

*I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.*

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Text "The Servant Song" © 1977 Scripture In Song (c/o Integrity - Hosanna Music) /ASCAP

Liturgy of Remembrance
for the Life of

Elizabeth Ann Izant

October 25, 1960 – March 11, 2020

+ Gathering +

Prelude

Today's prelude includes pieces that were among Elizabeth's favorites:

"Divinum Mysterium"

Plainsong, 13th century

setting by David von Kampen

"Pachelbel Canon"

Johann Pachelbel

arr. Malte Meyn

"Sheep May Safely Graze"

J.S. Bach

"O God Beyond All Praising"

from Gustav Holst, *The Planets*

arr. Dan Forrest and John Hudson

"Largo" from *Xerxes*

G.F. Handel

Gathering

Please stand as you are able and turn to the rear of the church.

We gather in the name of Jesus, whose life of love and service transforms us. We are gathered, in grief and in gratitude, to remember before God our sister, Elizabeth, to give thanks for her life, and to commend her to God's eternal love.

Please turn to follow the cross in procession.

Hymn

ELW 880: **O God beyond All Praising**

1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
 2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
 3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,
 and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
 its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
 that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as we sing;
 for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
 but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
 and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,
 at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end;
 though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
 we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:
 we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
 for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
 to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God of grace, we remember before you today our sister, Elizabeth. 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. Comfort us as we bear the pain of her death. Heal our broken hearts with the promise that joy will come again.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

+ Word +

First Reading

Song of Solomon 2:10–13

A reading from Song of Solomon:

¹⁰My beloved speaks and says to me:

“Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;

¹¹for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.

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

¹³The 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.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 121

The refrain will be sung first by the cantor, then by the assembly, and again by the assembly after the verses as indicated.

Refrain:



Psalm 121:2

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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- ¹I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?
- ²My help comes | from the LORD,
the maker of heav- | en and earth.
- ³The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.
- ⁴Behold, the keep- | er of Israel
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep; *Refrain*
- ⁵the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;
- ⁶the sun will not strike | you by day,
nor the | moon by night.
- ⁷The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.
- ⁸The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,
from this time forth for- | evermore. *Refrain*

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Second Reading

Romans 12:9–12

A reading from Romans.

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Stanza 2 is sung by the cantor after the reading of the Gospel, followed by all singing Stanza 3.

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 Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938-1984
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Gospel

Luke 1:39–45

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

Sequence Hymn

(See previous hymn, page 5.)

ELW 258: **Unexpected and Mysterious**

Stanza 2 is sung by the cantor after the reading of the Gospel, followed by all singing Stanza 3.

Reflections and Sermon

Pastor Craig Mueller

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

ELW 659: **Will You Let Me Be Your Servant**

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953
Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928
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The Prayers

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Creating God, we thank you for the gift of life.

(a brief silence)

From the moment of birth to the moment of our last breath,
we live amidst the wonder and beauty of all life,
and we marvel at the gift of what it means to be fully human, fully alive.
Today we particularly thank you for the gift of Elizabeth's life,
a gift to us and to many others in this world.

In your boundless mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of love;

(a brief silence)

for the wonder of human relationships,
the ability to know another and be known,
to accept another and be accepted,
to live in depth of meaning together.

And today we particularly thank you for the love we knew from Elizabeth and the love we could offer her in return, a depth of relationship which makes our grieving even deeper.

In your boundless mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of grace;

(a brief silence)

for the ability to forgive and be forgiven,
for opportunities to let go of the past and make fresh beginnings,
for opportunity to find deep peace in our lives.

And today we want to let go of any hurt or failure
in our relationship with Elizabeth.

May we be enabled to know forgiveness and healing,
that our continuing memories of Elizabeth be filled with peace.

In your boundless mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, and love, and grace, receive our prayers. Gather them together with those in all of time and in all of eternity who have, like us, stood on the brink of a new future, with grief too much to bear, a hope shrouded in tears. Yet we cling to the promise of spring, life and hope renewed, again. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

You are invited to share a gesture of peace, such as placing your hand on your heart with a bow, saying, "Peace be with you."

The assembly is seated.

Setting the Table

The bread and wine are carried forward in procession, a sign that the gifts of creation—the wheat and grapes—are made into bread and wine through our human gifts and vocations. The bread and wine is a symbol of the offering of our lives in love and service, which becomes bread for the world.

There is A Longing in Our Hearts


Anne Quigley

REFRAIN:

There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to re -


veal your - self to us. There is a long-ing in our hearts for

(Fine) VERSES:




love we on - ly find in you, our God.

