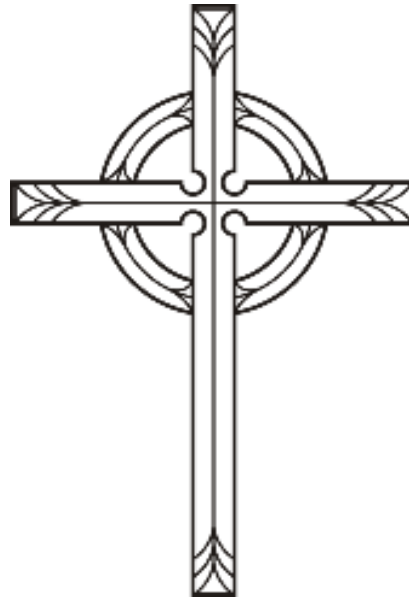


*Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving*

*for the life of*

*Glenn Gordon Hoffa*

*April 6, 1940 ~ February 26, 2025*



~~~~~

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
Hershey, Pennsylvania

March 13, 2025  
10:30 a.m.

~~~~~



## PRELUDE

## GATHERING

P: Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember Glenn Gordon Hoffa before God, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

P: Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

**All: We glorify you.**

P: 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, we praise you.

**All: We praise you.**

P: Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

**All: We worship you.**

P: To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*

watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909  
 Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

**GREETING**

P: 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.**

**PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember Glenn before you today. 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.**

**REMEMBRANCES.....** Teresa M. Kelly  
Bryan M. Hoffa

**FIRST LESSON: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15.....**Kay M. Hoffa

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
<sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
<sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
<sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
<sup>5</sup>a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
<sup>6</sup>a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
<sup>7</sup>a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
<sup>8</sup>a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace..

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff —  
they comfort me.  
<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.

P: The word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

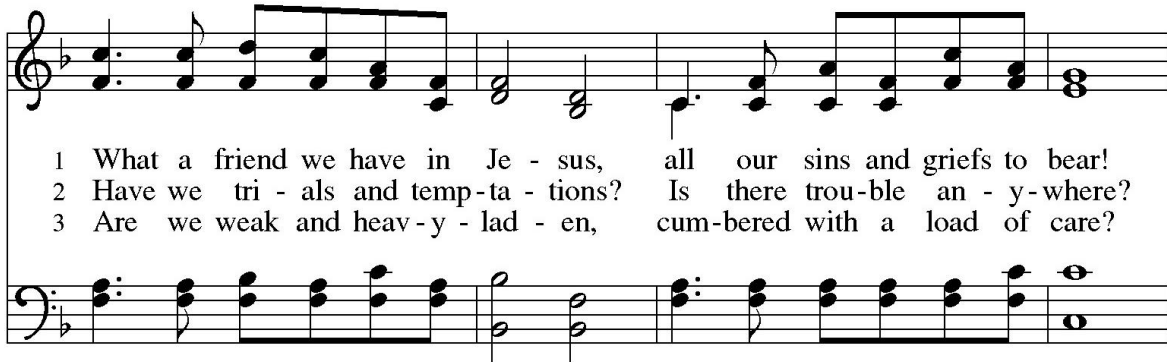
P: The Holy Gospel according to John, 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**HOLY GOSPEL:** John 14:1-6, 25-27

<sup>1</sup>Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>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? <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.  
<sup>25</sup>I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* .....ELW 742



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED:**

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

## **PRAYERS**

P: Let us pray.....Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

## **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**

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

**PRAYER OF COMMENDATION**

P: Let us commend Glenn to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.  
Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Glenn Hoffa.  
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.

P: Let us go forth in peace.

All: In the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia.

**SENDING HYMN: *How Great Thou Art*.....ELW 856**

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.

OFFICIANTS

PRESIDING MINISTER ..... Rev. Jan Mills  
HOMILY ..... Rev. Cindy A. Brommer  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ..... Alan Hair  
USHER ..... Steve Shuey  
LIVESTREAM ..... Kirk Sponaugle

### 3. His Journey's Just Begun - Ellen Brenneman

*Don't think of him as gone away  
his journey's just begun,  
life holds so many facets  
this earth is only one.  
Just think of him as resting  
from the sorrows and the tears  
in a place of warmth and comfort  
where there are no days and years.  
Think how he must be wishing  
that we could know today  
how nothing but our sadness  
can really pass away.  
And think of him as living  
in the hearts of those he touched...  
for nothing loved is ever lost  
and he was loved so much.*

The family invites all to a luncheon downstairs following the service.



*Glenn Gordon Hoffa*  
*April 6, 1940 ~ February 26, 2025*

Glenn Hoffa, 84, of Hershey, peacefully passed away surrounded by family on February 26, 2025 in the Capitol Rehabilitation and Health Center, Harrisburg, PA. He was born April 6, 1940 in Mt. Zion, Lebanon County, PA, a son of the late Earl S. and Grace Mae (Yiengst) Hoffa.

Glenn was a 1958 graduate of the former Fredericksburg High School and also the former Williamsport Technical Institute. He retired from HERCO where he had been a longtime employee of the former Hershey Nursery for 41 1/2 years. As a nurseryman, he kept Hershey beautiful by planting and tending to the many flowers, trees, and shrubs throughout the town and other locations, also. He worked at Farr's Nursery in Womelsdorf, PA for six years prior to Hershey Nursery. Glenn was a member of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Hershey where he had sang in the choir.

Glenn is survived by his wife of 57 years, Marilyn L. (Spangler) Hoffa, whom he married June 24, 1967; son, Bryan M. (Jessica) Hoffa and daughter, Teresa M. Kelly; granddaughter, Kay M. Hoffa and grandson, Ryan M. Marra; nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, June H. Grimes.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Glenn's honor to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 212 Cocoa Avenue, Hershey, PA 17033 or to Hospice of Central PA, 1320 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg, PA 17110, or to a charity of your choice.