

LITURGY OF THE RESURRECTION Celebrating the Grace of God in the Life and Faith of

Elaine Camille Garbe Koenig 1926-2021

Grace Lutheran Church | Malverne, New York | December 19, 2021

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart ELW #800

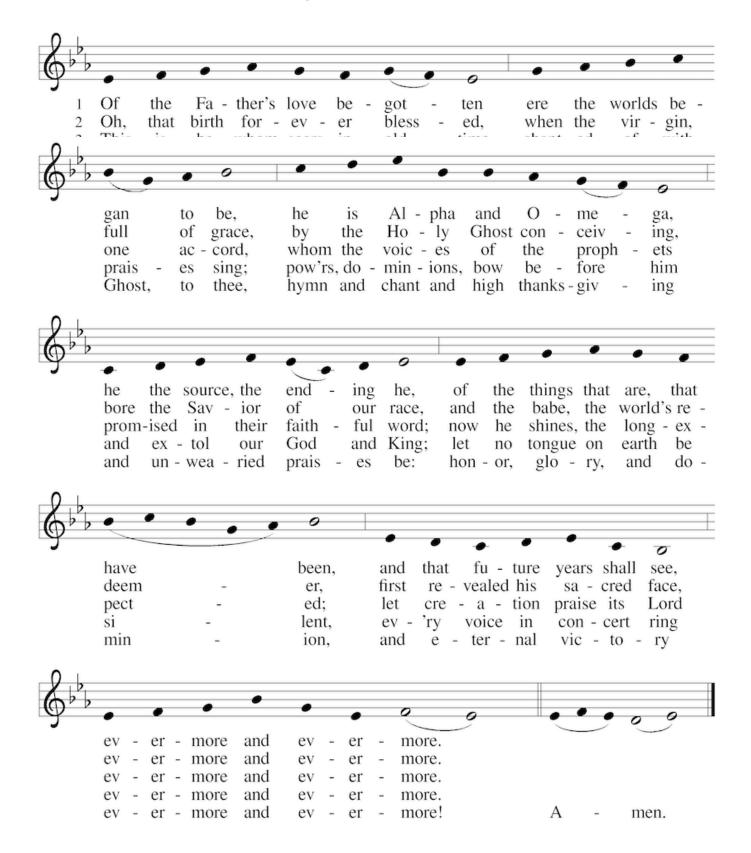


Text: George Croly, 1780–1860 Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841–189

What Can It Mean that Jesus is Arisen?



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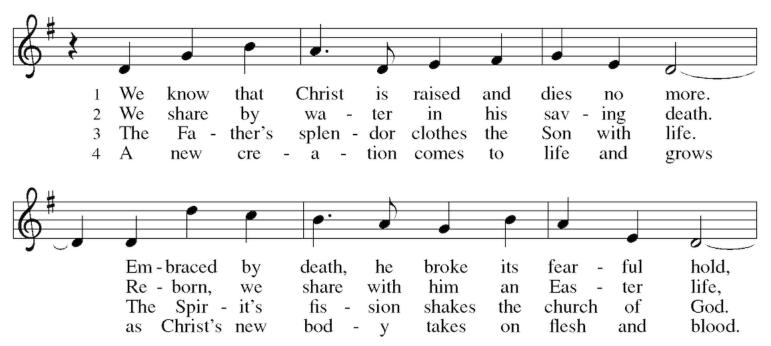
Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–413; tr. composite Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

GATHERING (Stand)

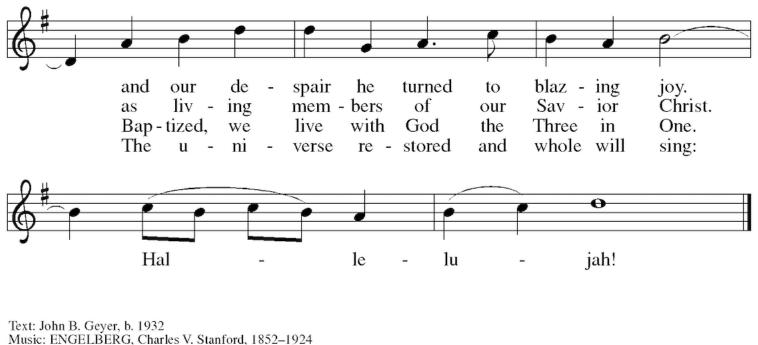
P: Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister Elaine, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and comfort another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: 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 in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.



GATHERING HYMN: We Know that Christ Is Raised #449



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GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray:

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Elaine. We thank you for giving her to us to know and 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 Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD (Sit) Readings

Psalm 71: 15-18

- My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long, though their number is past my knowledge.
- **16** I will come praising the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will praise your righteousness, yours alone.
- **17** O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.
- 18 So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come.

2 Corinthians 5:7; 14-15

7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

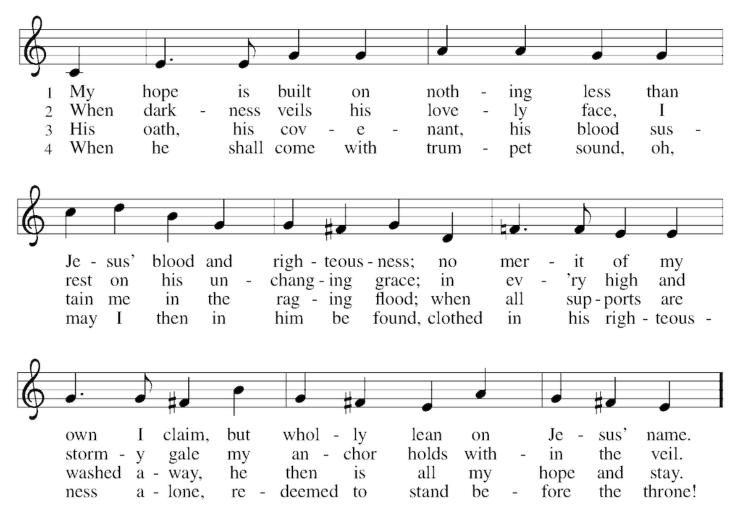
14 For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. **15** And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<u>John 15: 4-11</u>

4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. **5** I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. **6** Whoever does not abide in me is

thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. **7** If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become[<u>c</u>] my disciples. **9** As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. **10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. **11** I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY: My Hope is Built on Nothing Less #597



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

APOSTLES' CREED (Stand)

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 (Sit or Kneel)

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

Hear us Lord.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and the gate of death we may pass with Christ in our joyful resurrection.

