

The Celebration of the Life and Resurrection of Luther “Bud” Carlson



 **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:	Nathan Jensen
Soloist:	Richard Edmonds
Funeral Coordinator:	Donna Hillard
Sound Tech:	Ann Bormann
Camera Tech:	David Osborne
Usher:	Dan Bormann
Reception Coordinator:	Roger Steinke

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The Celebration of the Life and Resurrection of Luther “Bud” Carlson November 23, 2024

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE:

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 Bud, 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: *Children of the Heavenly Father* (ELW 781)



- Try - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än 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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his baptism, Bud 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; 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 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 brother Bud. 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 tell our stories of Bud to show his love and impact on the world.*

ANTHEM: *I've Got Shoes (African American Spiritual)*

Richard Edmonds, soloist

WORD

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

FIRST READING: *Psalm 96:1-4; 11-13 (Caleb Yochum)*

¹O sing to the LORD a new song;

sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless his name;

tell of his salvation from day to day.

³Declare his glory among the nations,

his marvelous works among all the peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

he is to be revered above all gods.

¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
¹²let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
¹³before the LORD; for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

PSALM: Psalm 23 (We read together)

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
²He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
³he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff –
they comfort me.
⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶Surely 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.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:1-3 (Titus Yochum)

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.
³Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:1-20, 25-32 (Asher Yochum)

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *How Great Thou Art* (ELW 856)



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!

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

Richard Edmonds, soloist

COMMENDATION

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

We hold silence in thanksgiving.

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

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

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: *This Is My Father's World* (ELW 824)



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for - get that,



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

POSTLUDE:

Memorial donations may be made in Luther (Bud's) name to the First Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, to Lutheran Indian Ministries (online or mail to 15350 W Capitol Drive, Brookfield, WI 53005) or to International Rett Syndrome Foundation (online or mail to 4500 Cooper Road, Suite 204, Cincinnati, OH 45242).

Luther Alvin (“Bud”) Carlson was born March 23, 1932, in Stillwater, Minnesota. He lived a full and accomplished life of kindness and leadership in his 92 years. He passed away on November 8, 2024, after a short illness.

Luther grew up on a Depression-era farm outside Scandia, Minnesota, the youngest of ten children. There he learned the values that framed his entire life: the love of family, and the value of hard work. His musical family inspired his lifelong love of music. He began singing in his high school choir and the Men’s Chorus at Elim Lutheran Church in Scandia, and he continued singing at church and home throughout his life. His granddaughter would often tell him, “Grandpa, you have a song for everything.”

After graduating from high school, Luther attended Gustavus Adolphus College for one year and the University of Minnesota for one semester. Even living on ten-cent White Castle hamburgers, continuing college was financially impossible. He left school and began work at Minneapolis Honeywell as a “stock chaser” in the winter of 1952. There his co-workers gave him the nickname “Bud.” It stuck.

As he anticipated, in late 1952 Bud was drafted into the army. Leaving behind his fiancé, Mavis Lindgren, he served two years, mainly in California, until his discharge on December 9, 1954. He rushed home, driving an old car with bald tires through snowstorms to Minnesota, arriving just in time for his wedding to his high school sweetheart, partner, and love of his life, Mavis, on December 17, 1954.

Bud returned to work at Honeywell after his time in the army. These became busy years of hard work and promotions while building a home and growing a family that included four children, Mark, David, Lynne and Steven. His career with Honeywell took him to California in 1969, Massachusetts in 1972, and Washington in 1974. In 1979, he accepted an unexpected job offer from Sundstrand Data Corporation. He contributed his skills as project manager and inventory control specialist at Sundstrand in Redmond, Washington and Rockford, Illinois until his retirement in 1993.

Wherever Bud’s work took him, he made sure he found a Lutheran congregation to join. He was actively involved in church leadership roles in every state he lived in. And he sang in all of those churches too. The Swedish Lutheran faith of his family heritage was always a very important part of his life.

Bud loved devoting time to his family. Vacations were often spent visiting extended family in Minnesota. He loved family outings exploring the beauty and history wherever we lived: California beaches; New England historical sites; Washington mountain hikes. Family work parties cutting firewood or making home improvements for one of the kids were as much fun

and entertainment as hard work. Bud began running in the late 1970's and was an avid participant for ten years. He had over 100 footrace t-shirts attesting to the many races and thousands of miles he ran. After his hip replacement in 1988, he switched to walking, charting 10,000 miles over 15 years before he wore out the replaced hip and had it done again.

After retirement in 1993, Bud took on two interests—traveling and writing—with the same focus that he did everything in his life. He and Mavis traveled extensively across the United States, exploring many national parks and nearly every state, visiting family and collecting stories across the country. They took a dream trip to Sweden, enjoying the countryside, seeing Mavis's ancestral family homestead and meeting the family. These adventures found their way into the trip journals Bud wrote, eventually filling a three-inch binder of travel stories. In 1996-1997, Bud compiled family stories in his "History of the Carlson Family," an extensive reference volume for the generations of Carlsons to come. He also collected stories with Mavis about her family, recorded in 2003 in "Descendants of Johannes Lindgren." Bud shared his own life story in his 626-page autobiography completed in 2004, titled "Seven Decades and More: From the 1930's into the Twenty-first Century: A Life Story by Luther A. (Bud) Carlson." The same year, Bud and Mavis wrote and published a family cookbook, "Heirloom Recipes," commemorating their 50 years of marriage.

Between his travels and writing, Bud enjoyed being outdoors, walking and gardening. He loved to sit on the front porch with Mavis and have a cup of tea, visiting with neighbors as they came by. Most of all, he was devoted to his family. He loved spending holidays together or gathering for picnics. He and Mavis attended every Carlson family reunion with his siblings and their families, and they hosted a few as well. He found special joy in the time he spent with his grandchildren. Grandpa Bud loved attending his grandchildren's soccer games and concerts, playing with them on the floor, reading books to them in his chair, and snuggling up to watch Veggie Tales.

Bud's life was an example for all his family, through his guidance, his singing, and his writings. Bud and Mavis's 68-year marriage served as a testament to partnership and enduring love. The songs he sang are reminders of him, written in the hearts of his children and replayed again and again. His legacy is a great family treasure.

Luther was preceded in death by Mavis, his wife of 68 years, and by all nine of his siblings. He is survived by his children: Mark (Diane), David (Rosalie), Lynne Charlot, and Steven (Robin); nine grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.



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