

A SERVICE TO THE GLORY OF JESUS CHRIST

Vern Johnson

August 25, 1929 – December 6, 2020

February 27, 2021 - 11:00 AM

The Christian Funeral is a celebration of victory for those having faith in Jesus Christ. The confidence, trust, and hope that Christians have in the resurrection of the dead and life everlasting lead us, based solely on the certainty of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself said: ***"I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die!"***

+ ORDER OF SERVICE +

(Please Stand)

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM:

Pastor: In Holy Baptism Vern 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?"

People: 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.

INTROIT: Psalm 91:9-13; antiphon: vv. 15-16

Pastor: When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

People: I will rescue him and honor him.

Pastor: With long life I will satisfy him

People: and show him my salvation.

Pastor: Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—

People: the Most High, who is my refuge—

Pastor: no evil shall be allowed to befall you,

People: no plague come near your tent.

Pastor: For he will command his angels concerning you

People: to guard you in all your ways.

Pastor: On their hands they will bear you up,

People: lest you strike your foot against a stone.

Pastor: You will tread on the lion and the adder;

People: the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

**All: 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.**

Pastor: When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

People: I will rescue him and honor him.

Pastor: With long life I will satisfy him

People: and show him my salvation.

KYRIE:

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Vern 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.

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:28-31; 49:13

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23: (KJV)

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

All: **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.**

EPISTLE: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

VERSE:

Leader: If we have died with Christ, we shall also live with Him;

People: if we are faithful to the end, we shall reign with Him.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1-6

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED:

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

People: 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.

(Please Be Seated)

HYMN: LSB # 878 “Abide with Me”

SERMON: “Come to the Father” John 14:1-6

HYMN: LSB # 570 “Just as I Am, without One Plea”

(Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Each petition will end with:

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

The final petition will end with:

Leader: ... in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

PRAYER:

Leader: We thank You that You have given Vern a long life of grace and pray that You would grant that we, too, may die in peace and receive the crown of everlasting glory. Lord in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER:

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

People: 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:

Pastor: "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."

**People: 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.**

Pastor: "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:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the
lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring
them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the
resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with
those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus
Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May God the Father, who created Vern; may God the
+ Son, who by His blood redeemed him; may God the
Holy Spirit, who by Holy Baptism sanctified him to be His
temple, keep Vern to the day of the resurrection of all
flesh.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, by the death of Your Son
Jesus Christ You destroyed death, by His rest in the tomb
You sanctified the graves of Your saints, and by His bodily
resurrection You brought life and immortality to light so
that all who die in Him abide in peace and hope.
Receive our thanks for the victory over death and the
grave that He won for us. Keep us in everlasting
communion with all who wait for Him on earth and with

all in heaven who are with Him, for He is the resurrection and the life, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION:

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace,

People: in the name of the Lord. Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

HYMN: LSB # 801 "How Great Thou Art"

+ SOLA DEO GLORIA +



The Pascal Candle

The Pascal Candle is used in the Christian funeral service. This candle symbolizes how each Christian is baptized into the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and through that Baptism, has the hope in the resurrection of the dead and the life eternal with God in heaven. We praise God for His marvelous grace and mercy to each believer.

Serving in the Lord's House:

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Cave

Assistant: Deacon Dennis Froemming – Deacon Jo Tinsley

Organist: Dale Nyboer

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***A Member of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod
(Pacific Southwest District)***

See us on the web at: lambogodlhcaz.org or

Email us at: office.loglhcaz@gmail.com



LaVerne (Vern) Everett Johnson, Retired Captain, United States Marine Corps, went to be with the Lord Jesus on Sunday, December 6, 2020. Vern was born In Eau Claire, Wisconsin, August 25th, 1929. He was 91 years old, the first born of ten siblings. He married his loving wife of 70 years, Frances (Fran) Gueldner on June 17, 1950. He is survived by Frances and his five children, Gary (Ann) Johnson, Steven (Jill) Johnson, Connolyn "Connie" (Ernie) Blackwell, Randal "Randy" Johnson, Bryan (Linda) Johnson, his 11 grandchildren, 12 great-grand children, three remaining siblings, Donald (Diane) Johnson, Joyce (Stan) Davidson and Carol (Tom) Strassman, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Vern was a very proud 23-year Marine Corps Veteran, who served two tours in the Korean War and two tours in Vietnam, 13 months each tour. When he retired from the military he had a second career as a corporate executive with Military Rental, Inc. After retiring from corporate life, he worked with his nephew Richard Hanson, in his fencing business in Salinas, California, before his retirement finally stuck and he relocated to Lake Havasu City, Arizona in 1997.

Vern and Frances traveled the country in their motorhome on lengthy vacations for many years, visiting friends and family and square dancing, which they both thoroughly enjoyed. He furnished his home with several furniture pieces of his own creation. He loved to work in his backyard workshop.

Vern was a member of the Marine Corps League, the Elks Lodge, and the American Legion in Lake Havasu City.

He was a member of the Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Lake Havasu City where he was well respected for his faithfulness, generosity and quiet leadership.

A memorial service will be held at Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Lake Havasu City, AZ, complete with military color guard, on Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 11:00 am

Our hearts are heavy for our loss, but we know that he's enjoying the eternity and joy that God has promised all believers. We celebrate his life and the influence he had on us of being responsible, accountable, and remaining in faith until God calls all of us to our heavenly home with our Lord Jesus.