

*Celebration of the Life of*  
*Brian S. Walther*  
*May 12, 1957 – October 1, 2021*



October 9, 2021  
Lord of Love Lutheran Church  
10405 Fort Street  
Omaha, NE 68134

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

P: 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.

**Hymn: "Lift High the Cross"..... ELW 660**

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied tree,  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956  
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947  
 Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

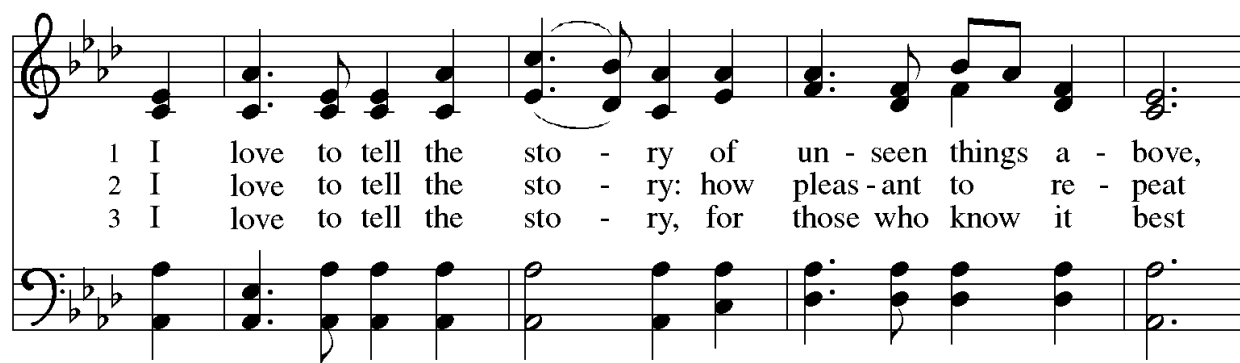
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother Brian. 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. Illumine our lives, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life, that we may 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.

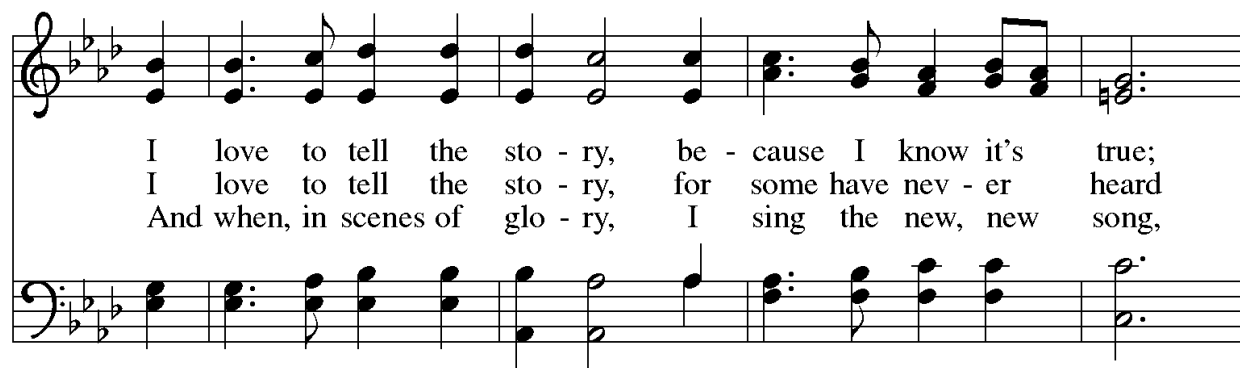
**Eulogy** by Alan Walther (Brian's brother)



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911  
 Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

## Reading of Scripture and Memories

Psalms 139:1-12, read by Kenn/Matt Garder

Philippians 4:6-7, read by Joe Combes

Matthew 11:28-30


**Homily:** Rev Becky Sells



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all  
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the  
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na-ture sings, and round me rings the mu-sic of the spheres.  
 morn-ing light, the lil-y white, de-clare their mak-er's praise.  
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul-er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of  
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the  
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.  
 rus-tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-ry-where.  
 Lord is king, let heav-en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901  
 Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, adapt.

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father almighty,  
Creator 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.  
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 again 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.**

## **Intercessions**

P: Let us pray.

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,

**C: 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,

**C: 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,

**C: 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,

**C: 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,

**C: 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 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 shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**



**Choir Anthem: "In This Very Room "** ..... Ron & Carol Harris

*Women*

*4 mp*

In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for

one like me, and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for

*cresc. poco a poco*

one like me and there's quite e-nough hope and quite e-nough pow-er to

chase a-way an-y gloom. for Je-sus, Lord Je - sus is

*rall. a tempo*

in this ver - y room.

*rall. Men a tempo*

*mp* And in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for

*mp*

And in this ver-y room there's quite enough joy for

*p*

all of us. Ooo

*cresc. poco a poco*

all of us, — And there's quite e-nough hope and quite e-nough pow-er to

*mp*

*rall.* *a tempo*

chase a - way an-y gloom, Lord Je - sus — is

For Je - sus —

*rall.* *a tempo* *mf*

in this ver - y room. — And

*mp*

in this ver - y room — there's quite e - nough love for

In this ver - y room, quite e-nough love for

*mp*  
all the world. Ooo \_\_\_\_\_  
*mf*

all the world And in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for

*mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

all the world.

