

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church



August 1, 2026, 1 p.m.

THE CELEBRATION
of the Promise of Resurrection to Eternal Life for

George Lee Natvig
(July 8, 1945 - July 17, 2026)

✝ THE PRELUDE Dr. Will Cleveland, Organist

✝ THE OPENING VOLUNTARY *The Lord's Prayer* Albert Hay Malotte
Dr. Keith Jameson, Soloist

✝ THE WELCOME The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor

Pastor 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, Lee, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful Redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

✝ THE THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor 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.

Pastor Eternal God, maker of Heaven and Earth, who formed us from the dust of the Earth, who by your breath gave us life,
ALL we glorify You.

Pastor 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,
ALL we praise You.

Pastor Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of ALL who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope,
ALL we worship You.

Pastor To you, blessed Trinity glory and honor, forever and ever.
ALL AMEN.



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989

Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine

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✝ THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

✝ THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray. O God of grace and glory,
ALL we remember before you today our brother, Lee. 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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

✝ THE FIRST GOSPEL READING John 14:1-6

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the 14th Chapter.
ALL Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ “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.

Pastor Here ends the first lesson. For the word given to us,
ALL Thanks be to God.

✙ THE PSALM 121

Pastor ¹ I lift my eyes to the mountains from where does my help come?

ALL ² My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Pastor ³ He will not let your foot slip— he who watches over you will not slumber;

ALL ⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Pastor ⁵ The Lord watches over you—the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

ALL ⁶ the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

Pastor ⁷ The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;

ALL ⁸ the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

✙ THE SECOND GOSPEL READING

Mathew 11:25-30

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the 11th Chapter.

ALL Glory to You, O Lord.

Pastor ²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL Praise to You, O Christ.

✙ THE HOMILY

The Rev. Chris Christopher

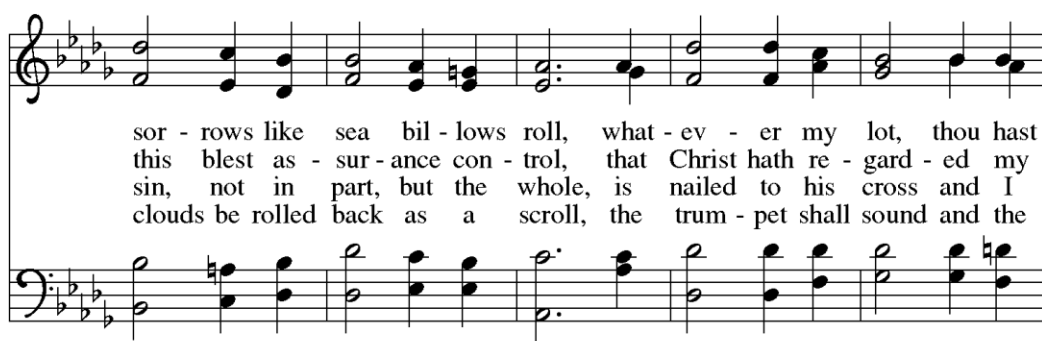
✚ THE HYMN OF THE DAY

When Peace Like a River

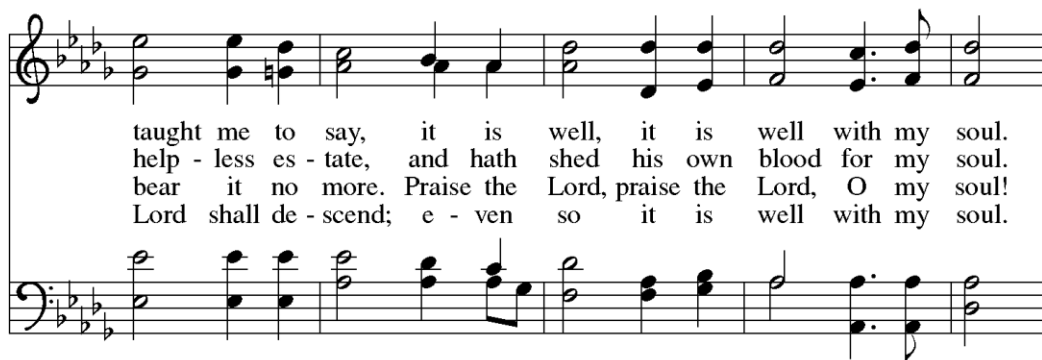
ELW # 785



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,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888
 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

✝ THE APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor Together, let us profess our faith.

