O'Connor
May 31, 2025**



First Lutheran Church
BOTHELL

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. **We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life.** We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

Assisting with Today's Service:

Presiding Pastor:	Rev. Tor K. Berg
Organ / Piano:	Lucy Kay Osborne
Funeral Coordinator:	Jan Anderson
Sound Tech:	Ann Bormann
Camera Tech:	Jeff Kosman
Usher:	Dan Bormann
Reception Coordinator:	Roger Steinke

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May 31, 2025
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Life and Resurrection of
Hildur Linnea O'Conner

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.

PRELUDE:

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 sister, Hildur, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

GREETING

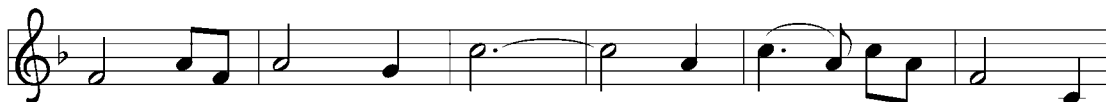
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Memorial donations may be made in Hildur's name to the First Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, Virginia Mason Foundation or the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

GATHERING HYMN: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* (ELW 779)



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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In her baptism, Hildur was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, she 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; 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; Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We glorify you.

We praise you.

We worship you.

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

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Hildur. We thank you for giving her 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 hear Hildur's story. By telling stories we share life together.*

WORD

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

FIRST READING: 1 John 3:1-2

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

THE TWENTY THIRD PSALM

A Native-American Indian Version

The great father above a shepherd chief is.

I am his and with him I want not.

He throws out to me a rope

and the name of the rope is love

and he draws me to where the grass is green

and the water is not dangerous,

and I eat and lie down and am satisfied.

Sometimes my heart is very weak and falls down

but he lifts me up again and draws me into a good road.

His name is wonderful.

Sometime, it may be very soon, it may be a long, long time,
he will draw me into a valley.

It is dark there, but I'll be afraid not,

for it is between those mountains

that the shepherd chief will meet me

and the hunger that I have in my heart all through life will be satisfied.

Sometimes he makes the love rope into a whip,

but afterwards he gives a staff to lean upon.

He spreads a table before me with all kinds of foods.

He put his hand upon my head and all the "tired" is gone.

My cup he fills till it runs over.

What I tell is true.
I lie not.

These roads that are "away ahead" will stay with me
through this life and after;
and afterwards I will go to live in the big teepee
and sit down with the shepherd chief forever.

GOSPEL READING: John 14:1-6

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *In the Garden*

1 I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is still on the
2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their
3 I'd stay in the gar - den with him though the night a - round me be

ros - es; and the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, the
sing - ing, and the mel - o - dy that he gave to me with -
fall - ing, but he bids me go; through the voice of woe his

Refrain

Son of God dis - clos - es.
in my heart is ring - ing. And he walks with me, and he
voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, and the

joy we share, as we tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er known.

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

COMMENDATION

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

Silence for reflection.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Hildur.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of
your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of
your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious
company of the saints in light.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *On Eagle's Wings* (ELW 787) Next page

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

POSTLUDE:

On Eagle's Wings

Leader or All



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!"

Refrain
All



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



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

Leader or All



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.

Leader or All



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.



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 of 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.

Hildur Linnea O'Connor was born in Spokane, Washington to Swedish immigrant parents and was proud of her Swedish heritage.

She was the youngest of three sisters (Ruth Jewell & Edith Volosing). She married her high school sweetheart Denis (Denny) William Patrick O'Connor Jr. and they subsequently lived in England, Ohio, and then were longtime Edmonds residents.

Hildur and Denis had three children, Steven Denis O'Connor, Anne Marie Walsh and Katy Louise O'Connor. While the kids were growing up Hildur worked as a teaching assistant at Westgate Elementary School. After the kids were grown, she helped Denny run the office for his pharmaceutical business.

She kept busy helping with grandchildren, Ryan O'Connor, Stefanie Shosky, Christine Harwood, Alexandra Rush, and Sean O'Connor. She hosted many birthday and holiday dinners with Christmas Eve Swedish "Smorgasbord" being the most important, always including meatballs, pickled herring and lots of Swedish cookies. In the summer, Hildur and Denny enjoyed sharing their cabin on Rocky Bay with friends and family.

Sadly, just as they began enjoying retirement, Denny passed away suddenly at age 67. When Hildur's last grandchild, Ben Vitcovich was born in Spokane six years later, she moved back to her hometown to be part of Ben's childhood and to be near her sisters, nieces, nephews, and many old friends.

Hildur was lucky to be able to see all of her great grandchildren born, Lily, Linnea, Violet, Nathan and Connor. She spent the last part of her life living in Mill Creek and Bothell.

Throughout her life, Hildur made friends everywhere she went. She corresponded with friends she made in England for over 70 years. She always put people at ease and loved to chat with any one. She loved to share coffee and goodies at any time with new friends or old ones.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.