

THE FUNERAL:  
A SERVICE OF WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

*None of us lives to himself and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the living and the dying (Romans 14:7-9).*

For Christians, it is natural and important to gather together at times of loss to comfort and console each other and to call upon our Lord for support. Through generations, the church has found in our funeral liturgy a source of comfort and assurance to all of us who naturally mourn the death of a loved one. It is a time when we can hear again the comforting words of God's promises and reflect on the resurrection of our Lord Jesus from the dead. As Christ's Spirit is present with us, we receive comfort and strength not only from each other but from Christ Jesus himself.

And yet, our worship service will be more than words of consolation. We gather together today to pray, to praise, to remember, and to give thanks to God. We gather together to remember God's promises. We gather together to remember the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We gather together to give thanks to God for our loved one who was baptized into the resurrection of our Lord. We offer thanks and praise to God for the life of our loved one, and for the precious gift of our own lives.

Our funeral liturgy is rich in words and symbolism. This morning we will use a number of symbols that you may not be entirely familiar with. The large cloth draped over the coffin is called the funeral pall. The pall is a reminder that in Holy Baptism we have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ and that eternal life begins in Baptism. The large candle at the head of the coffin is the Paschal (Easter) Candle. It is a symbol of Christ's resurrected presence among us, and is used during baptisms and the Easter season, as well as for funerals.

## ✝The Rev. Dr. Juan Čobrda✝

The Rev. Dr. Juan Čobrda was born in Příbovce, near Martin, Slovakia on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 1930. Following World War II, his family fled to Austria, Germany and Italy as refugees before immigrating to Argentina where Pastor Čobrda served in the Argentine Navy for five years as an electrician. Following his service in the Navy, Pastor Čobrda studied four years at the new seminary in Buenas Aires which educated pastors from all parts of Latin America. He then studied English for one year in the United States at Wittenberg University.

Pastor Čobrda was ordained by the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1958 and served as the bishop of that church from 1966-76. In the city of Rosario, in 1960, where Pastor Čobrda served for a year as an interim pastor, he met his future wife, Žofka. From Rosario, he was assigned to Grandburg to organize a German and Spanish speaking congregation. During these seven years in Grandburg, Pastor Čobrda was active in community organizing efforts which brought about many services to that community, including a school, electricity, sanitation, streets and a post office.

In 1970, Pastor Čobrda was elected Third Vice-President of the Lutheran World Federation, a position which took him to many parts of the globe. Then, in 1975, the Čobrda's, with their two children, Analia and Jan, came to the United States where Pastor Čobrda served congregations of the Slovak Zion Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, first at St. John Lutheran Church in Trenton, New Jersey, then at Trinity Lutheran Church in Akron, Ohio, and finally, Trinity Slovak Lutheran Church in Chicago during the 1980s. From 1993–2002, he served as bishop of the Slovak Zion Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Following his retirement, Pastor and Mrs. Čobrda continued to live in Niles where he frequently provided pastoral supply and interim ministry for area congregations. They moved to Mundelein in December 2008. They have been members of Sts. Peter and Paul in Riverside since 1993.

# A LITURGY OF THE WORD

## WITH THE RITE FOR BURIAL OF THE DEAD

\*—Those who are able may stand.

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### \*ENTRANCE RITE

---

*The congregation stands and faces the procession at the sanctuary entrance.*

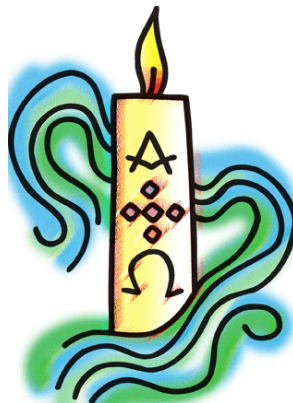
In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

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.

**Thanks be to God.**

*A pall is placed upon the coffin, and the following is said.*

When we were baptized in 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.



*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
a sword and shield victorious;  
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
and wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe  
has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might  
he arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.
  
