

Celebration of Life
JERRY LEE GERMUNSON
October 17, 2026



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JERRY LEE GERMUNDSON
December 12, 1936– September 16, 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 Jerry, 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** *"This Is My Father's World"* ELW #824

+ **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 Jerry. We thank you for giving his 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** ✠

READING Psalm 1: 1-3

*read by Kaare Sanness -- nephew of
Jerry*

A reading from Psalms.

¹ Happy are those
 who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread
 or sit in the seat of scoffers,
² but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
 and on his law they meditate day and night.
³ They are like trees
 planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
 and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

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

REVELATION 22: 1-5*read by Heather Johnson -- niece of Jerry*

A reading from Revelation.

Then the angel^[a] showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life^[b] with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

REFLECTIONS*offered by Mukesh Agarnal--Son-in-Law***HYMN***"When Peace like a River"*

ELW #785

+ HOLY GOSPEL John 14:1-6

A reading from the gospel of John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁴ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In 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? ³ And 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. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

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

THE PRAYERS

Lord, we pray for the well being of creation. We thank you for the home that Jerry and Sandy lived in for many years that is nestled in the midst of a mature forest. Just as Jerry did, help us to find joy and inspiration through your creation. Use us to be good stewards of everything you have made.

Lord, thank you for the gift of family and loving relationships. We thank you for Jerry and Sandy's marriage of almost 59 years and for the love they have given to their family and friends. Help us to establish positive relationships that are filled with love, respect and forgiveness.

Lord, thank you for Jerry's work with the Minnesota DNR, his service as a teacher, and as mail carrier for the United States Postal Services. Help us to do our tasks well and use them to bless your world and your people. Empower us like Jerry to bear good fruits.

Lord, the generations rise and pass away before you. You are the strength of those who labor; you are the rest of the blessed dead. We rejoice in the company of your saints. We remember all those who lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and especially those most dear to us who rest in you... Give us in time our portion with those who have trusted in you and striven to do your holy will.

To your name, with the church on earth and the church in heaven, we ascribe all glory and honor, 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 Jerry to the mercy of God, our maker
and redeemer.

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

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 Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Amen.**

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

+ SENDING HYMN "Beautiful Savior" ELW #838

POSTLUDE

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

Remember Me

Don't remember me with sadness,
Don't remember me with tears,
Remember all the *laughter*,
We've shared throughout the years.
Now I am contented,
That my life it was *worthwhile*,
Knowing that I passed along the way,
I made somebody *smile*.
When you are walking down the street,
And you've *got me on your mind*,
I'm walking in your footsteps,
Only half a step behind.
So please don't be *unhappy*,
Just because I'm out of sight,
Remember that *I'm with you*,
Each morning, noon,
and night.

Pastor
Pastor Phil Ruud

pianist
Sarah Hoplin -- relative of Jerry

Bulletins provided with love by Bethel Lutheran Church.

