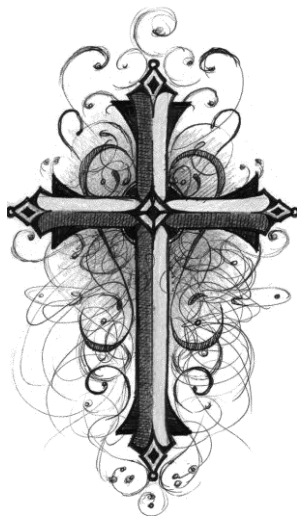


Funeral Service for
Polly Eugenia Browne

January 2, 2021



The Lord is my shepherd.

I lack nothing.

Psalm 23:1

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR POLLY EUGENIA BROWNE

GREETING AND PRAYER

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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 the Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

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 for Polly, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts, dispel our doubts and fears, and lead us to praise you for having brought her to faith. In Your rising from the dead, You conquered death and opened the gates to eternal life. Strengthen us with Your Word, and lead us through this earthly life until at last we are united with You and all the saints in glory everlasting. Amen.

HYMN #561:1, 2, 7, 8 *"ABIDE WITH ME"*

RESURRECTION COMFORT

P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. The apostle Paul writes to the Romans: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Jesus gives us this comfort: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

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

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

- P:** When Christ, who is our life, appears,
C: **Then we also will appear with Him in glory.**
- P:** We will be before the throne of God
C: **And serve Him day and night in His temple.**
- P:** Never again will we hunger;
C: **Never again will we thirst.**
- P:** For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd;
he will lead us to springs of living water.
C: **And God will wipe every tear from our eyes.**
- P:** Let us pray. God of all grace, You sent Your Son Jesus to destroy
the power of death and to open the kingdom of heaven to all
believers. Make us certain that because He lives, we too shall
live. Comfort us with Your promise 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.
- C:** **Amen.**

HYMN #351:1, 5, 7, 8 *"I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES"*

THE WORD OF GOD

ISAIAH 40:1-11

- ¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
²Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call out to her.
Her warfare really is over.
Her guilt is fully paid for.
Yes, she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her
sins.
- ³A voice is calling out:
In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD.
In the wasteland make a level highway for our God.
- ⁴Every valley will be raised up,
and every mountain and hill will be made low.
The rugged ground will become level,
and the rough places will become a plain.
- ⁵Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed,

and all flesh together will see it.

Yes, the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

⁶A voice was saying, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry out?"

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like a wildflower in the countryside.

⁷ Grass withers, flowers fade,

when the breath of the LORD blows on them.

Yes, the people are grass.

⁸ Grass withers, flowers fade,

but the Word of our God endures forever.

⁹Get up on a high mountain,

O Zion, you herald of good news.

Lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, you herald of good news.

Lift it up! Do not be afraid!

Say to the cities of Judah,

"Here is your God!"

¹⁰Look, God the LORD will come with strength,

and his arm is ruling for him.

Look, his reward is with him.

The result of his work is in front of him.

¹¹Like a shepherd he will care for his flock.

With his arm he will gather the lambs.

He will lift them up on his lap.

He will gently lead the nursing mothers.

SPECIAL MUSIC *"PSALM 23"*

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;

He makes me down to lie

In pastures green; He leadeth me

The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,

And me to walk doth make

Within the paths of righteousness,

E'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

From *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650
Setting by Michael Burkhardt
Copyright 1993 by Morning Star Music Publishers

REVELATION 7:9-17

⁹After these things I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing in front of the throne and of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They called out with a loud voice and said: Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb.

¹¹All the angels stood around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. They fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, ¹²saying: Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen.

¹³One of the elders spoke to me and said, "These people dressed in white robes, who are they and where did they come from?" And I answered him, "Sir, you know." ¹⁴And he said to me:

These are the ones who are coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵Because of this they are in front of the throne of God,

and they serve him day and night in his temple.
He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

¹⁶They will never be hungry or thirsty ever again.

The sun will never beat upon them, nor will any scorching heat,

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd.

He will lead them to springs of living water.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

SPECIAL MUSIC *“HE IS MY SAVIOR”*

He leadeth me; He is my Savior.

In Him, my Lord, I find release.

Befriended, now I live in peace.

Anguish is gone; Night-time is ended.

The day of grace is now ascending.

Christ, the Lord, has set me free.

Befriended, now I live in peace.

J.S. Bach

JOHN 10:11-16

¹¹“I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. ¹³Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

¹⁴“I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me ¹⁵(just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd.

HYMN #177 *“I AM JESUS’ LITTLE LAMB”*

THE OBITUARY

SERMON – PSALM 23

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

¹The LORD is my shepherd.

I lack nothing.

²He causes me to lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside quiet waters.

³He restores my soul.

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

⁴Even 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.