1. For jus - tice,
2. For wis - dom,
3. For heal - ing,
4. Lord save us,



1. for free - dom, for mer - cy: hear our prayer. In
2. for cour - age, for com - fort: hear our prayer. In
3. for whole - ness, for new life: hear our prayer. In
4. take pit - y, light in our dark - ness. We



1. sor - row, in grief: }
2. weak - ness, in fear: }
3. sick - ness, in death: }
4. call you, we wait: }

be near, hear our prayer, O God.

to Ref.

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+ Meal +

Please stand as you are able.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You have loved the world and loved us so profoundly by bestowing upon us the gift of creation and the joys of human relationship. Therefore we join together in thanksgiving, singing this hymn of unending praise:

Sanctus

ELW 190: Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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Thanksgiving at the Table

With all the saints of Africa and Asia,
India and the islands,
Europe and the Americas,
we praise you, O God, for you create the worlds . . .
. . . Blessed be God forever. **Blessed be God forever.**
. . . Come, Holy Spirit. **Come, Holy Spirit.**
. . . though Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
The assembly is seated.

Communion

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. As you come forward, please use the provided hand sanitizer prior to receiving the bread. Then dip the bread in the wine (dark color) or grape juice (light color). If you prefer to come forward for a blessing instead, please fold your hands, and the servers will know to give you a blessing. If you have difficulty coming forward, please signal an usher, and those distributing will be happy to bring Communion to you.

Music

“A Chlois”

Reynaldo Hahn
arr. Alain Brunet

ELW 636: How Small our Span of Life



ALL 1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
 CANTOR 2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;
 CANTOR 3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,
 ALL 4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,



a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch-ing of a breath,
 our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.
 to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.
 il - lu - min - ing our pil-grim-age through mists of doubt and fears;



a drop with-in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,
 While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos-mic space,
 You filled your cross-closed years with love; you loved us to the end
 for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass-ing days;



a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.
 while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.
 and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans-cend.
 for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: KINGSFOLD, English traditional

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Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

God of justice and compassion, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to transform the world through our own lives as people who have been nourished by this meal of vision and hope. **Amen.**

+ Sending +

Commendation

The ministers take their places at the urn for the commendation.

Let us commend Elizabeth Ann Izant to the mercy of God who created us for fullness of life and the gift of love.

Silence is kept.

With a hand placed on the urn, the minister says this prayer:

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend your servant Elizabeth.

By your grace, she is at peace;

she is at peace from the troubles and ailments of this world;

she is at peace with us;

she is at peace with God and the universe.

Her body will return to the earth,

but her spirit will live on

in those of us she has influenced through her life and her love.

Merciful God, with gratitude for her life among us, we pray:

receive her into your arms of mercy,

into the blessed rest of everlasting peace.

Raise her up with all your holy ones,

and remember her according to the favor you bear for all your people.

Amen.

