

— GOING — *Home*

*Come unto me, all ye that
labour and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.*

MATTHEW 11:28

July 27th, 2025

CHRIST THE VICTOR  LUTHERAN CHURCH

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



MERLYN RAY WOODS
“WOODY”

Born
April 7, 1939

Called Heavenward
June 13, 2025

The Words of Welcome and Opening Prayer

Invocation

Pastor: In the comfort that the Redeemer provides: we make our beginning in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

Pastor: We know that our Redeemer lives!

All: What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

Hymn of Invocation: *“What a Friend We Have In Jesus”*
770 Lutheran Service Book

Psalm 23

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,

ALL: HE LEADETH ME BESIDE THE STILL WATERS,

Pastor: He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

ALL: YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL, FOR THOU ART WITH ME;

Pastor: Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

ALL: THOU PREPAREST A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES.

Pastor: Thou anointest my head with oil;

ALL: MY CUP RUNNETH OVER.

Pastor: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

ALL: AND I WILL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.

Special Music: *“Way Over Yonder”*
sung by Darlene Rooney
Words & Music by Carole King

John 5:24-26 (The Authority of Jesus)

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (Present Weakness & Resurrection Life)

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Meditation

“Nothing Can Separate Us from the Love of God”
Romans 8:31-39

Special Music:

“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”
sung by Darlene Rooney

CCLI #4768151

Prayers of the Church

Lord in Your mercy,
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 Trespases
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!**

A Eulogy for Woody

Closing Song:

“I’m But A Stranger Here”

748 Lutheran Service Book

Nunc Dimittis

DJA: “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies’ and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.” John 11:25-26

PMC: Lord, now You let Your servants go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.

DJA: My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people:

PMC: A light to reveal you to the nations

DJA: And the glory of your people Israel

ALL: GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT; AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.

Benedicamus and Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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.
Amen.

Let us go forth in peace,
In the name of the Lord. Amen.



Officiant: Pastor Mark Chase
Deacon: John Angove
Pianist: Danielle Przewlocki
Special Music: Darlene Rooney

Please join us after the service for a reception in our Fellowship Hall

In lieu of flowers, please direct donations to
American Cancer Society
P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741 | 1-800-227-2345





Today we gather to honor and remember the life of Woody Woods—a beloved husband, uncle, friend, and faithful servant. Woody passed away on June 13, 2025, in Gilbert, Arizona, at the age of 86, after a brief illness. Though his passing brings us sorrow, we also gather with gratitude for the life he lived and the joy he brought to so many.

Woody was born on April 7, 1939, in Hastings, Nebraska. He spent his early years between Nebraska and Colorado, attending public schools and participating in high school sports. He especially loved track and field, and he took great pride in running the final leg of the relay race—an image that, in many ways, reflects the perseverance, strength, and reliability he demonstrated throughout his life.

Woody served his country with honor in the United States Army from 1961 to 1963, attaining the rank of Specialist 4 as an Infantryman. In the final phase of his service, he was entrusted with training new

recruits who would be deployed to Vietnam, a serious and sacred responsibility that he carried with pride.

For over 60 years, Woody shared a loving and devoted marriage with his wife, Sharon. Together, they built a life rich in adventure, community, and love. They spent five unforgettable years traveling full-time in their motorhome, exploring the beauty of the open road. After many winters in Arizona, they eventually made it their permanent home 10 years

Woody was a man of daily discipline and quiet joy. He worked out regularly at the fitness center in Florence and was known to enjoy life's simple pleasures, especially a good cup of coffee and a pastry. He was steady, dependable, and kind. His calm spirit and easy smile made others feel comfortable and welcome, whether they had known him for decades or had just met him.

He is survived by his beloved Sharon, and by many nieces and nephews—Brian and Jeff Woods, Bret and Paul Coleman, Dawn Vezie, Rebecca DePenning, Jeanna Coleman, and Deborah Dunn—each of whom holds special memories of Uncle Woody and the ways he touched their lives.

Though Woody has completed his final lap on this side of eternity, we give thanks that his race was one well run—with strength, with purpose, and with love. We entrust him now to the care of his Savior, and we carry forward his legacy of steadfastness, faith, and quiet joy.

May God grant comfort to all who grieve, and peace to the one we remember today.