

Funeral for Sandie Spohler

CELEBRATION OF THE ETERNAL LIFE GIVEN TO

Sandra Kay Spohler

NOVEMBER 24, 1939 † OCTOBER 23, 2020

Wednesday, October 28, 2020 – 10:00 am
St. Martin's Lutheran Church – Archbold, Ohio
Rev. Paul Reichert, Officiating

A Christian funeral service is a service of worship intended for the strength and comfort of the living. It is focused upon Jesus Christ's triumph over death and His promise of eternal life to all who believe.

*The large white **Paschal Candle** is placed on a stand near the baptismal font as a visual reminder that in our baptism, we are crucified and resurrected with Christ. The candle is lighted at each celebration of Baptism, at which time small baptismal candles are lighted from it for presentation to the baptized or sponsor. This act is a visual reminder of the integral connection between Baptism and Easter. For funerals, the paschal candle is also lighted. The paschal candle proclaims the message of Romans 6:3-5 (used at the beginning of the funeral liturgy): "In our Baptism we have already died and been raised with Christ."*

*Today we also celebrate **Holy Communion**. In Communion, the living bread and the cup of salvation, shared in community, is full of healing power for those who grieve. On the night before his own death, Jesus gave his disciples this holy meal; on the day of resurrection, the risen Christ brought joy to the grieving disciples at Emmaus through the breaking of the bread. This sacrament is the gracious sign of the completion of baptism, the foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and the anticipation of all the faithful reunited before God and the Lamb.*

*The white **Funeral Pall** that is placed on the casket reminds us of our baptism and that all who are baptized into Christ have clothed themselves with Christ, emphasizing our equality in God's sight. No one person has any special claim, and all of us leave this life as we were born into it—with nothing except being wrapped in God's love. The imagery on the pall is based on John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches." We place this pall as a reminder that we come before God clothed only with our baptism.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace – arr. R. Hobby
Abide with Me – arr. R. Hobby

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM – *Please stand as you are able*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God. (*2 Corinthians 1:3-4*)

Thanks be to God.

When we were baptized into 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 with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (*Romans 6:3-5*)

ETERNAL GOD, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

We glorify you.

JESUS CHRIST, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

We praise you.

HOLY SPIRIT, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

Amen.



HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me



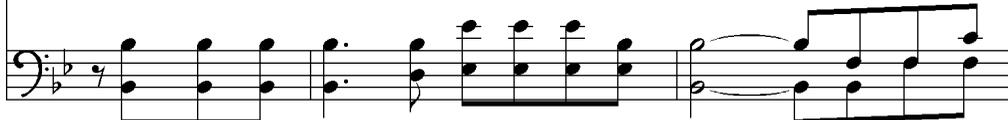
all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
 gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
 bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
 ra-tion and there pro-claim, “My God, how great thou art!”



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to

thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

GREETING AND PRAYER

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:14*)

And also with you.

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

Amen.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

PSALM 23 – *Read together in unison*

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul;
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
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.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil;
My cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

ISAIAH 40:28-31

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

DEUTERONOMY 31:6

⁶ Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the LORD your God
who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 TIMOTHY 4:6-8

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

FAMILY REMEMBRANCES

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Always on My Mind”

Jacob Lowe & Alex Uhler

Sandie's nephew and niece

GOSPEL READING

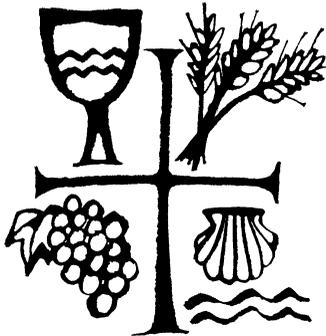
MATTHEW 5:14-16

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

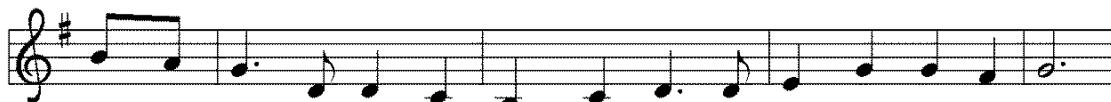


HYMN

"Borning Cry"