Hear us Lord.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Hear us Lord.

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

Hear us Lord.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence that in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Hear us Lord.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

Hear us Lord.

In the midst of things we cannot understand, help us to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection of the life everlasting.

Hear us Lord.

Grant us grace to entrust Elaine to your never-failing love which sustained her in this life. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, and remember her according to the favor you bear for your people.

Hear us Lord.

God, 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 who have 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 have striven to do your holy will. To your name, with the Church on earth and the

Church in heaven, we ascribe all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

SENDING *(Stand)* Commendation

P: Let us commend Elaine to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

(Silence is kept)

P: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Elaine. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of all the saints in light.

C: Amen.

Now, Lord You Let Your Servant Go in Peace

BLESSING

- P: Let us go forth in peace.
- C: In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE (Sit)

(Following the conclusion of the service, there will be a time for remembrances. Congregation is invited to remain seated.)

PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY AND SUPPORT STAFF

Presiding	The Rev. A.	David Anglada

	Preaching	The Rev. James A. Y. Klocka
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Organist	Henry DeVries
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Vocalist......Karen Henry

Readers......Mary Koenig Leake, David Koenig

Audio/Visual Support.....Neeyoh Robinson Green

Parish Administrator......Tiffany Walker

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND MEMORIALS

The Koenig and Leake families would like to thank the people of Grace Lutheran Church, Malverne, NY, Grace Lutheran Church, Astoria, NY, Astoria Lutheran School, Astoria, NY, Bethany Lutheran Church, Cromwell, CT, and Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Hicksville, NY as well as their pastors and ministers of music, for their support and hospitality.

Front Cover: Mother and Child Elaine C. Koenig

What Can It Mean That Jesus is Arisen?

Written to honor the lives and ministries of

Richard and Elaine Koenig

Robert J. Weaver and William A. Pasch

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Those wishing to memorialize Elaine C. Koenig with a gift are invited to consider contributing to one of the following:

Bethany Lutheran Church 50 Court Street Cromwell CT 06416

Grace Lutheran Church and School

400 Hempstead Avenue Malverne, NY 11565

Immanuel Lutheran Church

867 North Pleasant Street Amherst, MA 01002

Grace Lutheran Church

21-20 21st Avenue Astoria, NY 11105

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

40 W Nicholai St Hicksville, NY 11801

Covenant Living of Cromwell

52 Missionary Road Cromwell CT 06416

Or

A charity of your passion and choosing.

Elaine Camille (Garbe) Koenig June 26, 1926 - October 23, 2021

Born June 19, 1926 in Jamaica, Queens, Elaine was the daughter of Frederick and Marguerite Garbe. Elaine grew up in Valley Stream (Long Island), New York. Out of high school she set off for commercial art school in Manhattan. Over the years her paintings and sculptures would be viewed on the covers of periodicals; her works also appeared in regional museums. Some of Elaine's personal favorites were works depicting images from the Biblical Gospels. Long Island and New England scenery were regular features. She was also a professionally trained vocal artist and an ardent gardener.

For Elaine, service to others was a deep and abiding passion. In 1952 this did not go unnoticed by Richard Koenig, the vicar-intern of her church in Seaford, NY. Elaine and Richard were married 59 years until his passing in 2011.

Elaine had an intuitive sense for reaching out to those underserved. In the 1960's she, along with the women of her church, organized clothing drives. With contacts in one the nation's poorest counties, (Martin County, KY) clothes and supplies were delivered to them for many years (sometimes by Elaine in-person). Elaine's compassion for others included ministering to residents and patients in nursing homes and hospitals. The many profound conversations Elaine had with people in their final moments of life led her to be a writer and lecturer on the subject of death and dying.

An avid reader of theological and social commentaries, Elaine was a popular teacher and facilitator of small group discussions; she taught every age group – nursery age to seniors. (Elaine began teaching church Bible class for adults when she was 16.) In the 1970's she received the support of Amherst (MA) church leaders which formed the Layman's Academy for Oecumenical Studies (LAOS) and established a Christian bookstore (unheard of in those times), which she operated and managed. In later years her shelves included one of her own books, *Mary's Son - Mary's Lord.*

Elaine was an instrument of peace in a number of ways. Besides her role as a pastor's wife and mother of their children, Elaine's sagacity for touching hearts and raising spirits proved to be her primary gift to the world. Even in her final days, she remained a difference-maker for the residents and staff at Covenant Village (Cromwell, CT), her home for 17 years.

Preceded in death were husband Richard, parents Fredrick and Marguerite Garbe, and brother Edwin Garbe. Surviving is son David Koenig (Lynn) of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Mary-Elaine Leake (Francis) of Baldwin, NY and grandsons Andrew Koenig and Ryan Leake.

For all the faithful women who served in days of old, To God shall thanks be given, her story has been told. She served with strength and gladness in tasks God's wisdom gave. To God her life bore witness, proclaimed God's power to save.

Hymn text by Herman G. Stuemple (with revisions)