

Celebration of Life
JOHN DAVID LEHMKUHL
October 30, 2026



Celebration of Life
JOHN DAVID LEHMKUHL
November 23, 1977 – October 6, 2026

PRELUDE “Come As You Are” Nirvana

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

+ GATHERING SONG “Here and Now”



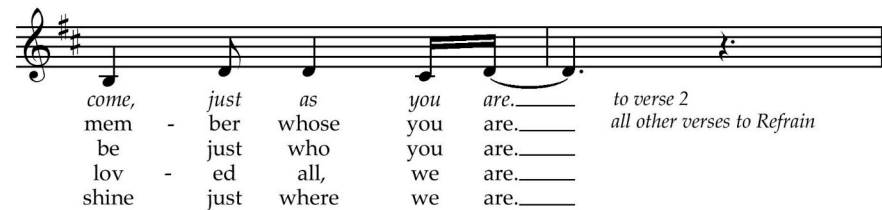
1. Per - haps you have come_ down a well trav - eled road_
2. So ma - ny the sto - ries we car - ry and tend,_
3. Con - sid - er the lil - ies, they have - n't a care;_
4. Im - ag - ine a world where op - pres - sion will cease,_
5. The Spir - it is blow - ing wher - ev - er she will,_



bring - ing your hopes_ and your ques - tions un - told or
beau - ty and bro - ken - ness, wait - ing to mend. So
think of the spar - rows whose song is a prayer and
just - ice and mer - cy will blos - som in peace and
stir - ring our hearts, heav - en's call to ful - fill. May



may - be you're hold - ing too heav - y a load. O
come to this place_ from what - ev - er has been; re -
know you're cre - a - ted, if on - ly you dare, to
all of cre - a - tion will join in the feast: be -
we be a bea - con of light on a hill to



come, just as you are.____ to verse 2
mem - ber whose you are.____ all other verses to Refrain
be just who you are.____
lov - ed all, we are.____
shine just where we are.____



Here we are, on this sac - red ground.____



Heav - en dwells a-mong us here____ and now.

+ 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

Everlasting God, you are our refuge and strength, a shelter in this
time of need. We remember before you today our beloved, John.
We thank you for giving him to us to know and love, and for his
impact on our lives. Give us faith to trust that death has a word,
but not the last word. Help us to hang on to the hope we have in
Jesus, that there is life after death and love that endures forever.
Console us with your presence-- ease our loneliness, dispel our
fears, and revive our hope, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

✧ WORD ✧

The introduction to the reading and the readings are by

Janice Lehmkuhl, John's mom.

READINGS: John 13:34
1 Thessalonians 5:18
Matthew 6:25-34
Romans 8:38-39

ANTHEM "Lean on Me" Bill Withers *sung by Jennifer Armour*

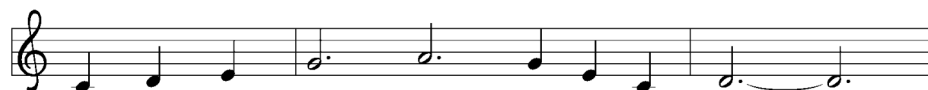
REFLECTIONS *from Eric Thorne, Paul Matthis & Kevin Lang, friends*

HOMILY *Rev. Denny Moon, John's cousin*

HYMN OF THE DAY "Morning has Broken" ELW #556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

THE PRAYERS

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Good and gracious God, we pray for the church. We give thanks for how John connected his Lutheran tradition with wider conversations on meaning and the universe. Keep us all humble before divine mystery and focus us on your love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the well-being of creation, from cross-country running trails and frisbee fields to mountains and lakes. Bless especially the places that John found peace, like the Black Hills and Sylvan Lake. We give thanks for the practices that strengthen the connection between body and mind, and between body and earth, like doing yoga or going barefoot and touching grass. Nurture in us a sense of being part of something bigger. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace and justice. We give thanks for how ferociously John loved his people, building up individuals and community, whether as brother, son, or uncle, or as bandmate, coach, teacher, and friend. Give us a measure of his commitment to the people whose lives we touch.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for power of music, to motivate and move, heal and inspire. We especially give thanks for the joy and expression John found through violin, voice, and guitar. Weave us all into your great symphony, and make us instruments of your peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, and especially those who face cancer. Strengthen and support the family and friends who face each challenge alongside them. Bless Mayo and Brighton Hospice for the care they provide. Bless the efforts of researchers seeking new treatments.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all grace, comfort all who mourn. Surround John's family and friends with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by this loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come. May the memories of John bless and inspire all who knew him. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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

Merciful God, we entrust John to your eternal care.
Look upon him with favor and joy,
as a child of your own creation,
a sheep of your own fold,
a sinner you redeemed with love on the cross.
Receive him into your holy presence, into your everlasting peace,
into the light and song of all your saints. **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.**

+ SENDING HYMN *"We Are Marching in the Light"* ELW #866

POSTLUDE

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



presiding pastor
Pastor Phil Ruud

guitar
Sam Ryden

keyboards
Megan Engel

Bulletins provided with love by Bethel Lutheran Church.

