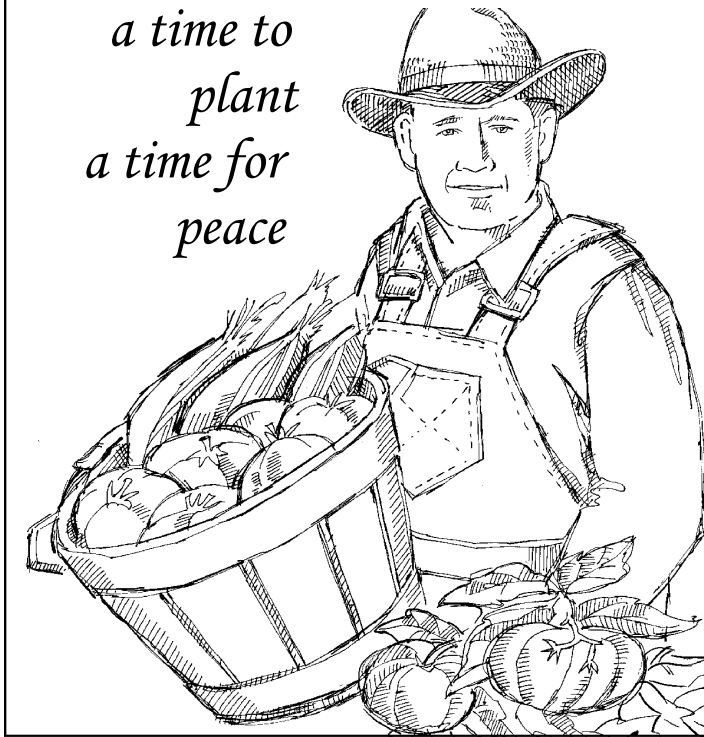


*For everything there is a
season and a time for every
purpose under heaven*

*a time to
plant
a time for
peace*



A Celebration of Life and Resurrection for

PAUL GRUYER

Born into time: January 10, 1934 Born into eternity: October 5, 2026

GATHERING

Welcome in the Name of Jesus Christ, who was, and is, and is to come. In Christ's resurrection is the promise of new and eternal life for Paul and all who trust in God. We celebrate his life and faith – even through our tears we proclaim the hope that is ours and sustained Paul through his life.

The interment will take place following the service in the Lower Tinicum Union Cemetery. You may join the family at the cemetery, or wait here in the fellowship hall. After the interment you are invited to join the family for fellowship, conversation, and a time for remembering Paul in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level. To reach the fellowship hall please take the stairs by the parking lot doors. At the foot of the steps, go through the doors/hallway to your right.

*Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book and are numbered at the top of each hymn. We will celebrate Holy Communion today – all are welcome, and directions are included after the invitation to the Table. If you have trouble coming forward, or need gluten free bread and wine, there are element cups near the door for your communion.*

WELCOME: PR. CARON

THE PRELUDE: time for prayer and preparation.

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Please stand in body or spirit at Pastor's invitation.

Welcome in the name of Jesus, who died and was raised to new life by the grace of God. We are gathered here to worship, to remember before God our brother in Christ, Paul, to comfort one another in our grief, give thanks for his life, and to commend him to our merciful redeemer.

When we are baptized into Christ Jesus, we are baptized into his death. That Baptism joins us to his death and resurrection, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. Since we have been united with Christ in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with Christ in a resurrection like his.

Thanks be to God.

-Silence -

WE SING THE GATHERING HYMN #779, AMAZING GRACE



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *-silence-* O God of mercy, we remember Paul before you today. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a husband, father, brother in faith. In compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FAMILY MOMENT

WORD

Please be seated. Silence for reflection follows each reading.

THE FIRST READING is from Ecclesiastes, the third chapter. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

¹ 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 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.**

THE 23RD PSALM is read responsively by verse. The congregation reads the verses in **bold type**.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters. ³He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, 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.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

**⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, Amen.

THE SECOND READING is from Lamentations, the third chapter.

(Lamentations 3:21-26)

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴ "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." ²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. ²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

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

Please stand for the Gospel reading as the verse begins

Alleluia! Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

Who gives us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Christ. Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to John, the 11th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

The Gospel, from John 11:21-27 is proclaimed.

²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Please be seated.

TEACHING THE WORD / SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #732, ELW, BORNING CRY



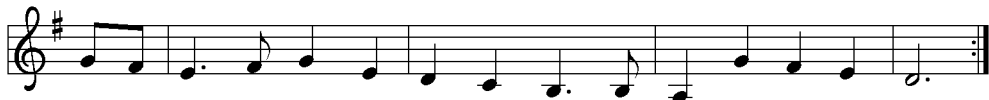
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



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."



- 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."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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THE PRAYERS

Let us join our hearts in prayer as we give thanks for Paul's life, and for comfort to flow from the One who promised, "I am the resurrection and the Life."

A Brief Silence

For comfort in our need, and for all who mourn, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, I am Resurrection, and I am the Life."

