

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

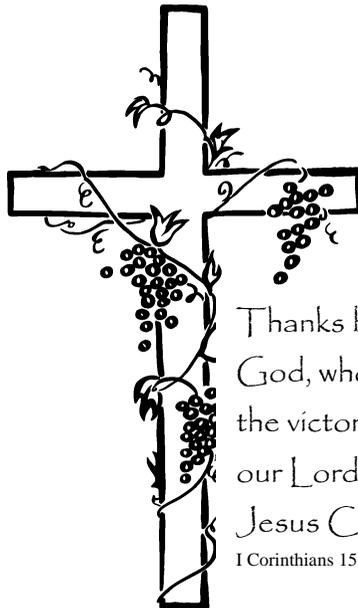
Harold H. Plassman

April 5, 1929 + May 5, 2021

Saturday, May 8, 2021 – 11:00 am
St. Martin's Lutheran Church - Archbold, Ohio
Deacon Steve Basselman, Officiating
Cecily Rohrs, Preaching

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."*



Thanks be to
God, who gives us
the victory through
our Lord
Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 15:57

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the Congregation

PRELUDE

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM – *Please stand*

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

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,

di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,

With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!

so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
 So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

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 13:13)*

And also with you.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Harold. We thank you for giving him 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

PSALM 130

Maureen Bernath

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;

² Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

³ If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

⁶ I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

⁷ Israel, put your hope in the LORD,
for with the LORD is unfailing love
and with him is full redemption.

⁸ He himself will redeem Israel
from all their sins.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

ROMANS 5: 8-11

Stuart Wyse

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ROMANS 8:31-39

Ashley Hagge

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MEN'S ENSEMBLE

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

FAMILY REMEMBRANCES

HYMN

“Borning Cry”



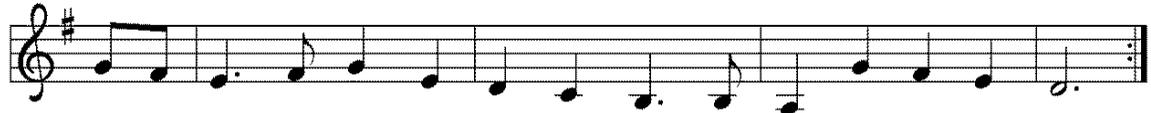
- 1 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.
- 2 “When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 “In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



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,

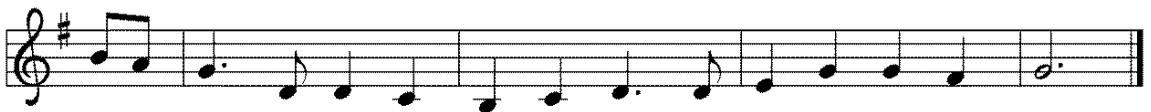


in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell.”
 I’ll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.”
 I’ll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise.”

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.”

GOSPEL READINGS

JOHN 14:1-7

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

MATTHEW 10:32 – *Harold's Confirmation Verse*

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

CECILY ROHRS

HYMN - *Please Stand*

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

nest-ling bird or star in heav - en such a ref - uge ne'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

PROFESSION OF FAITH – *Apostles' Creed*

We are made children of God 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.

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

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.

COMMENDATION

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

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine brightly upon 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

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

POSTLUDE

***The family will be proceeding to the cemetery after the service.
You will be dismissed individually by pews.***

Memorial contributions may be made to:
Archbold Area Foundation
designated to the Harold and Joan Plassman Good Samaritan Fund

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
designated to the Harold and Joan Plassman Tuition Reimbursement Fund
or a charity of the donor's choice.

Celebrating the Life of **HAROLD PLASSMAN**

Harold H. Plassman, age 92, of Archbold, Ohio, passed away on May 5, 2021 at the Defiance Area Inpatient Hospice Center. Harold was born on a farm in Henry County, Ohio on April 5, 1929, to Ernest and Clara (Marksch) Plassman. He was baptized on April 21, 1929 at his family's home. He affirmed his baptism through the rite of Confirmation on April 18, 1943 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon Twp.

Throughout grade school, he attended seven different schools, including multiple one room country schools. He graduated from Napoleon High School as valedictorian of his class, and then went on to graduate with honors in pre-law from Capital University. Harold married Joan Palm on October 28, 1951. He served in the military from 1951 – 1953, ending his service as commander of an engineer combat company in Korea. He then went on to graduate with honors from the University of Michigan Law School in 1956. Harold practiced law for 60 years in Grand Rapids, MI and Archbold, OH.

Harold lived the life of a servant and shared his talents generously with others. He was always willing to offer his professional services pro bono to any number of non-profits and individuals in need. He never sought any recognition for his charitable services. He was honored as Archbold's Citizen of the Year in 2000. He was a long-time choir member, Sunday School teacher and past president of St. Martin's Lutheran Church. Past involvement also included chairman of the Board of Regents of Capital University, president of the Capital University Association, trustee and president of the Archbold Area Foundation, trustee of the Archbold Area Chamber of Commerce, trustee of the Black Swamp Arts Council, a director of Sauder Woodworking Company, a director and vice president of The Farmers & Merchants State Bank, trustee and secretary for Sauder Village, president of the Fulton County and Northwestern Ohio Bar Associations, member of the Council of Delegates of the Ohio State Bar Association, and chairman of the Fulton County Republican Party.

Harold is survived by his six children, Susan (James) Dominique and Janet (James) Wyse of Archbold, Judi (Phil) Rupp of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Brenda Plassman of Cary, NC, Mark Plassman of Flagstaff, AZ, and David (Jennifer) Plassman of Traverse City, MI. He is also survived by sisters, Mildred Mitchell and Clarabell Badenhop, a brother, Ron Plassman, sister-in-laws, Jean Palm and Janice Palm, and grandchildren Bob, Kate, Gina, Maureen, Ashley, Levi, Joshua, Lauren, Betsy, Stuart, Natalya, and Sarah, and 16 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Joan; brothers Raymond and Richard, sisters Florence Fitzenreiter and Margaret Meyer, and son-in-law, Warren Jewett.

Interment is at the Archbold Cemetery.