⁵You set a table for me in the presence of my foes.

You drench my head with oil.

My cup is overflowing.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy will pursue me all the days of my life,

and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

HYMN #474 *"I'M BUT A STRANGER HERE"*

PRAYER

P: Almighty God, we praise You for the great company of saints who have finished their lives in faith and now rest from their labors. We remember especially our loved one, Polly, who You have redeemed by the blood of Your Son and received as Your dear child through Holy Baptism. We thank You for giving her to us as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In Your compassion, comfort all who are sad in this hour. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We praise You for Your love in Christ, which sustains us in life and death. In our earthly sorrows, help us find strength in the fellowship of the church, joy in the forgiveness of sins, and hope in the resurrection to eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: You do not leave us comfortless but strengthen and care for us through Your Word and sacrament. You give us family, friends, and neighbors to help when there is loneliness now and in the days to come. Brighten our future with a firm trust in Your promises and care. Lord, in Your mercy,

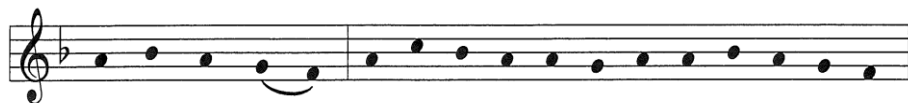
C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: Remove our fears, and make us bold to pray with confidence as our Savior has taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER



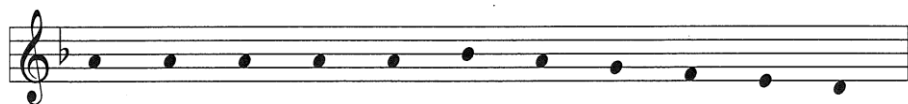
C: Our Fa-ther, who art in heav-en, Hal-low-ed be Thy name,



Thy king-dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heav-en.



Give us this day our dai - ly bread; And for-give us our tres-pass-es,



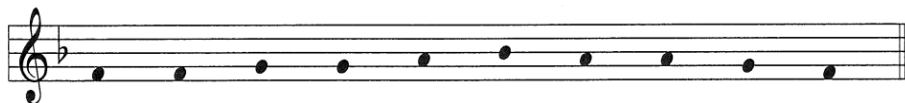
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us;



And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, But de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r



and the glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er.



A

men.

THE APOSTOLIC BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

HYMN #593 *“ON MY HEART IMPRINT THINE IMAGE”*



Officiant
Liturgist
Soloist
Organist

Pastor Timothy Hartwig
Pastor Matthew Moldstad
Carl Bloedel
Katie Hartwig



OBITUARY FOR POLLY EUGENIA BROWNE

Polly Eugenia Browne, 58, died with certainty in her eternal life on December 28, 2020, after a five-year battle with cancer during the end of her earthly life.

She was born March 26, 1962, in Madison, WI, to Marshall F. Browne, Jr., and Caryl (Klug) Browne, who preceded her in death.

She was a graduate of Madison LaFollette High School, Bethany Lutheran College (AA), Mankato State University (BS), Pacific Lutheran University (MA), and Capella University (Ph.D.).

Polly was a lifelong Christian educator, having taught for almost 35 years at various levels. She pointed children to the love of Jesus in Lutheran congregations in Port Orchard, WA, and Golden Valley, MN, and served also for over 16 years at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, MN, where she taught future teachers to notice, wonder, seek, discover, marvel, and appreciate. She also worked many odd jobs over the years, finding joy, for example, in groundskeeping, bartending, being a grill cook, and working in various roles at golf courses in WI, WA, and MN.

Polly enjoyed playing golf, softball, and pickleball; tending the flowers at NorthLinks Golf Course; woodworking; hiking; learning; having adventures; traveling; and especially visiting the National Parks.

She is survived by her brothers, Mark of Cheyenne, WY, and Brad (Cindy) of Allen, TX; sister, Sally (Steve) Hodge of DeForest, WI; and an aunt, Dorothy Haines of Monona, WI. Polly is also survived by six nieces, Stephanie (Jason) Schultz, Kathryn (Matthew) Gefaller, Kelly Browne, Anna (Kyle) Logsdon, Rebecca (Christopher) Fucilla, and Kara (Jordan) Knabach; one nephew, Aaron Browne; eleven grand-nieces and grand-nephews; many beloved cousins and treasured friends; and hundreds of dear former students, all of whom made her life rich and blessed.

Polly was an active member of Peace Lutheran Church in North Mankato where memorial services will be held on Saturday, January 2, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. Private interment will be held at Roselawn Memorial Park in Monona, WI, at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Peace Lutheran Church, Bethany Lutheran College, or the Andreas Cancer Center. The North Mankato Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

Blessed be her memory.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
2090 COMMERCE DRIVE
NORTH MANKATO, MN 56003
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD