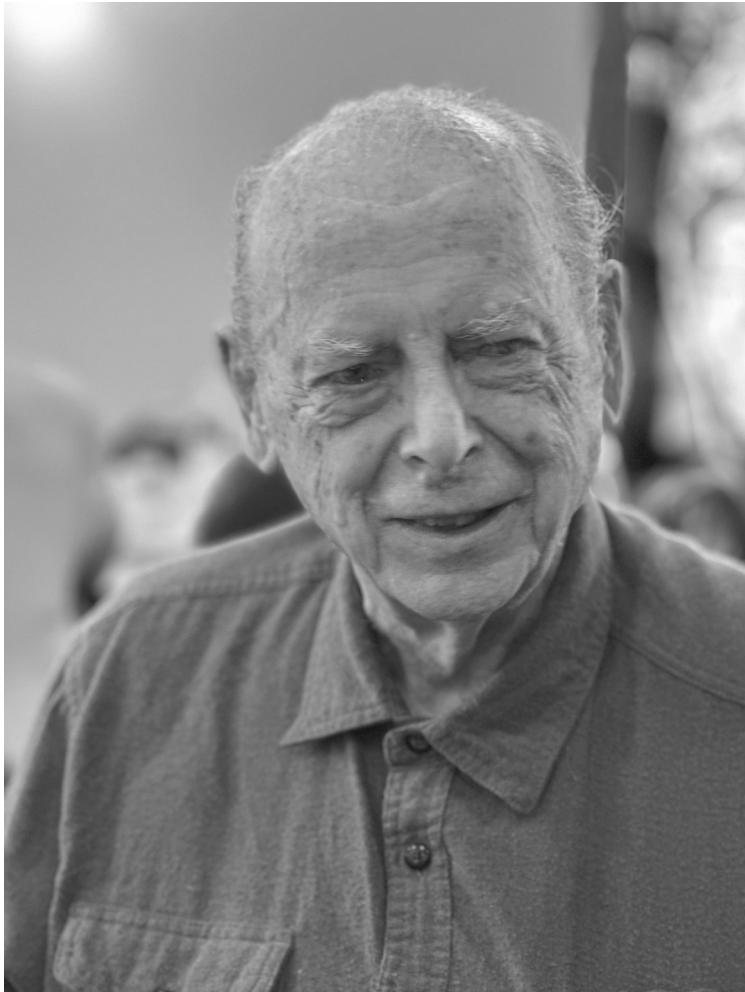


Donald S. Thorson

Born into Eternal Life January 11, 2026



February 7, 2026

*St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Pewaukee, WI*

The Burial of the Dead

Please stand.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.

Whoever has faith in me shall have life,
even though he die.

And everyone who has life,
and has committed himself to me in faith,
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awaking, he will raise me up;
and in my body I shall see God.

I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in ourself,
and none becomes our own master when we die.

For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,
and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die,
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on
are those who die in the Lord!
So it is, says the Spirit,
for they rest from their labors.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Don, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Don's family in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word *(Please be seated)*

Reader: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah

Reader: Julia Crandall

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: Now The Day Is Over

Blue Hymnal #42

Reader: A reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans

Reader: Marianne Crandall

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.

Who 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. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

The Gradual Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Blue Hymnal #645 (verse 1 before the Gospel, verse 6 after)

The Gospel (means “Good News”)

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (6:37-40)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away, for I have come down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.”

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Words of Remembrance

Brian Thorson

The Homily

The Rev. Joel A. Prather

All stand and say together the Apostles' Creed. The Celebrant introduces the Creed with these words

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

Celebrant and People

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 of the People

Reader: Tommy Bews

Reader: For our brother Don, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, “I am Resurrection and I am Life.”

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Don, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Reader: You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Reader: You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Reader: You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Reader: Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Reader: He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Reader: Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Don, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Sharing "peace" with one another is an ancient Christian tradition, not only in the words of Jesus, but also in the practices of the Christian community. As you are comfortable, you are welcome to shake hands when we pass the peace. Please respect those that are not comfortable with hand shaking. A simple nod or the peace sign is also a meaningful way to share the peace of Christ.

The Holy Communion

Oblationers: Gregg and Amy Fechtelkotter

Offertory Hymn: Eternal Father, Strong To Save (The Navy Hymn)

Blue Hymnal #608

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People sing together

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Blue Hymnal S124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel. Then the celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **[Amen.]**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **[Amen.]**

About Communion at St. Bartholomew's

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us, including children. If this doesn't describe where you're at, you are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing which you can indicate by crossing your hands over your heart. Or feel free to stay in your seat to pray or reflect.

