**THE FUNERAL SERVICE**

**FOR Full Name**

Tracy Lutheran Church Tracy, Minnesota

Day, Month, Year Time

Eric Natwick, Pastor Vicki Streifel, Accompanist

**PRELUDE**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *“How Great Thou Art”* **#856**

**GREETING:** 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, Full Name, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful Redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief. All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his baptism, First Name was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory.

The Apostle Paul writes: “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.” **Thanks be to God.**

 **PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *“How Great Thou Art”* **#856**

 **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, Full Name. 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.**

**FAMILY REMARKS**

**FIRST READING** Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

**PSALM 23** *(read in unison)* **The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want; He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. 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** Revelation 21:1-7

**READING OF THE OBITUARY**

**GOSPEL** John 14:1-6

**SERMON** Pastor Eric

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *“On Eagle’s Wings"* **#787**

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED: 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** (Response is: “Lord, in Your mercy,” **... “hear our prayer.”)**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMENDATION:** Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend Your servant, Full Name. 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 everlastingpeace, and into the glorious company of the saints of light.

**PRAYER**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** *“Amazing Grace"* **#779**

**POSTLUDE**

*Following the service, you are invited to our Fellowship Hall in the basement for lunch and fellowship.*

*On behalf of First Name’s family, a sincere thank you is offered to all who have shared in this service and in the visitation. Your expressions of kindness, caring and sympathy are much appreciated during this difficult time.*

Merlyn “Merly” Joseph Mickelson age 81 of Tracy passed away Sunday, March 21, 2021 at Sanford Medical Center in Sioux Falls.

Merly Mickelson was born, along with his twin, Marilyn, on the family farm in Holly Township, rural Tracy, on May 6, 1939 to Ernest & Ruby (Shaw) Mickelson.

He went to country school and later to Tracy High School graduating with the class of 1957.

Merly was a talented athlete, especially in baseball.  He was well known for his 90+ mph fast ball and was even recruited to play in the Major Leagues.  While that didn’t happen, he did play for the Tracy Engineers for many years and led them to several State Tournaments.

Merly was a member of the National Guard for over 20 years.  He also had many other jobs over the years, including working at CHS for 20 years.  But the job that gave him the most joy was being Grandpa to Hunter “the Big Ticket” and Chase “Odie”.  He was very proud of them, especially their athletic abilities, and would often travel to Jonesboro to watch them.  He was well known in Jonesboro even though he didn’t live there.

Merly enjoyed playing cards, fishing, hunting, and watching sports on TV.  On February 8, 2015, Merly sustained a traumatic brain injury from a bad fall and became a resident of Prairie View Senior Living in Tracy.  He was well liked by the staff and other residents especially when he would sing “Sweet Idolette” and other songs.  He will be remembered for his love of cookies and coffee!  Merly was truly a legend in Tracy and the surrounding area due in large part to his huge personality.  He knew everyone and everyone knew him. He had a wicked sense of humor and was known for making dry comments that always made people laugh.  His presence would light up any room he entered.  Merly was famous for giving nicknames and he never forgot the nicknames he gave even after his brain injury.  If you were lucky enough to have a nickname, you knew you were special!

Merly is survived by his son & daughter-in-law Darien and Lynne;

by his grandsons: Hunter & Chase;

by his granddaughter Lindsey;

by his great granddaughter, Penelope;

by his twin Marilyn Hansen of Currie;

by his brothers and their wives: Jerome & Judy Mickelson, and Dick & Jan Mickelson;

and by many “Favorite” nieces and nephews, and other relatives and many, manyfriends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ernest & Ruby;

by his siblings and their spouses: Bev and Jack Adams, Roger and Anna Mae Mickelson, Duane “Sam” and Donna Mickelson, and brother-in-law Richard Hansen.

Lord, now lettest thou thy Servant depart

in Peace, according to thy Word.

Luke 2:29

(4.66”)



Service Of Remembrance & Celebration

For The Life Of

Merlyn “Merly” Joseph Mickelson

May 6, 1939 - March 21, 2021