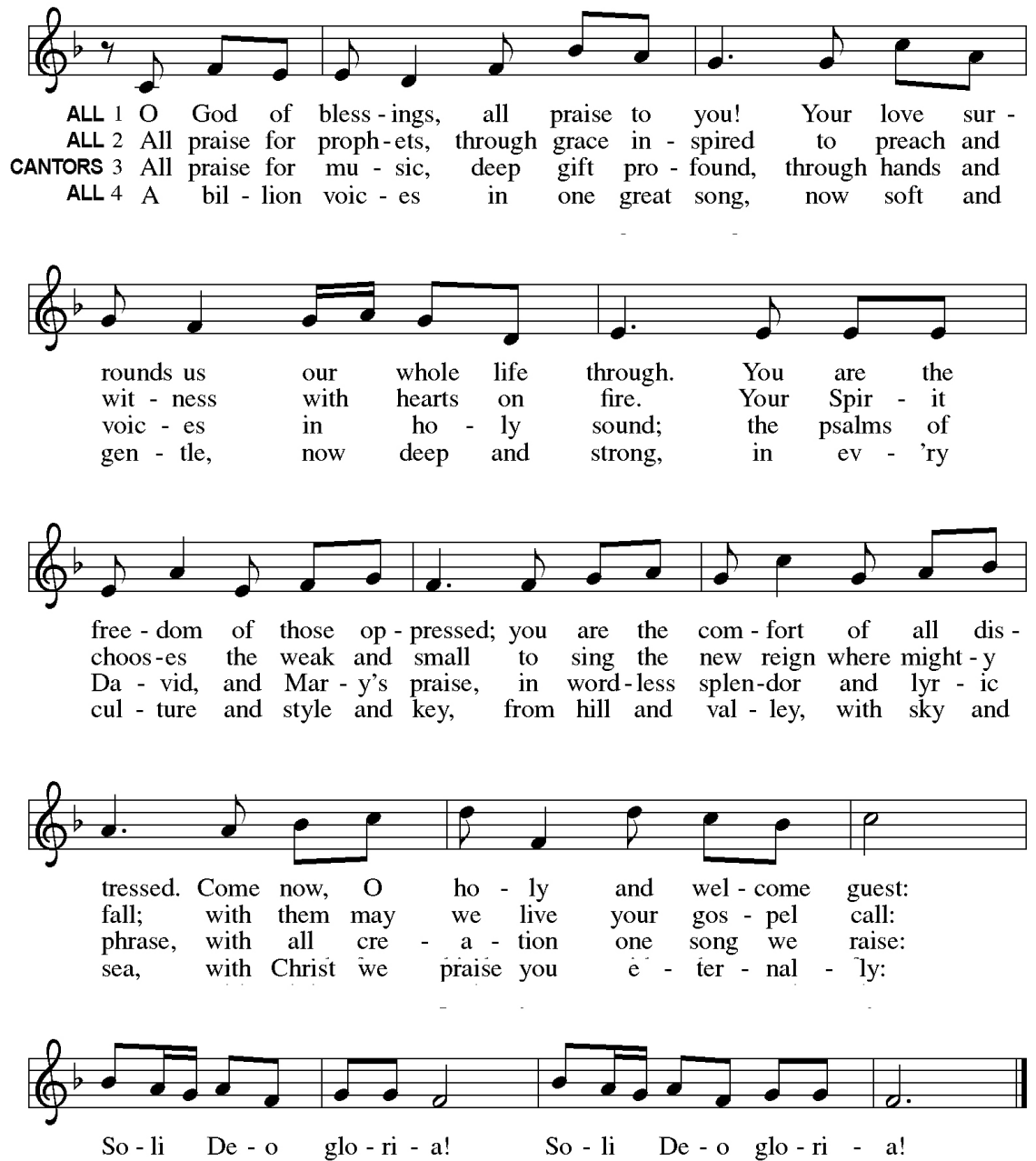
Prayer

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Hymn

ELW 878: Soli Deo Gloria



ALL 1 O God of bless - ings, all praise to you! Your love sur -
 ALL 2 All praise for proph - ets, through grace in - spired to preach and
 CANTORS 3 All praise for mu - sic, deep gift pro - found, through hands and
 ALL 4 A bil - lion voice - es in one great song, now soft and

rounds us our whole life through. You are the
 wit - ness with hearts on fire. Your Spir - it
 voice - es in ho - ly sound; the psalms of
 gen - tle, now deep and strong, in ev - 'ry

free - dom of those op - pressed; you are the com - fort of all dis -
 choos - es the weak and small to sing the new reign where might - y
 Da - vid, and Mar - y's praise, in word - less splen - dor and lyr - ic
 cul - ture and style and key, from hill and val - ley, with sky and

tressed. Come now, O ho - ly and wel - come guest:
 fall; with them may we live your gos - pel call:
 phrase, with all cre - a - tion one song we raise:
 sea, with Christ we praise you e - ter - nal - ly:

So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: SOLI DEO GLORIA, Marty Haugen
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Please be seated for the postlude.

Postlude

“Processional”

William Mathias

Following the postlude, all are invited for a time of refreshment and fellowship on the west portico and lawn, just outside the main entrance.

Elizabeth Ann Izant

On Wednesday, March 11, 2020, Elizabeth Ann Izant, loving wife and mother of two children, died in Denver, CO, at the age of 59. Elizabeth was born on October 25, 1960, in Warren, OH, to Robert Theodore Izant II and Ann Harrington Hunter Izant. Elizabeth attended the Kent School in Kent, CT, and Kenyon College in Gambier, OH, before receiving her law degree at Case Western Reserve School of Law in Cleveland, OH. On October 20, 1990, she married the Rev. Kent A. Mueller in Wadsworth, OH.

Elizabeth will be remembered as one who was curious, encouraging, and justice-seeking. She was intelligent, engaged, and humorous. She was a loyal friend and a supportive sister. She brought a spark of life to each day. Several weeks before her death, she was asked what brought her the greatest joy. Her response was being a mother to her two beloved children: daughter, Annika Izant Mueller, and son, Preston Izant Mueller. She loved them with all her heart.

Elizabeth had a passion for music and the arts, playing piano and flute, and she took oboe and mandolin lessons as an adult. As a child in the 1960's, Elizabeth enjoyed putting on shows with her sisters and neighbors in her family's basement. Starting in 1973, Elizabeth performed in summer theatre productions and school productions, even playing the lead role of Laurey in Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* at the University of Durham in the United Kingdom. She grew up horseback riding and swimming, and she thoroughly enjoyed baking using her grandmother's favorite recipes for sour cream cookies and German chocolate cake.