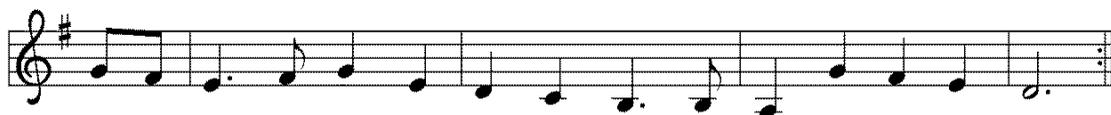
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some - one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,

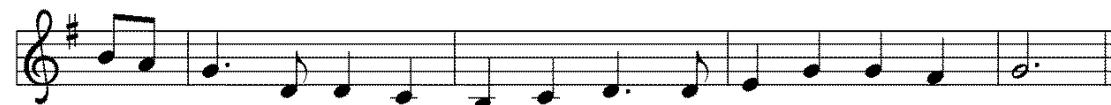


in a blaze of light you wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."

Repeat back to the beginning for Verses 2 & 3



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PROFESSION OF FAITH – *Apostles' Creed*

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

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 into hell.**

**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

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

→

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain 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 in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. *We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you".*

HOLY COMMUNION

THE THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are holy, O God of majesty, and holy is your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. He lived as one of us, and knew our joy, our pain and sorrow, and our death. By his death on the cross you revealed that your love has no limit. By raising him from death you conquered the last enemy, crushed all evil powers, and gave new life to the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and wine and joyfully celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts of bread and wine. By your Holy Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name.

Remember our sister Sandie, whose baptism is now complete in death. Bring her into your eternal joy and light, together with all who have died in the peace of Christ; through him, with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

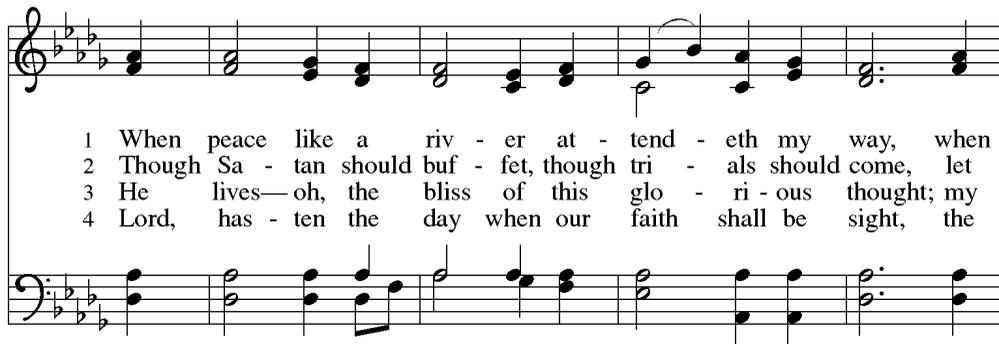
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

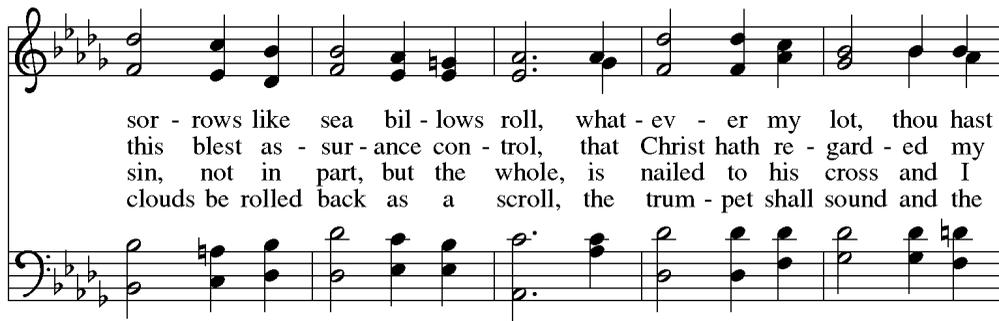
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America welcomes all baptized Christians who believe in the presence of Christ within the sacrament to receive Holy Communion.

Communion supplies were distributed as you entered today. Pastor Paul will offer instructions.

