



THE FUNERAL OF VALERIE THELMA NIELSEN

MARCH 27, 1946—FEBRUARY 17, 2025

St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church | March 15, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

"God alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken." - Psalm 62:6

Prelude

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

arr. Rebecca Bonam

Processional Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Red Hymnal #502



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877

Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Invocation

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister, Valerie, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful Redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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.

Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray together: **O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister, Valerie. 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 your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life. May we 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**

Life Tribute

Sigrid Nielsen

Scripture Readings and Life Tributes

Isaiah 25: 6-9 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

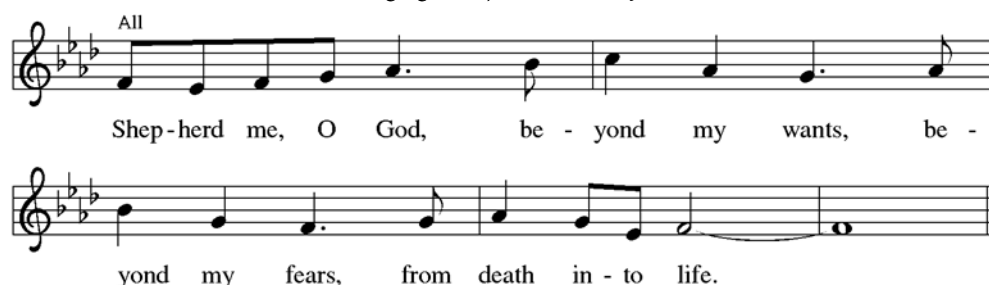
Pastor Wayne Peterson

Psalms 18: 1-3 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Shepherd Me, O God
The congregation joins on the refrain

Marty Haugen, arr. Mark Hayes



Romans 8: selected verses The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Ann Svenningsen

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 14: 25-27, 31 is read. At the conclusion: The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Solo

My Hope is Built

arr. Tom Trenney

Homily

Pastor Valerie Strand Patterson

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 to the dead. 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 of the People

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your 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.

Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

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.

Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

Give courage and faith to Valerie's dear ones, 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.

Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

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

Merciful God, **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**

Solo

*Behold the Host Arrayed in White
The congregation joins on the third verse:*

Red Hymnal #425

O blessed saints, now take your rest; a thousand times shall you be blest
for keeping faith firm unto death and scorning worldly trust.
For now you live at home with God and harvest seeds once cast abroad
in tears and sights, see with new eyes the pattern in the seed.
The myriad angels raise their song. O saints, sing with that happy throng;
lift up one voice; let heav'n rejoice in our redeemer's song.

Commendation

Let us commend Valerie to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

**Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Valerie. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech
you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a child 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**

The Nunc Dimittis

John Roth

Sending

Let us go forth in peace.
In the name of Christ. Amen

Recessional

Thaxted

Holst

+ + +

*Dear Family and Friends, thank you for being with us today as we entrust Valerie to God.
We are grateful for your love, kindness, support and prayers.
Please join us immediately following the service for a reception in the Fellowship Hall and continued conversation.
A private family interment will take place at a later date.
—The Nielsen Family*

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Honorary Pall Bearers

Gary Gardner Les Svendsen Dave Neiman
Andy Lange Linda Lange Johnson Dave Lange Jerryn Svendsen Carson

Worship Leaders

SoloistNorah Long
Flutist Linda Chatterton
Organist Celina Kobetitsch
Pastor Valerie Strand Patterson

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*“God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”
—Revelation 21:4*

**St. Philip
the Deacon**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reach Out. Proclaim. Inspire.

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