A brief silence

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Paul, and dry the tears of those who weep. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Paul was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; He was nourished with your Body and Blood at your Table. Welcome him to his place at the Table in your heavenly kingdom and give him fellowship with all your saints in glory. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

O Lord, Paul put his hand to the care and up-building of this house of worship. Welcome him to the heavenly dwelling place prepared by your hand. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Eternal 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 remember all who have lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and especially those dear to us who rest in you...

(a brief silence to remember those who rest in Christ)

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. Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

O God, the generations rise and pass away before you. We remember all those whom we love but see no longer. May Paul and all those we love, and remember in this moment, rest in peace. Give us your strength and peace to meet the days ahead. Let faith be our consolation, and your promise of life eternal our hope. **Amen.**

We join our hearts in silent prayer as the Table is prepared.

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and a joyful thing to give you thanks O God...

Pastor offers the Eucharistic prayer; we join in our hearts. The prayer concludes:

...as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

AGNUS DEI: O LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for the people of God - come to the Table,
for all is now ready. **We shall come with joy, alleluia, amen!**

Please be seated.

We believe Jesus Christ is truly present in the forms of bread and wine. You are welcome-this is the Lord's Table and He

invites you! If you have taken an elements cup and prefer to commune where you are seated, please commune at any time after the invitation. The elements are offered with the words: "The Body of Christ given for you" and "The Blood of Christ shed for you". The recipient may respond "**Amen**".

Those online are communed, then the musicians. The congregation follows by the organ side, then the pulpit side. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Host from Pastor. Then move towards the side aisle to receive the Wine by intinction, dipping the Host into the cup, and returning to the pew by the side aisle. Take your time – be in prayer, sing, pray as you come to the Table.

The hymn during communion is #785, *WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER*. The hymns are in the second half of the red book in the pew rack and are numbered at the top of the hymn.

There is silence for reflection as the Table is cleared. At Pastor's invitation please stand in body or spirit

COMMENDATION

Into your hands, holy God, we commend our brother in Christ, Paul. In this life, through the waters of baptism, you embraced him with your tender love; receive him into eternal rest. Welcome him into your eternal home, where there will be no more sorrow, no weeping or pain, but where he will enjoy the fullness of peace and joy in your presence, forever and ever. **Amen**

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

HYMN: #787, ON EAGLES' WINGS

Leader or All



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain
All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un - der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

Refrain

Leader or All
3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by

Refrain
day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All
3 4 For to the an-gels God's giv - en a com-mand to

guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain
All
And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957
 Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas
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POSTLUDE



During the sending hymn the family and those going to the cemetery will process to their cars. If you prefer to wait, please wait until the hymn is finished before going to the hall.

The family wishes to express their thanks for the many acts of kindness and comfort extended to them during this time. Following the interment, you are invited to join the family in the Parish Hall on the lower level for lunch and time to greet the family.. To reach the fellowship hall, please take the stairs by the parking lot doors. At the foot of the steps, go through the doors/hallway to your right.

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

353 E. Dark Hollow Rd + Pipersville PA 18947

215. 766. 8730 christpipersville.org

The Rev. Marie L. Caron, pastor

Mrs. Cindy Carper, Secretary

Mrs. Kim Campbell, Council President

We thank today's organist, Mrs. Louise Gerdemann, for her musical leadership.

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion. ELW is Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

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OBITUARY PAUL H. GRUVER

Paul was the beloved husband of Ruth (Kramer) Gruver, who together had just celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on Sunday. He was 92 years old.

Paul was born and raised in Pipersville and was the son of the late John C. and Olive (Haney) Gruver. He was a 1952 graduate of Palisades High School.

Paul was a longtime Farmer in Pipersville, who farmed the family dairy farm along with his brother, John until the mid 80's. When he retired from farming he worked for 20 years at the Carl Hunsberger Sawmill. After retiring, he enjoyed helping others.

A lifetime member of Christ Lutheran Church, Paul actively volunteered at the Church serving on the cemetery and property committees. He will be fondly remembered for his kindness and for always being willing to lend a helping hand.

In addition to his wife Ruth, Paul is survived by his children Cynthia L. Carper (James), Steven M. Gruver (Krista) and Paul "Brad" Gruver (Ginger). He is also survived by his 7 grandchildren and 11 Great grandchildren. Paul was pre-deceased by his six sisters, Dorothy, Ruth, Mildred, Violet, Marian and Jean, and his 3 brothers, Luther, Darwin and John, and is also survived by his brother-in-law Harold Kramer and sister-in-law Janice Kramer.

Paul's Funeral Service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 10, 2026 at the Christ Lutheran Church 353 E. Dark Hollow Rd. Pipersville, PA 18947. The family will receive friends and family at the Church from 9:30am until the time of service. Interment will follow in Lower Tinicum Union Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Paul's memory may be made to Christ Lutheran Church, 353 E Dark Hollow Road, Pipersville, PA 18947