

Christian Funeral Service for  
**Herbert Peter Larsen**



**Saint John's Lutheran Church**

Summit, New Jersey

September 10, 2022 | 11:00 AM

# Herbert Peter Larsen

## **Born**

December 5, 1938  
Flushing, New York

## **Baptism**

February 4, 1939  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Flushing, New York

## **Confirmation**

April 12, 1953  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Flushing, New York

## **Marriage**

Karen Helene Riffel  
June 25 , 1977  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Moorestown, New Jersey

## **Death**

July 24, 2022  
Summit, New Jersey

## **Children**

Janet Lynn Larsen  
m. William Stephen Brown  
Mandolyn Rose Larsen Brown

Andrew Peter Larsen

Stephanie Suzanne Crane

<b>PRELUDE</b>	Chorale Prelude on <i>Land of Rest</i>	George Shearing
	Chorale Prelude on <i>Happy Land</i>	Shearing
	Improvisation on <i>Blessed Assurance</i>	Christopher Harlow-Jennings
	Chorale Prelude on <i>Olivet</i>	Mark C. Jones
	Improvisation on "I Saw Him in Childhood"	Harlow-Jennings

I saw him in childhood with eyes brightly beaming,  
at home in the hills where the sun-light was streaming;  
we played with the stars, on the clouds swiftly riding,  
and saw not the cross which the woodlands were hiding.

I saw him in youth when my soul was unfolding,  
my spirit flew high when his glory beholding;  
he beckoned my soul, and he filled me with gladness,  
his glory lent brightness to life's gloom and sadness.

I saw him in manhood, when Adam resembling,  
my soul for his righteous judgment was trembling,  
when dimmed were my eyes and my vision was darkened,  
since unto the tempter my spirit had harkened.

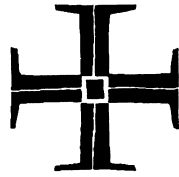
First then I could call him my master and savior,  
first then I could look on the cross as a favor,  
first then I could give him my down-broken spirit,  
in life and in death to rely on his merit.

Since then I have told him, to him I will hurry  
with weeping my face in his bosom to bury;  
Since then I have asked him with mercy to guide me  
And in his pavilion securely to hide me.

To him I will hasten, his name softly calling  
when broken and weary my house shall be falling;  
I'll greet him with joy when my heart ceases beating,  
and unto his kingdom my spirit is fleeting.

Text: Vilhelm Birkedahl (1809–1892),  
trans. Paul Christian Paulsen (1881–1948)

This was Peter's favorite hymn from childhood.



## **GATHERING**

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

*Please stand.*

## **INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**Who made Heaven and Earth.**

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;

**So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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 God 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.

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. **We glorify you.**

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. **We praise you.**

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

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN ELW 756 Eternal Father, Strong to Save



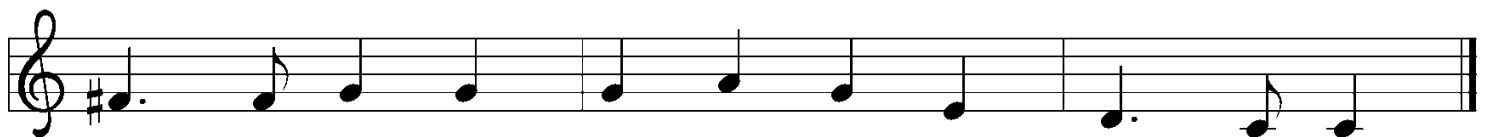
1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os  
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we  
calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we  
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we  
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825–1878, alt.

Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother Peter. 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## **WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE**

### **FIRST READING** Ecclesiastes 3:1–8

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 reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 23

*Spoken responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>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 valley of the shadow of death,  
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.

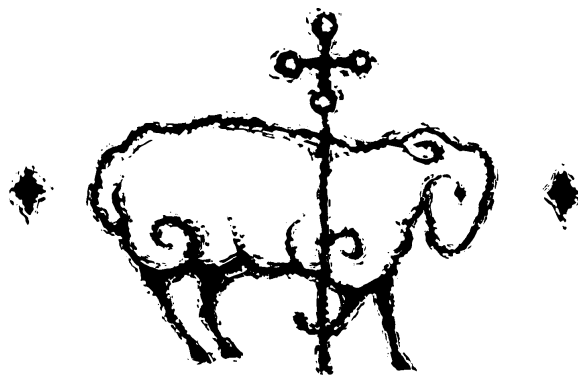
<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

### **SECOND READING** Romans 8:34–35, 37–39

<sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.



