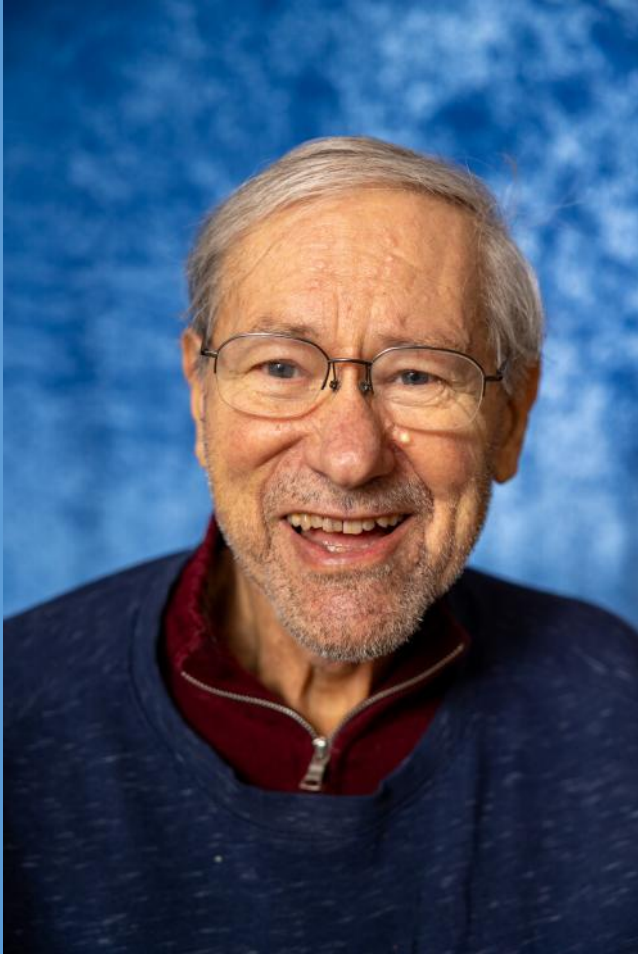


GARY HANSON

November 4, 1937—July 24, 2026



“I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am,
there you may be also.” - *Matthew 14:3*

Memorial Service
GARY HANSON

November 4th, 1937—July 24th, 2026

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

✠ **GATHERING** ✠

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 Gary, to give thanks for his
life, to commend him to our merciful Redeemer, and to comfort
one another in our grief. **Amen.**

+ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his
death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,
we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in
a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection
like his.

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.

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. **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.

We worship you.

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

+ GATHERING HYMN *“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”* ELW #779
stanzas 1, 4, & 5

+ APOSTOLIC 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

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today
our brother Gary. 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 we are gathered
to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

PSALM Psalm 23

read by Broderick Johanson, Gary's grandson-in-law

The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need.

² He lets me rest in the fields of green grass
and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water.

³ He gives me new strength.
He guides me in the right paths,
as he has promised.

⁴ Even if I go through the deepest
darkness,

I will not be afraid, Lord,
for you are with me.

Your shepherd's rod and staff
protect me.

⁵ You prepare a banquet for me,
where all my enemies can see me;
you welcome me as an honored guest
and fill my cup to the brim.

⁶ I know that your goodness and
love will be with me all my life;
and your house will be my home as long as I live.

READING Romans 6: 31-39

read by Tom Hanson, Gary's grandson

A reading from Romans.

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, how 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 who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction 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 victorious 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. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTIONS *offered by Chanen Hanson, Becca Hanson, & Sarah Johanson,
Gary's granddaughters*

HOLY GOSPEL John 13: 34-35, 14:1-3

The gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(Jesus said to his disciples,) ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

¹'Do 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.'

The gospel of our Lord. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOMILY

Pastor Ben Schori

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *"When Peace like a River"*

ELW #785

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.

THE PRAYERS

Good and gracious God, we pray for the church. Bless those, like Gary, who come alongside your people and excel at taking on and completing a project. Inspire us to envision and build your beloved community together. Bless this congregation, Bethel Lutheran Church, which meant so much to Gary and his family. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. For national parks, mountains, and all the wild places of this world that provide the kind of adventures that Gary loved. We also pray for the strength and beauty of horses as companions on those journeys. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace and justice in the world. For the support and well being of our Native American siblings and the support of Native children, which was so important to Gary. May we value the sacredness of the land and remember those in rural places who work with and for the land. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick and lonely. For those who suffer the challenges of Dementia, that they experience dignity compassion amid their cognitive decline. We give thanks for care givers, medical providers and researchers working to improve care for those with the disease. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who mourn. Surround Gary's family, friends, and communities with your love, that they might lean on you in their loss, have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come. May our memories bless and inspire us. Lord, in your 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 people. 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.**

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and forever. Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

+ COMMENDATION

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Gary.
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.**

+ BENEDICTION

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight;
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

We sing our farewell to this beloved member of our community.

+ SENDING HYMN “Day by Day” ELW #790

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

You are invited to a reception in the Christian Life Center.



Pastor
Pastor Ben Schori

organ & piano
Megan Engel

Bulletins provided with love by Bethel Lutheran Church