Please come to the Celebrant in center in front of the altar to receive the Bread. Small cups of wine are presented to the right and left of the Celebrant. We use alcoholic wine. Take a cup of wine, place the empty cup in the bowl at the end of the rail and return to your seat. Thank you.

If you need Communion brought to you just let one of our Ushers know. We have gluten-free bread available.

COMMUNION HYMN 1: We Gather Together **Blue Hymnal 433**

COMMUNION HYMN 2: My Faith Looks Up To Thee

Blue Hymnal 691

COMMUNION HYMN 3: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Blue Hymnal 657

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

The Commendation

Celebrant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
People: where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Celebrant: You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Celebrant: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Don. 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.**

Choral Benediction: The Lord Bless You and Keep You

CLOSING HYMN: Lift Up Your Heads

Blue Hymnal 436



You are invited to join the family for a reception in the Parish Hall.

Donald S. Thorson

January 21, 1926 - January 11, 2026



Donald Stener Thorson (Don), of Milwaukee, was called home on January 11, 2026, 10 days shy of his 100th birthday. Dad will be forever 99.

Don was born on January 21, 1926, in Superior, WI. Don was fifteen when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor and shortly after he enrolled in the V12 Navy officer training program, eighteen months later he was inducted into the Navy. After high school graduation, he reported for duty to the V12 unit at the University of Minnesota. Following Japan's surrender in August 1945 the war was over, and Don's class had dodged a bullet. Don received his Navy diploma, commissioned as an Ensign in the USNR, in October 1945 and shipped out to Pearl Harbor. Dad served on the YMS-467, a wooden-hulled ship used for minesweeping near Yokosuka, Japan. In August of 1946, he transferred to the Navy's Ready Reserve and returned to the University of Minnesota to resume his studies under the GI Bill majoring in electrical engineering. He graduated in June 1948 and a month later started his 50-year career at Cutler-Hammer/Eaton Corp. in Milwaukee.

Don met his future wife Joyce at a sorority party through his friend Warren "Bud" Crandall. Bud's sister Joyce was thrilled when she realized Don was an eligible bachelor and they began spending more time together at parties and dances. Joyce and Don married in June 1949 and were married for almost 60 years.

Joyce and Don raised their four children in Brookfield, WI. Family, faith, and music meant everything to Don. He was a dedicated son, brother, husband, father, and grand/great-grand father. He enthusiastically participated in the church vestry and choir at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church and later St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church of Pewaukee. Don served his community in many ways; Board of Education, AFS, and Scouting.

A lifelong relationship with St. John's Home of Milwaukee (now known at Saint John's On The Lake) began in the early 1970s when Joyce became Director of Volunteers and Social Activities at St. John's Home on Cass Street. Don and the kids were very busy as Joyce's go-to volunteers.

In the early 2000s, Joyce and Don moved to Saint John's On The Lake. Don sang in the St. John's Singers for many years and remained active at St. Bart's. He enjoyed breakfast every day with his friends at the community table in the bistro ordering the same breakfast which the St. John's staff fondly called "the Don". Don was very involved at St. John's and loved to play bridge with fellow residents.

On May 18, 2024, son Brian accompanied Don on his Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. Don was the only WWII veteran on the flight.

Don is preceded in death by his beloved wife Joyce, sister Norma, and his parents Stener and Mabel. Don is survived by daughter Ann, sons David (Randi), Brian (Jamie), and Daniel (Mandy). Don was Papa T to grandchildren Stephen (Kristen), James (Krystal), Julia, Drew, Brad (Matt), Kaley, Jacob (Bethany), and Joshua, as well as great-grandchildren Kendall, Lia, Tristan, and Trevor, and many nieces and nephews.

Don lived an exemplary life and will be missed beyond measure. The Thorson family wishes to thank the staff of Saint John's On The Lake and Legacy Hospice for everything they did for Don and the family as Don made the transition to the next step on his journey.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to
St. John's On The Lake <https://saintjohnsmilw.org/>,
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church <https://stbartspewaukee.com/>,
or charity of your choice.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUNDAY'S @ 10AM—WORSHIP WITH US

IN PERSON OR ONLINE

.....

N27W24000 Paul Court

Pewaukee, WI 53072

www.StBartsPewaukee.com