*rall.* *a tempo*

chase a-way an-y gloom,

Lord Je - sus

for Je-sus,

Je - sus

*p* *rall.* *a tempo* **4**

is in this ver - y room.

is in this ver - y room.

## **Commendation**

P: Let us commend Brian to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Brian. 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.

**C: Amen.**

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

**C: Amen.**

## **Sending**

Announcements

**Table Prayer:** Let us sing together the table prayer:

**Be present at our table Lord.**

**Be here and everywhere adored.**

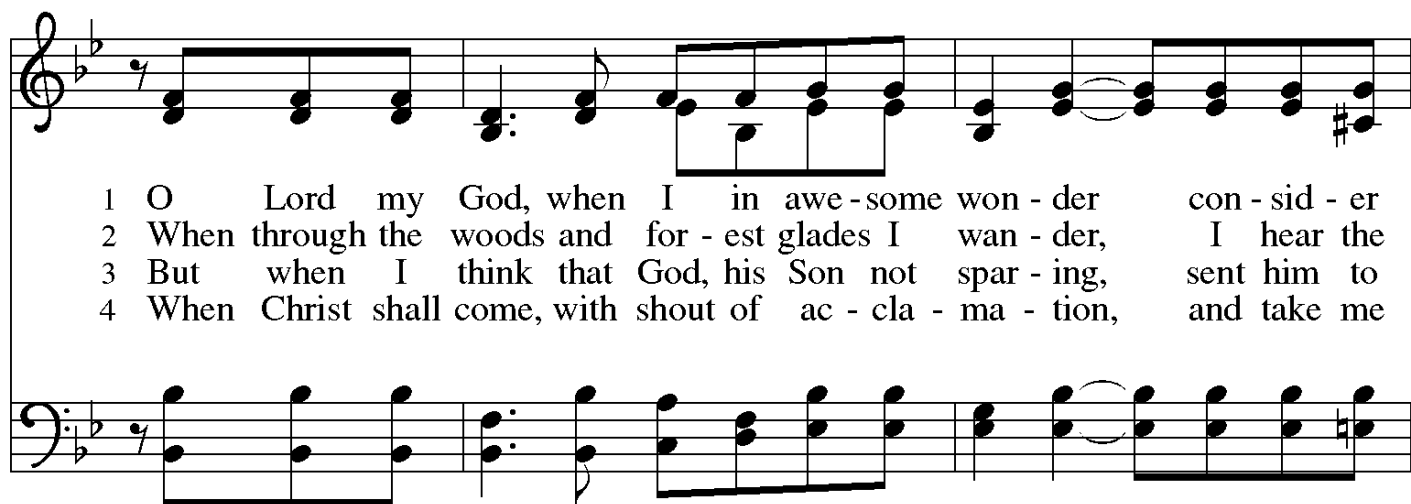
**These mercies bless and grant that we.**

**May Strengthened for thy service be.**

**Amen.**

P: Let us go forth in peace.


**C: In the name of Christ. 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

Text and arr. © 1953 S.K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brooten Road, Pacific City, OR 97135 (ASCAP).

Renewed 1981. All rights reserved.

**Please join the family for pie in the Fellowship Hall following the service.**

The family wanted you to know that John A. Gentleman will be placing a plant in memory of Brian out at Lauritzen Gardens.

**Officiant:** Rev. Becky Sells

**Pianist:** Amy Kragnes

**Organist:** Carol Novak

**Chancel Choir Director/Sound Board:** Jon Novak

**Technical Director:** Christopher Rich

**Technical Assistant:** Renae Rich

## Obituary

Age 64, of Omaha, NE and formerly of Waterloo, IA died October 1st, 2021 at home of cancer. He was born May 12, 1957 in Waterloo, IA. The son of Harlan F. Walther and Norma J. (Ziemer) Walther.

He graduated from West High in 1975 and from University of Northern Iowa in 1981.

While at UNI, he met the love of his life, Connie Williams, through the Lutheran Student Center with Campus Ministries. They married on September 11, 1982 in Hiawatha, IA. He went to work for Hy-Vee in 1973 while in high school and enjoyed a career in management. He loved working with and for people. He retired in 2020 after more than 46 years of service, the last 30 years in Omaha.

He, Connie, and their two daughters, Kelley and Stephanie, have been members of Lord of Love Lutheran Church since 1991, where he was a member of the choir and served several terms on the church council. He loved traveling, visiting his family, and collecting items that reflected times in history. His love of music was prevalent throughout his life and was passed down to both of his daughters.

He is survived by his wife Connie; two daughters, Kelley of Kansas City, MO, and Stephanie of Omaha, NE.; mother, Norma Walther; brother Alan (Lisa) Walther of Rochester, MN and sister Deborah (David) Aries of Rochester, MN. A cousin Gilbert (Peggy) Ziemer of Cedar Rapids, IA, sister-in-laws; Diana (James, Sr.) Ashley of Cedar Rapids, IA, Dixie (Danny) King of Raleigh, NC, Suzanne (Dennis) Knott of Robins, IA, a brother-in-law, Duane (Alice) Williams of Pine Flatts, TN and 12 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harlan, and sister, Chris.

Memorial Service: Saturday Oct. 9th at 1pm at Lord of Love Lutheran Church

Memorials are suggested to: MS Foundation, Campus Ministries, Lord of Love Lutheran Church, or the charity of your choice.

Liturgical text and music from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24833.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Hymns reprinted by permission under CCLI License #3067941 and OneLicense No. A-723976. All rights reserved.