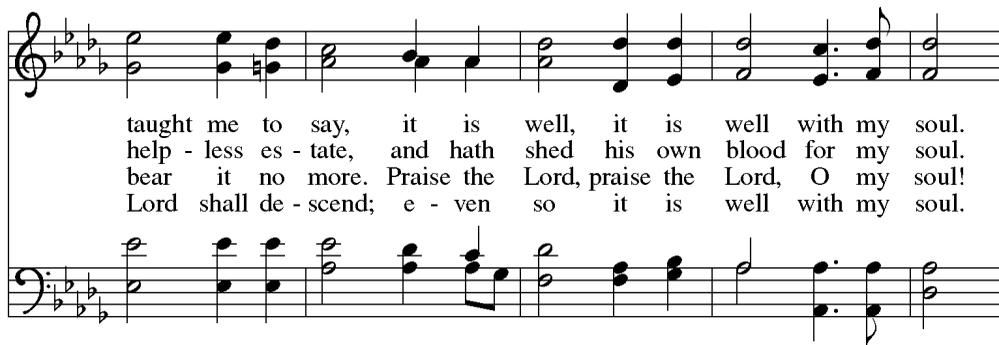
"It Is Well with My Soul"



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

SENDING

Please Stand

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

PRAYER

Comforting God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Latin: "now you have dismissed your servant"*)

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. (Luke 2:29-32)

Glory 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

COMMENDATION

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Sandie.

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 the saints in light.

Amen

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

CLOSING HYMN

"Now The Day Is Over"

1 Now the day is o - ver; night is draw - ing nigh;
2 Je - sus, give the wea - ry calm and sweet re - pose;
3 Com - fort ev - 'ry suf - f'rer watch - ing late in pain;
4 Through the long night - watch - es may your an - gels spread

shad - ows of the eve - ning steal a - cross the sky.
with your ten - d'rest bless - ing may our eye - lids close.
those who plan some e - vil, from their sin re - strain.
their bright wings a - bove me, watch - ing round my bed.

5 When the morning wakens,
then may I arise
pure and fresh and sinless
in your holy eyes.

6 Glory to the Father,
glory to the Son,
and to you, blest Spirit,
while the ages run.

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress – arr. W. Wold
Now Thank We All Our God – arr. S. Basselman

*As you leave the sanctuary, you will be ushered out
starting from the back and moving toward the front.*

A committal service will be held this afternoon at Ottawa Hills Memorial Park.

Memorial contributions may be made to
St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Officiating:
Organist/Pianist:

Rev. Paul Reichert
Deacon Steve Basselman

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Well Done 
Thou good and faithful servant

Celebrating the Life of
SANDIE SPOHLER

Sandie Spohler passed away on Friday, October 23, 2020 at the Fulton County Health Center following a brief but valiant battle with cancer. Sandie was the daughter of the late Paul and Esther Greene and was born on November 24, 1939 in Tiffin, Ohio, and was baptized December 24, 1939 at Washington Street Methodist Church. She graduated from Tiffin Columbian High School in 1957 where she served as homecoming queen and varsity cheerleader for three years.

She next continued her education at The Toledo Hospital School of Nursing. Sandie was awarded her diploma in 1959 and then spent 25 years as a floor nurse and supervisor at The Toledo Hospital, among other places.

Sandie married Donald Spohler on November 22, 1962. After their 1993 move to Archbold, she was a volunteer and interpreter for Sauder Village for many happy years. She contributed her master talents as a quilter in the quilt shop for a number of additional years.

Sandie was an active member of St Martin's Lutheran Church. Her involvement included laundry buddies (which she helped found), VBS, and her large Sunday School group. She enjoyed participating in such groups as Knit Wits, Women in Action, and monthly quilt meetings which produced baptismal, graduation, third world country, and Fairlawn auction blankets. Finally, Sandie loved nothing more than a good book, a puzzle (jigsaw or crossword), or a knitting or counted cross stitch project.

She is survived by her loving husband of 57 years, Don Spohler, her siblings Jack Greene, Richard (Diane) Greene and Debra (Darrell) Lowe, children Sheryl (Jim) McCarthy and Scott (Leigh) Spohler, and grandchildren Kate McCarthy, Ellie McCarthy, Anna Spohler and Sarah Spohler and numerous nieces and nephews who affectionately referred to her as The Aunt Sandie.

Burial is in Ottawa Hills Memorial Park.