ALL 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.

✝ THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Praying for Others*

Please be seated or kneel.

Pastor Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Pastor Almighty God, in Holy Baptism 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. God of mercy,
ALL hear our prayer.

Pastor Grant that ALL who have been baptized into Christ's death and Resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the joyful new life in Christ. God of mercy,
ALL hear our prayer.

Pastor 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,
ALL hear our prayer.

Pastor Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk 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,
ALL hear our prayer.

Pastor Help us, with matters 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,
ALL hear our prayer.

Pastor Grant us grace to entrust Lee 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. God of mercy,
ALL hear our prayer.

Pastor 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 to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in ALL creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
ALL AMEN.

✙ THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
ALL 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.

✙ THE COMMENDATION

Pastor Let us commend Lee to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.
Silence is kept.

Pastor Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Lee. 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.
ALL AMEN.



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
 vour 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!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress



✝ THE OBITUARY

George 'Lee' Natvig, 81, of Greenwood SC, died peacefully at the Care of the Piedmont Hospice House on Friday, July 17, 2026. He was born on July 8, 1945, in Mankato, Minnesota, to Alvin Julius Natvig and Valborg Gullixson Natvig. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers (Arthur and David), and one sister (Marilyn).

Lee is survived by his wife, Deborah, of 45 years, two sons, Nathaniel Mark Natvig (Kennedy) and Gustave Orin Natvig, two step-sons, Ty Anthony Saiki and Zachary Wade Saiki, four grandsons (Nathaniel Mark Natvig, Jr, Charles Pearson Natvig, William Reed Natvig, and Theodore James Natvig), three granddaughters (Samantha Saiki, Reagan Saiki, and Maren Saiki), one sister (Anne Emerson), one brother (Harold Natvig) and several nieces and nephews.

He grew up in Mankato, MN and graduated from Mankato State College in 1967. He enlisted in the United States Navy. He served on destroyers in the Atlantic until October 1, 1971. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Minnesota in July 1976. He worked in the electrical engineering field until his retirement in 2014.

Lee had a thirst for knowledge and was an avid reader. His analytical mind and outstanding technical skills reflected his lifelong curiosity. He enjoyed playing bridge and meeting weekly with close friends for conversation and fellowship.

Lee loved the outdoors and was an avid sportsman, hunter, and coach. As his sons were growing up, he coached their sports teams year-round. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America, where all four sons earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and he also participated in the Upper Savannah Shooter's Association and the Master Gardener program. He was a founding member of Greenwood Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. Lee loved traveling throughout the United States and abroad, and he enjoyed many camping trips and snow-skiing vacations with his family. He treasured time with his grandsons, whether watching their sporting events or relaxing with them at home.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2026, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 501 Creswell Ave. E., Greenwood, SC 29649, with Pastor Chris Christopher officiating. The service will be livestreamed on the Immanuel Lutheran Church website (www.ilcgreenwood.com).

Graveside services will follow at Edgewood Cemetery, First Baptist Church, Greenwood, SC.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Reverend George Albert Gullixson Scholarship Endowment, c/o Art Westphal, Bethany Lutheran College, 700 Luther Drive, Mankato, MN 56001.





Worship on Sundays, 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Nave)
Coffee Time and Adult Christian Education on Sundays – 10 a.m.
(Old Fellowship Hall)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Immanuel Lutheran Church
501 East Creswell Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29646
864-223-0590, Church Web Site: www.ilcgreenwood.com
e-mail: office@ilcgreenwood.com
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
* Closed on Mondays

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor
pastorchris.ilcgreenwood@gmail.com

Dr. Will Cleveland, Parish Administrator / Director of Music
will@ilcgreenwood.com

Juan Luna, Sexton
Samuel Hurley and Kristen Metts, Parish Custodians

John Kinard, Congregational President
jkinard29@yahoo.com

SERVING THE CHURCH IN GREATER CAPACITIES

The Rev. Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Ginny Aebischer, Bishop, South Carolina Synod