Service of Christian Burial
for
Masih Salik

November 11, 2021
11:30 AM

Ascension Lutheran Church
“The Good News Place”
855 Jarry Street West
Montreal, QC H3N 1G8

Rev. Charles St-Onge, Pastor
Emilie Stoller-Prozenko, Deaconess
Solo

1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
   That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
   Was blind but now I see!

Text: Public domain

744 Amazing Grace

2 The Lord has promised good to me,
   His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
   As long as life endures.

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
   I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
   His grace will lead me home.

4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
   And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
   In heaven’s joy and peace.

5 When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
   Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
   Than when we’d first begun.

Text: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Remembrance of Baptism

P In Holy Baptism Masih was clothed with the robe of Christ’s righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul says: “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”
C We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy upon us.
C Christ, have mercy upon us.
   Lord, have mercy upon us.
Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Masih and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

P The L ORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
C He makes me lie down in green pastures.
P He leads me beside still waters.
C He restores my soul.
P He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
P Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
C I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
P your rod and your staff,
C they comfort me.
P You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil;
C my cup overflows.
P Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
C and I shall dwell in the house of the L ORD forever.
P Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
C As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse

A Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
C to Him be glory and power forever. Alleluia.
Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

After the reading... 

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles’ Creed

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
    maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
   The third day He rose again from the dead.
   He ascended into heaven
   and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
   From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
   the holy Christian Church,
   the communion of saints,
   the forgiveness of sins,
   the resurrection of the body,
   and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sit

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
   What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
   He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
   He lives, my ever-living head.

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
   He lives eternally to save;
   He lives all-glorious in the sky;
   He lives exalted there on high.

3 He lives to bless me with His love;
   He lives to plead for me above;
   He lives my hungry soul to feed;
   He lives to help in time of need.
4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
   He lives to guide me with His eye;
   He lives to comfort me when faint;
   He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
   He lives to wipe away my tears;
   He lives to calm my troubled heart;
   He lives all blessings to impart.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav’nly friend;
   He lives and loves me to the end;
   He lives, and while He lives, I’ll sing;
   He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
   He lives, and I shall conquer death;
   He lives my mansion to prepare;
   He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
   He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
   Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
   I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Kneel/Stand

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.

Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into 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 peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.
Give to the family of Masih and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive our thanks for Masih and for all the blessings You bestowed on him in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with him we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence 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, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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 ever. Amen.
Nunc Dimittis

“A I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”

Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal You to the nations
and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

“A I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”

Concluding Collect

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
After the prayer:
Amen.

Family Remembrances

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Benediction and Dismissal

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
Amen.

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

922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1 Go, My children, with My blessing, / Never alone.
   Waking, sleeping, I am with you; / You are My own.
   In My love’s baptismal river / I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing— You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven, / At peace and pure.
   Here you learned how much I love you, / What I can cure.
   Here you heard My dear Son’s story; / Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven, / At peace and pure.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, / Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, / Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit’s power filled you; / Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished, / Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you / And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you / And give you peace:  
I the Lord will be your Father, / Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, My children; I will keep you / And give you peace.

Footprints in the Sand

Mary Powers (nee Fishback) claims she wrote the poem on a Canadian Thanksgiving weekend in 1964 while at Echo Lake near Kingston, Ontario. It was a favourite of Masih’s.

One night I dreamed a dream.  
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.  
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.  
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,  
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,  
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.  
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,  
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,  
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.  
"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,  
You'd walk with me all the way.  
But I noticed that during the saddest  
and most troublesome times of my life,  
there was only one set of footprints. I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you  
Never, ever, during your trials and testings. When you saw only one  
set of footprints, It was then that I carried you."