



A Funeral Service
in
Celebration of the Life & Resurrection
of
Nathan Wayne Moose
St. John's Lutheran Church + December 20, 2025

⊕ GATHERING ⊕

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Catherine Ritch

WELCOME

The Rev. Matt Hansen

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 brother, Nathan Wayne Moose, to give thanks for his life, to commend him 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.

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 – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

ELW 504



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap-ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord.
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Nathan. 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.**

† WORD †

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON: ECCLESIASTES 3:1-8

A reading from Ecclesiastes.

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.

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

PSALM 118

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

³ Let the house of Aaron say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

⁴ Let those who fear the Lord say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

⁵ Out of my distress I called on the Lord;
the Lord answered me and set me in a broad
place.

⁶ With the Lord on my side I do not fear.
What can mortals do to me?

⁷ The Lord is on my side to help me;
I shall look in triumph on those who hate
me.

⁸ It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to put confidence in mortals.

⁹ It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to put confidence in princes.

¹⁰ All nations surrounded me;
in the name of the Lord I cut them off!

¹¹They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side;

 in the name of the Lord I cut them off!

¹²They surrounded me like bees;

 they blazed like a fire of thorns;

 in the name of the Lord I cut them off!

¹³I was pushed hard, so that I was falling,

 but the Lord helped me.

¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my might;

 he has become my salvation.

¹⁵There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

 “The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

¹⁶the right hand of the Lord is exalted;

 the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.”

¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live

 and recount the deeds of the Lord.

¹⁸The Lord has punished me severely,

 but he did not give me over to death.

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,

 that I may enter through them

 and give thanks to the Lord.

²⁰This is the gate of the Lord;

 the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹I thank you that you have answered me

 and have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected

 has become the chief cornerstone.

²³This is the Lord’s doing;

 it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made;

 let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

 O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

 We bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷The Lord is God,

 and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,

 up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

 you are my God; I will extol you.

²⁹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

 for his steadfast love endures forever.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:21-23

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians.

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far.

GOSPEL: JOHN 14:1-7 & 25-31

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.² In 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?³ And 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.⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.”⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you.²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me,³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Matt Hansen

HYMN OF THE DAY

When Peace Like a River

ELW 785

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.

THE CREED

With the whole Church, 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 \dagger resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

⊕ SENDING ⊕

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

COMMENDATION

Let us commend Nathan Wayne Moose to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

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

RECESSATIONAL HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
 2 Sum-mer and win - ter and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours-es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un - to me.

DISMISSAL

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



The service continues at the cemetery.



COMMITTAL

We gather in the name of the Father, and the † Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us pray. Holy God, holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our brother, Nathan, whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise

him up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hear these words from Paul's letter to the Romans. 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. (Romans 4:8)

Hear these words from the holy gospel according to John. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. (John 12:23-25)

Sand may be cast on the coffin as the presiding minister says.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our brother, Nathan, and we commit his body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless him and keep him The Lord's face shine on him with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon him with favor and \ddagger give him peace **Amen.**

Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Let us pray. O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, 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. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ taught us, we are bold to say,
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

Almighty God, Father, \ddagger Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

NATHAN WAYNE MOOSE



Nathan Wayne Moose, age 57, went home to be with his Lord on December 18, 2025.

The family will receive friends at St. John's Lutheran Church, 100 St. John's Church Road in Concord on Saturday, December 20, 2025 at 11:00 am. A funeral service will follow at 1:00 pm in the church sanctuary, officiated by Rev. Matt Hansen.

Nathan was born on September 28, 1968, the son of Charles Wayne Moose and the late Janie Stancil Moose. Nathan was a graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School. He worked for many years with The Maintenance Team and Concord Heating and Air Conditioning. He was a master woodworker and carpenter. Nathan enjoyed fishing, camping and traveling. He attended St. John's Lutheran Church in Concord. Nathan was a devoted husband, father, son, and brother.

Surviving are his wife, Hope Kennedy Moose; his son, Joshua Moose and girlfriend, Shelby; his father, Charlie Moose and girlfriend, Mary; his sister, Angela Ferguson and husband David, and brother, Bryan Moose and wife Eileen; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be directed to St. John's Lutheran Church, 100 St. John's Church Road, Concord, NC 28025.