

*We would like to thank everyone for their love and support during this difficult time.*

*We realize how truly blessed we are to have such wonderful family and friends. Your expressions of sympathy will never be forgotten.*

*- The Family of Mike Niedermaier*



ST STEPHEN'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Musician and Vocalist: Ben Dyleuth

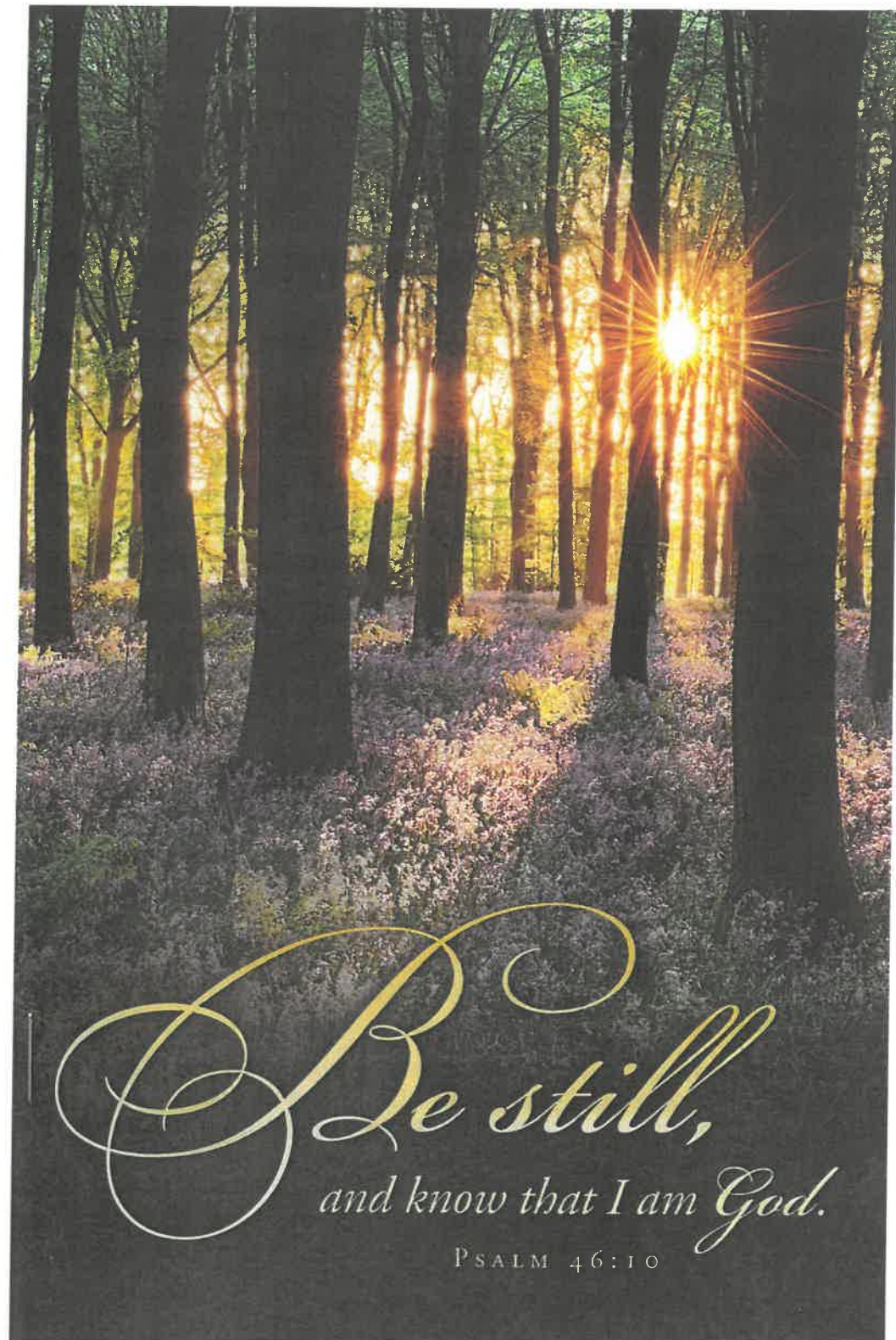
**Bulletin Acknowledgements**

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No. 3514



*Be still,  
and know that I am God.*

PSALM 46:10

A Service Celebrating the Life of  
**Michael J. Niedermaier**

Born: May 8, 1952 † Died: April 22, 2021

Friday, May 14, 2021  
11:00 a.m.



**Prelude**

**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 Michael,  
to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful  
redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

**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 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.

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his  
baptism, Michael was clothed with Christ. In the day of  
Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory.

**Hymn**

**"On Eagle's Wings"**

**ELW 787  
vs. 1, 2**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
who abide in this 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 God's wings your refuge,  
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

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**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**

Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort,  
graciously tend those who mourn, that, casting all our  
sorrow on you, we may know the consolation of your love;  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**WORD**

**Reading**

**Philippians 4:4-9**

**Reader: Dave Niedermaier**

Brothers and sisters:  
Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your  
kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have  
no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, Word of Life  
*Thanks be to God*

**Reading**

**The Road Goes Ever On**  
By J.R.R. Tolkien  
Reader: Tony Bill

*The Road goes ever on and on  
Down from the door where it began.  
Now far ahead the Road has gone,  
And I must follow, if I can,  
Pursuing it with eager feet,  
Until it joins some larger way,  
Where many paths and errands meet.  
And whither then? I cannot say.*

*Roads go ever ever on,  
Over rock and under tree,  
By caves where never sun has shone,  
By streams that never find the sea;  
Over snow by winter sown,  
And through the merry flowers of June,  
Over grass and over stone,  
And under mountains in the moon.*

*The Road goes ever on and on  
Out from the door where it began.  
Now far ahead the Road has gone,  
Let others follow it who can!  
Let them a journey new begin,  
But I at last with weary feet  
Will turn towards the lighted inn,  
My evening-rest and sleep to meet.*

**Time for Memories**

**Matt Niedermaier**  
**Mira Niedermaier**

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

**Gospel**

**John 14:1-6, 27**

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 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? 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. And you know the way to the place 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. 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.

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

**Meditation**

**Pastor John**

**Hymn**

**"Borning Cry"**

**ELW 732**

"I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
you were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun."

"In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been,  
with just one more surprise."

"I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold."

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### Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said,  
"I am the resurrection and the life."

*Petition response:*

**Pastor:** ... God of mercy,  
**People:** hear our prayer.

**Special Music**

**"The Lord's Prayer"**

**Malotte**

**SENDING**

**Commendation**

**Benediction**

**Special Music**

**"When Irish Eyes Are Smiling"**

**McCormack**  
Public Domain

**Sending**

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

**Postlude**



### I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took his hand when I heard him call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day  
to laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks undone must stay that way.  
I found that peace at close of day.  
If my parting has left a void  
then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
ah, yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with ties of sorrow  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I've savored much,  
good friends, good times,  
a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts and share with me  
God wanted me now:  
He set me free.*

Author Unknown