*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** ELW 366 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

*Verses 1 & 5*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's  
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909  
Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525–1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823–1889

**GOSPEL** John 11:21–27

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup>She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

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

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet



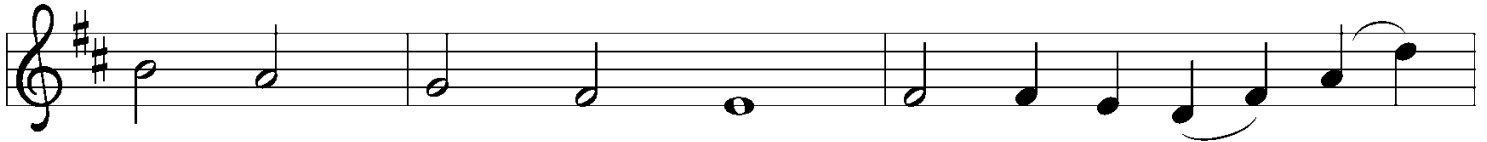
*Please stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW 619 I Know that My Redeemer Lives!

*Verses 1, 2, 4, 7, 8*



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
he lives my mansion to prepare;  
he lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
what joy this blest assurance gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–1799, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

## APOSTLES CREED

Let us confess the faith of the Church, the faith of our Baptism, our trust in life and death:

**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 OF INTERCESSION

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

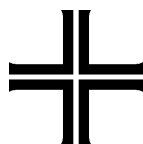
## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

**MUSIC** Improvisation on *In the Garden*

Harlow-Jennings



*Please stand.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION

*If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.*

*The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.  
The vicar serves the wine from the chalice—either by intinction or drinking from the common cup.*

*The assisting minister serves the wine/grape juice in pre-filled individual cups.*

*All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.*

*If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION** Ich Ruf Zu Dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639 J.S. Bach

*Please stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction and a pledge of our inheritance of life eternal where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## COMMENDATION

Let us commend Peter to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Peter. 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. **Amen.**

## CANTICLE *Nunc Dimittis*



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the  
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions  
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

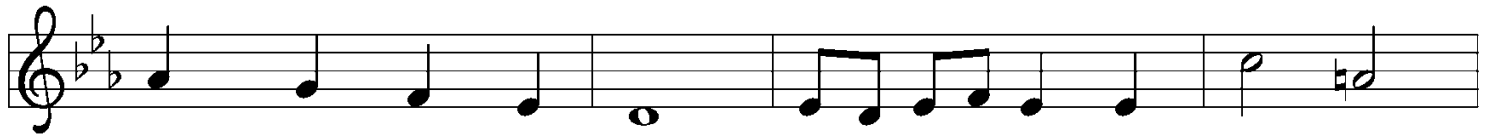
SENDING HYMN ELW 376 Thine Is the Glory



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

*Refrain*



where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939  
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

*Please proceed to the Garden of the Resurrected for the interment.*

POSTLUDE Nun Danket Alle Gott

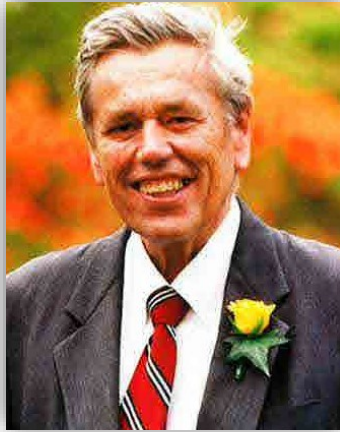
Sigfrid Karg-Elert



**Reception & Fellowship**

You are invited to greet the family at a reception following today's service in Hinman Hall.

# Herbert Peter Larsen



Herbert Peter Larsen, known as “Peter,” was born in 1938 in Flushing, NY. He was raised by his mother Edna because his father, also Herbert Peter, had died shortly before his birth. He graduated from Bayside High School and matriculated at Columbia University. While at Columbia he was active in the Lutheran student fellowship, chorus, Psi Upsilon, Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, and the football and crew teams. After graduation, he was commissioned a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps and flew jet fighters out of Okinawa. After his service he attended Columbia Law School and was admitted to the New York State Bar, the U.S. Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He worked in the customs division of the U.S. Department of Justice and then in private practice.

Peter met Karen Riffel while she was attending Columbia Teachers’ College. They married and moved to Summit, New Jersey, where they raised Janet and Andrew. They joined St. John’s Lutheran Church in 1978.

Peter continued his interest in studying theology and was a regular user of the church library. Quick-witted and intellectual, he also enjoyed debating politics and completing Sudoku and other thought puzzles. He was a proud fan of the NY Yankees and Columbia University Lions.

Family was important to Peter, especially reminiscing with his cousin Stephen about their shared childhood. Holding his granddaughter Mandolyn caused Peter’s face to light up. Watching her liveliness and joy of discovery brought him a great deal of happiness. Peter will be missed.