Elizabeth practiced law in northeastern Ohio before moving to Denver and refocusing her life around motherhood and serving as a volunteer docent at the Denver Art Museum for 12 years. She loved giving engaging and entertaining tours to countless school children. She also had a passion for tracing her family's genealogy, and she loved facts and history, always adding to her treasure of knowledge.

Most of all, Elizabeth loved talking and sharing with people. Conversation came easy to her, and she was



deeply compassionate in her care and concern for others, especially those who were struggling with similar medical issues. She provided encouragement to new friends around the world through an online support group for those with cardiomyopathy.

The last twelve years of Elizabeth's life were marked by a series of serious health issues that included a stroke and a brain tumor in 2008, and culminated with a successful heart transplant on August 27, 2019. Elizabeth confronted these challenges with both fear and courage. Saying "yes" to a heart transplant was her gamble for life and a renewed future. For a

brief time, we had hope again. That a rare neurological condition related to the transplant would be the cause of her death, while her new heart was strong, is deeply troubling and profoundly sorrowful.

Elizabeth was preceded in death by her father, Robert Theodore Izant II, in 1985, her mother, Ann Harrington Hunter Izant, in 1995, and her brother, James R. Izant II, in 2013.

She is survived by her loving husband of 29 years, Kent A. Mueller; daughter, Annika Izant Mueller and her partner, Zac Stevens, of Denver; son, Preston Izant Mueller of Cambridge, MA; siblings Holly (Matthew) Izant-McSharry of Riverside, CT, and Phyllis (David McInturff) Izant of Tacoma, WA; sister-in-law, Natalie Izant of Hilton Head, SC; and eight nieces and nephews. Elizabeth's constant companion of four years has been her beloved dog, Orfeo.

Elizabeth had a passion for education. Therefore, memorial contributions may be made to the Elizabeth A. Izant Memorial Scholarship Fund to provide support for students attending Kent State University at Trumbull in Warren, Ohio. A preference is given to students that have received foster care. Gifts may be made payable to the Kent State University Foundation, 350 South Lincoln Street, Kent, Ohio 44242 with "Izant Scholarship #30953" on the memo line. Online gifts may be given at <http://ksu.convio.net/Izant> which is pre-populated to Elizabeth's scholarship fund.

Acknowledgements:

DIVINUM MYSERIUM: Plainsong, 13th century, setting by David von Kampen, by permission of Concordia Publishing House

LITURGY adapted from: Sundays and Seasons ELW Funeral Liturgy and Funeral Service for an Inclusive Community, Rob Stoner, August 2009

<https://progressivechristianity.org/resources/funeral-service-for-an-inclusive-community/>

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: Thanksgiving Table #3 for All Saints Day, Gail Ramshaw, copyright 2013

COVER ART CALLIGRAPHY: A gift from artist Laura R. Norton.

THE PROCESSIONAL CROSS is provided by the Rocky Mountain Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

WE EXTEND heartfelt gratitude to the pastors and staff of Augustana Lutheran Church for their assistance in planning for and arranging for today's worship. We are grateful for the livestreaming and recording of today's liturgy, which will be archived at augustanadenver.org.

Worship Ministers:

Presiding at the Table:

The Rev. Ann Hultquist, Pastor, Augustana Lutheran Church, Denver, CO

Reflections and Sermon:

The Rev. Craig Mueller, Pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL

Presiding at the Liturgy and

Commendation:

The Rev. Caitlin Trussell, Pastor, Augustana Lutheran Church, Denver, CO

Lectors: Zac Stevens and Preston Mueller

Prayers: Phyllis Izant

Presentation of the Bread and Wine:

Andy Martin and Kristen Nordenholz

Ushers: Katherine and Emmett Cruson,

John Richardson, Lynn Nestingen

Altar Guild: Katherine Cruson

Bread Baker: Kent Mueller

Musicians:

Andrew Peters, organ

Craig Mueller, piano

Leslie Remmert Soich, cantor

Keith Williamson, cantor

John Rasmussen, oboe and flute

Sara Markey, viola

Adam Riggs, cello

Preston Mueller, cello

Kent Mueller, cello

Our Gratitude

Elizabeth's family is grateful for your presence today as we give thanks for her life and her love. Following the liturgy, you are invited to gather outside on the west portico and lawn for a time of refreshments and fellowship. We especially appreciate the pastors, staff, and people of Augustana Lutheran Church for their hospitality and assistance with the arrangements for today.

5000 East Alameda Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80246


Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PHONE: 303-388-4678

WEB: www.augustanadenver.org

May 27, 2022

Welcome

- Restrooms are located downstairs beneath the west entrance; handicapped accessible restrooms are on the east side of this level in the hallway behind the chancel.
- Handicapped parking and entrances are available at the Fairfax Street and the Elm Street entrances.
- An elevator is available at the Fairfax Street entrance.
- Please make sure your cell phones are silenced during worship.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.