


February 13, 2025

Funeral of Jim Schmidt



HE ALONE IS MY  
**ROCK** AND MY  
SALVATION....

PSALM 62:6, NIV

*The Christian Funeral*  
of  
*Fred “Jim” Schmidt*

Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 11:00am  
Salem Lutheran Church ~ Stillwater, Minnesota

*We Welcome You In Jesus' Name*

**Preservice music for meditation & prayer**

**Remembrance of Baptism**

M: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: In Holy Baptism, Jim was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul affirms, *“In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”*

The apostle also writes, *“All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.”*

M: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen, indeed!**

**Psalm 23**

M: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters, He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

C: **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.**

## God's Comfort

M: We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

M: The wages of sin is death,

**C: but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

M: Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!

**C: He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

M: When Christ, who is our life, appears,

**C: then we also will appear with him in glory.**

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn the loss of Jim, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts; dispel our doubts and fears. We thank you for bringing Jim to faith and giving him the gift of eternal life. Strengthen us with your Word and sacraments, and keep us in the saving faith until we are united with you and all the saints where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns

CW 511

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King thro' all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the Lord of love—behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.  
His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,  
who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

## Reading

Psalm 100

<sup>1</sup>Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

<sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.

<sup>5</sup>For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

## Reading

Isaiah 60:18–22

<sup>18</sup>No longer will violence be heard in your land,  
nor ruin or destruction within your borders,  
but you will call your walls Salvation and your gates Praise.

<sup>19</sup>The sun will no more be your light by day,  
nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you,  
for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

<sup>20</sup>Your sun will never set again, and your moon will wane no more;  
the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of sorrow will end.

<sup>21</sup>Then all your people will be righteous and they will possess the land forever.  
They are the shoot I have planted, the work of my hands,  
for the display of my splendor.

<sup>22</sup>The least of you will become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation.  
I am the LORD; in its time I will do this swiftly.”

## Reading

John 3:13–18

<sup>13</sup>No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

## **Solo Anthem: On Eagle's Wings**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,  
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

*(Refrain)* And he will raise you up on eagle'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.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no  
fear; under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. *(Refrain)*

For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a  
stone. *(Refrain)*

## **Sermon Reading**

1 Timothy 6:12

<sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you  
were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many  
witnesses.

***"Holding on for dear (eternal) life"***

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker 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. The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the  
Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Hymn: Because He Lives**

By William and Gloria Gaither

- 1 God sent His Son they called Him Jesus. He came to love heal and forgive.  
He bled and died to buy my pardon.  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

### *Chorus*

Because He lives I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone  
Because I know He holds the future and life is worth the living.  
Just because He lives

- 2 How sweet to hold our newborn baby and feel the pride and joy he gives.  
But greater still the calm assurance this child can face uncertain days  
Because Christ lives. *Chorus*
- 3 And then one day I'll cross that river. I'll fight life's final war with pain.  
And then as death gives way to vict'ry I'll see the lights of glory  
And I'll know He reigns. *Chorus*

## **Prayer of Comfort**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, you are always with us, especially when our hearts are heavy with grief. Send us your Spirit so that even as we grieve we are filled with hope. You have convinced us that your Son Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that our loved ones who have fallen asleep in Christ are resting in peace with you. Let nothing shake our confidence in your promise that we will be united with you and them in glory forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: What great mercy you have shown us, Father in heaven! Through your Son's resurrection, our hope is alive and our inheritance is certain. The bliss and security we will enjoy in your presence are blessings that will never perish, spoil, or fade. Shield us with your power and give us faith to trust in you in every trial until we inherit the glorious riches you are keeping for us in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: Gracious God, we see your abiding love in the kindness shown to us by family and friends. As we receive comfort and encouragement from others, we are experiencing your care. Help us bear all our burdens patiently. Be the strength of your people, now and in difficult days to come. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: O Lord, support us all day long, till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and 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.

C: **Amen.**

## ***Hymn: In Christ Alone***

CW 510

- 1 In Christ alone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength, my song;  
this cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when  
strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all; here in the love of Christ I stand.
- 2 In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe;  
this gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;  
for ev'ry sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
- 3 There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;  
then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
for I am his and he is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.
- 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from his hand;  
till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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

**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***

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

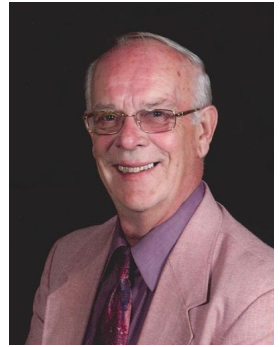
C: **Amen.**

## ***Recessional***

# *Fred “Jim” Schmidt*

1936-2025

Jim was born on May 28, 1936, the sixth of nine children to Fred and Martha (Hintz) Schmidt. His childhood was mostly helping on the family farm in South Stillwater. Jim was a lifelong member of Salem Lutheran Church, baptized and confirmed here. In the fall of 1953 he met the love of his life, LaVon Preston and they wed on May 4, 1957 in Hudson. As a result of this marriage they had three sons, all who survive Jim.



God called Jim home to himself and his beloved wife Lavon in heaven on Monday, February 10, 2025. He was preceded in death by his wife, LaVon in December 2001; his parents, Fred and Martha Schmidt; in-laws Leo and Gladys Preston; siblings, Bob, Rose, Bill, Lois, Dave, Kathleen, and Mary. He is survived by his three sons; Al, Tim, and Mike; grandchildren; Brian, Alicia, Jordanne, Alexzandra, and Samuel; great-grandchildren; Rayne, Odin, Charlie, Addison, and Noah; brother, Richard; and many nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

The family would like to thank the entire staff of Arbor Glen Senior Living for the highest quality of care the past six and a half years and to Brighton Hospice, Kristen, and the entire care team for the highest care the past three months. You have served thee well, good and faithful servant. We'll miss and love you forever, Dad, Grandpa, and Great-grandpa. May you have eternal peace.

Jim's body will be laid to rest at Salem Cemetery to await a glorious resurrection on the Last Day.

*“Be faithful, even to the point of death, and  
I will give you the crown of life.” ~ Revelation 7:10*

## **Service Participants**

*Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe*

*Organ: Robyn Stoller      Soloist: Carolyn Forster*

## **Our Prayer for Each of You**

It is our prayer that the Word of God which brought so much comfort to Jim also brought you comfort today. The message of our Savior who lived, died and rose again leads us believers to mourn not like the rest of the world, but as people who have the sure hope of a reunion because of Christ. If we can comfort or guide you in the future with this same life-saving message, please do not hesitate to contact us. God be with you.