



**Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church**  
20882 Walden Ave. Hutchinson, MN 55350  
Pastor Eugene DeVries  
Organist: Jane Vacek

**CHRISTIAN FUNERAL**  
May 6, 2026

**Wayne Hugo Rusch**  
*October 15, 1960 – April 30, 2026*

**REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**

M: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: In Holy Baptism, *Wayne* was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all *his* sin. St. Paul affirms, "In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

The apostle also writes, "All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his."

M: Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen, indeed!**

**GOD'S COMFORT**

M: We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

M: The wages of sin is death,

**C: but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

M: Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!  
**He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

M: When Christ, who is our life, appears,

**C: then we also will appear with him in glory.**

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn the loss of *Wayne*, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts; dispel our doubts and fears. We thank you for bringing *Wayne* to faith and giving *him* the gift of eternal life. Strengthen us with your Word and sacraments, and keep us in the saving faith until we are united with you and all the saints where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**READING – Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd. I lack nothing. <sup>2</sup>He causes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters. <sup>3</sup>He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You set a table for me in the presence of my foes. You drench my head with oil. My cup is overflowing. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

**READING – Lamentations 3:19-26, 31-33, 55-57**

<sup>19</sup>I remember my affliction and my wandering,  
the bitterness and the gall.

<sup>20</sup>I well remember them,  
and my soul is downcast within me.

<sup>21</sup>Yet this I call to mind  
and therefore I have hope:

<sup>22</sup>Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,  
for his compassions never fail.

<sup>23</sup>They are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

<sup>24</sup> I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion;  
therefore I will wait for him.”

<sup>25</sup> The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him,  
to the one who seeks him;

<sup>26</sup> it is good to wait quietly  
for the salvation of the Lord.

<sup>31</sup> For no one is cast off  
by the Lord forever.

<sup>32</sup> Though he brings grief, he will show compassion,  
so great is his unfailing love.

<sup>33</sup> For he does not willingly bring affliction  
or grief to anyone.

<sup>55</sup> I called on your name, Lord,  
from the depths of the pit.

<sup>56</sup> You heard my plea: “Do not close your ears  
to my cry for relief.”

<sup>57</sup> You came near when I called you,  
and you said, “Do not fear.”

#### **READING – John 10:27-29**

<sup>27</sup> My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.

#### **HYMN – 555 “The Lord’s My Shepherd”**

#### **SERMON – John 10:27-29**

### **“Safe in the Shepherd’s Hand”**

#### **APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there 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.**

#### **HYMN – 551 “Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep”**

#### **PRAYER**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, you are always with us, especially when our hearts are heavy with grief. Send us your Spirit so that even as we grieve, we are filled with hope. You have convinced us that your Son Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that our loved ones who have fallen asleep in Christ are resting in peace with you. Let nothing shake our confidence in your promise that we will be united with you and them in glory forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: What great mercy you have shown us, Father in heaven! Through your Son’s resurrection, our hope is alive and our inheritance is certain. The bliss and security we will enjoy in your presence are blessings that will never perish, spoil, or fade. Shield us with your power and give us faith to trust in you in every trial until we inherit the glorious riches you are keeping for us in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: Gracious God, we see your abiding love in the kindness shown to us by family and friends. As we receive comfort and encouragement from others, we are experiencing your care. Help us bear all our burdens patiently. Be the strength of your people, now and in difficult days to come. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: O Lord, support us all day long, till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **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.**

### **BLESSING**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

### **SOLO – “Go Now in Peace”**

*Song sung by Barbara DeVries with Jill Dettman  
accompanying her on piano.*