

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Funeral Service of Stephen Johnson

## Funeral Service

✠ Stephen W. Johnson ✠

Born: January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1959

Baptized into Christ: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1959

Entered eternal rest in Christ: June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Prelude** -- "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" J.S. Bach

*Please Stand*

### Processional Reading

*Please be Seated*

### Opening Hymn – Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

#670



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, Bright  
2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, More  
3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, Ye  
△ 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, Su -



ser - aphs, cher - u - bim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain:  
glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, Lead their prais - es:  
pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia,  
per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia,



"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,  
"Al - le - lu - ia!" Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal  
al - le - lu - ia!" Ye ho - ly Twelve, ye mar - tyrs  
al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the



pow'rs, Vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'  
 Word, Most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the  
 strong, All saints tri - um - phant, raise the  
 Son, And God the Spir - it, Three in



choirs: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 Lord: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 song: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 One: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

*Please Stand*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

### Placing of the Pall

#### Remembrance of Baptism

- P** In Holy Baptism Stephen was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul says, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"
- C** **We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.**

## Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** **Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**  
**P** Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Stephen and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

*Please be Seated*

## First Reading -- Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.  
He gives power to the faint,  
and to him who has no might he increases strength.  
Even youths shall faint and be weary,  
and young men shall fall exhausted;  
but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;  
they shall run and not be weary;  
they shall walk and not faint.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Second Reading – Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Second Hymn – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty #790



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly  
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,  
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -  
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your  
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -  
made you; Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly  
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall  
dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His  
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is  
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has  
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -  
prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.  
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.  
peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

*Please Stand*

### **Gospel Reading – John 14:1-7**

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

### **Apostles' Creed**

**P** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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.**

*Please be Seated*

## **Sermon**

*Please Stand*

## **Lord's Prayer**

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C** **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.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

**P** ... Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** ... **hear our prayer.**

## **Benedicamus and Benediction**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us go forth in peace,

**C in the name of the Lord. Amen.**

*Please be Seated for the Closing Hymn*





Closing Hymn- For all the Saints

#677



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
 3 Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
 4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!



Who Thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy  
 Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
 Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old And  
 We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; Yet



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
 Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
 win with them the victor's crown of gold!  
 all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,  
 Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
 And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 The golden evening brightens in the west;  
 Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;  
 Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:  
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;  
The King of Glory passes on His way.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

△ 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Tune and text: Public domain

*Please Stand*

### **Removal of Pall**

### **Recessional Readings**

**Postlude** -- "*Sheep May Safely Graze*" J.S. Bach

### **Service Participants**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein  
Organist: Sandy Quinlan

## Obituary

STEPHEN W. JOHNSON, of Pittsburgh (Oakland), passed into eternity on June 11, 2020, at age 61, from peritoneal cancer. Stephen confessed regularly that he was a poor miserable sinner who deserved eternal death. But solely by the grace of God—that is, God’s undeserved love—he was saved from death and given eternal life with the Father through faith in Jesus Christ, who died on the Cross in Stephen’s place for the forgiveness of his sins. This faith was given to him by the power of the Holy Spirit in the waters of Holy Baptism and was nurtured throughout his life by the Word of God and the Sacrament of Holy Communion, as a member of First Trinity Lutheran Church in the Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh for many years and more recently as a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Bridgeville. Stephen was a graduate of the University of Virginia and the University of Pittsburgh Law School. He worked as an attorney at Buchanan Ingersoll, Reed Smith and CONSOL Energy, (now CNX Corporation). He enjoyed genealogy, running and long, exploratory walks in and around Pittsburgh.

His soul is now with Jesus, as his body awaits its resurrection from the dead upon the glorious return of that same Jesus Christ to this earth. THIS is who Stephen was: a sinner redeemed by Christ. Stephen is survived by his beloved wife and best friend, Tracey (nee Hindin), his two wonderful sons, Samuel and Adam; his brother, John (Patti Littman); his brother, Michael (Carrie) Thomas, his sister-in-law, Ruth, and nephews John, Douglas, Benjamin, Jacob and Christopher. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Audrey Johnson, and his brother, Donald. The family will receive friends at Warchol Funeral Home, 3060 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania ([warcholfuneralhome.com](http://warcholfuneralhome.com)) from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020. A Christian funeral service will be held at ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, 3197 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania 15213 at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2020. The family requests no flowers and that in lieu of flowers, if desired, contributions be made to the First Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church Benevolence Fund (531 N Neville St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213), which provides emergency funds to people in need.