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be?  
The Lord of hosts is he!  
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son, adored.  
He holds the field victorious.
  
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land  
all threat'ning to devour us,  
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
they cannot overpow'r us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage;  
in battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgment must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,  
no thanks to foes, who fear it;  
for God himself fights by our side  
with weapons of the Spirit.  
Were they to take our house,  
goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
though life be wrenched away,  
they cannot win the day.  
The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978  
© 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

#### \*SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Juan. 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 your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life, that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

#### EULOGIES

PRESENTATION FROM THE SLOVAK ZION SYNOD,  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



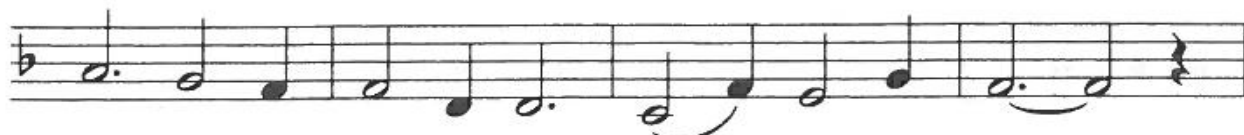
## K Tebe ó Bože môj

519

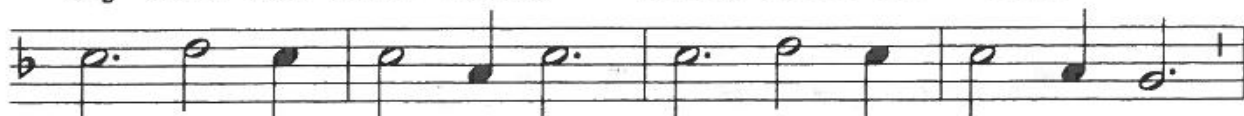
L. Mason



K Te-be, ó Bože môj, bližšie v Tvoj stan!



Aj keď ma kríž tlačí, zriem k ne-be - sám



Pred-sa rty vo speve, Bo-že môj, len k Tebe,



Bo - že môj, len k Tebe, bliž - šie k Te - be.

2. Keď slnko pútnikom / zapadne v dial', / nad hlavou noc,  
lôžkom / pár tvrdých skál; / i vo sna objeme, / :/: Bože môj, len  
k Tebe, :/: bližšie k Tebe.

3. Vtedy zjav – púť moju / v stupňoch sláve; / že všetko, čos'  
mi dal – / z lásky dané; / anjelský chór že mne / :/: sprievodcom  
ku Tebe, :/: bližšie k Tebe.

4. Tak myseľ v modlitbe / mytá, čistá, / z tvrdých skál trápe-  
nia / Bethel schystá; / v súžení dospeje, / :/: Bože môj, ku  
Tebe, :/: bližšie k Tebe.

5. A keď raz na krídlach / v radosti deň, / zabudnúc svet celý /  
výš sa vznesiem; / aj vtedy pri speve, / :/: Bože môj, len k  
Tebe, :/: bližšie k Tebe.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

*Prayed in unison by the congregation.*

**The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.**

**He makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

**He revives my soul  
and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.**

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.**

**You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.**

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**



The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

LBW 439

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear--  
all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!
  
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.
  
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John  
**Glory to you, O Lord!**

The Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

HOMILY

\*HYMN

LBW 369

*The Church's One Foundation*

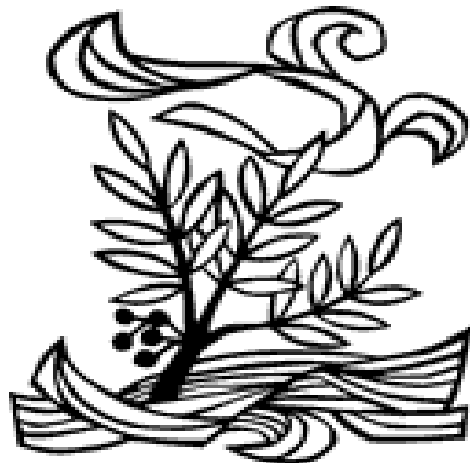
- 1 The church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.
  
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth;  
her charter of salvation:  
one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses  
with ev'ry grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder  
this world sees her oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping;  
their cry goes up: "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

4 Through toil and tribulation  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union  
with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
O blessed heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us,  
may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900



## \*CREED

*Recited in Slovak.*

**Verím v Boha Otca všemohúceho, Stvoriteľa neba i zeme.**

**Verím v Ježiša Krista, Syna Jeho jediného, Pána nášho, ktorý sa počal z Ducha Svätého, narodil sa z Márie panny, trpel pod Pontským Pilátom, ukrižovaný umrel a pochovaný bol; zostúpil do pekiel, v tretí deň vstal z mŕtvych, vstúpil na nebesá, sedí na pravici Boha Otca všemohúceho; odtiaľ príde súdiť živých i mŕtvych.**

**Verím v Ducha Svätého, svätú cirkev všeobecnú, spoločenstvo svätých, hriechov odpustenie, tela z mŕtvych vzkriesenie a život večný. Amen**

## \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in 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 your peace.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Help us, we pray, 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.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant us grace to entrust Juan 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.

**Hear us, Lord.**

God, the generations rise and pass away before you. You are the strength of those who labor; you are the rest of the blessed dead. We rejoice in the company of your saints. We remember all who have lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and especially those most dear to us who rest in you... Give us in time our portion with those who have trusted in you and have striven to do your holy will. To your name, with the Church on earth and the Church in heaven, we ascribe all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen**

\*LORD'S PRAYER

*Otčenaš*

*Sung in Slovak by leader.*

**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**



**again**

CELLO SOLO

*Biblical Song*

Dvořak

**\*COMMENDATION**

---

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Juan. 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**

Let us go forth in peace.

**In the name of Christ. Amen**

1 Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!  
Angels in bright raiment  
rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes  
where thy body lay.

*Refrain*

Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,  
risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly he greets thee,  
scatters fear and gloom;  
let his church with gladness  
hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth;  
death hath lost its sting! *Refrain*

3 No more we doubt thee,  
glorious Prince of life;  
life is nought without thee;  
aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conqu'rors,  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan  
to thy home above. *Refrain*

RECESSION

*Largo*  
from “New World Symphony”

Dvořak

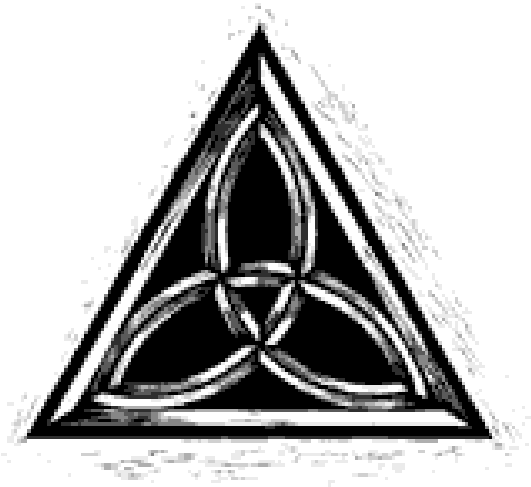
Graphic on cover reprinted from *Graphics for Worship*, copyright c 1996 Augsburg Fortress.  
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 2917-G.

Reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship* copyright c 1978.  
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 2914 - L.

Reprinted from *With One Voice* copyright c 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 2915-W.

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

Mr. Jerry Brown, Lector  
Rev. Joanne Fitzgerald, Homilist  
Rev. Dennis J. Lauritsen, Officiating Minister  
Rev. Kenneth T. Michnay, Assisting Minister  
Mr. David Richards, Cellist and Musician  
Mr. Floyd Rueger, Organist  
Rev. John Stumme, Eulogist and Gospeler  
Rev. John Tabaka, Eulogist



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
5106 No. LaCrosse Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60630  
Phone 773.545.7301 Fax 773.545.7476  
[www.chicagotrinity.com](http://www.chicagotrinity.com)

July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
10:00 a.m.