

In Loving Memory

+ Rev. Richard John Mauthe +
June 20, 1948 – May 14, 2026



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church and Academy
7570 N Thornydale Road Tucson, Arizona
(520) 744-2665 www.beautifulsavior.net
Rev. Jeff Gallen & Rev. David Pavesic
James Higgs, Director of Music
Somlee Lee, Accompanist
Garrett Bryant, AV Sound tech
June 14, 2026

Rev. Richard John Mauthe, beloved husband, father, grandfather, pastor, teacher, and friend, passed away peacefully at home on May 14, 2026, surrounded by his loved ones, following a brief battle with cancer. He was 77.

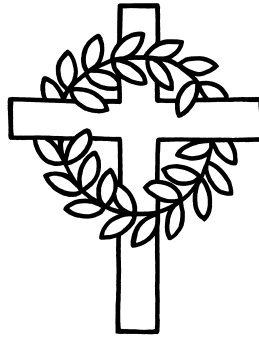
Born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Richard was raised in Cranford and graduated from Cranford High School and Muhlenberg College, where he studied German Language and Literature. He later earned a Master's degree from Lehigh University and taught German in the Allentown School District for 12 years.

In 1982, Richard answered a call to ministry and entered seminary in Philadelphia. Ordained in 1986, he faithfully served Lutheran congregations in Pennsylvania for more than two decades, including Old Goshenhoppen Lutheran Union Church, Advent Lutheran Church, and St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Bethlehem until his retirement in 2010. He continued teaching and interim ministry work throughout retirement.

Richard loved running, genealogy, gardening, birding, model railroads, and antique cars. In 2024, he published *The Prodigal Son's Prodigal Father*, reflecting his deep faith and love of scripture.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 54 years, Edith; his daughters, Alyssa Gateman (Eric) and Sarah Mauthe (Gary Plessl); his sister, Barbara Conrad; his grandchildren and step-grandchildren; and his cherished dogs Riley, Freddie, and Jack.

Richard will be remembered for his unwavering faith, gentle wisdom, kindness, humor, and deep love for family and community. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched through ministry, teaching, and friendship.



PRELUDE: *How Great Thou Art*

WELCOME

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

OPENING SONG: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887
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WELCOME & REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

P We begin 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 Richard, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

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.



Richard's message will be carried forward if you remember to praise and thank God daily and share His boundless love with everyone you meet.
Bring the light of Christ to our broken world!

SONG: *Keep In Mind that Jesus Christ Has Died for Us*
 Refrain is sung by the congregation and verses by James Higgs

Refrain



Keep in mind that Je - sus Christ has died for us and is ris - en from the



dead. He is our sav - ing Lord; he is joy for all a - ges.



1 If we die with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord.



Refrain
If we en - dure with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord.



2 In him all our sor - row, in him all our joy. In



Refrain
him hope of glo - ry, in him all our love.



3 In him our re - demp - tion, in him all our grace. In



Refrain
him our sal - va - tion, in him all our peace.

Text: From 2 Timothy 2
 Music: Lucien Deiss, b. 1921
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother Richard. 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.

C **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Lamentations 3: 22-26, 31-33

- ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
²⁴ “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”
²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.
³¹ For the Lord will not
reject forever.
³² Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
³³ for he does not willingly afflict
or grieve anyone.

Romans 8: 31b- 35, 38-39

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ 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.

John 14:1-7

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going."

REMEMBRANCES

MESSAGE OF HOPE: *Pr. David Pavesic*



SONG: *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*



1 O Love that will not let me go, I rest my wea - ry soul in
2 O Light that fol - lowest all my way, I yield my flick - 'ring torch to
3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not close my heart to
4 O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not ask to fly from



thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that
thee; my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that
thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain and
thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and



in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.

Text: George Matheson, 1842–1906, alt.
Music: ST. MARGARET, Albert L. Peace, 1844–1912
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P** Let us pray.
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.
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.
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.
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 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.
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.
- C** **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: *In Christ Alone* ~ Choir

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE ALTAR

(The Blessing of the Bread and Wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.)



LORD'S PRAYER

P Remember us in your kingdom, dear Lord, and teach us to pray...

C **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.**



*We welcome **ALL** to Communion for it is the Lord's Table and Jesus's gift of grace to the world. Children may commune at any age at the discretion of the parents. Otherwise a blessing will be shared.*

The Pastor will give instructions on receiving Communion by intinction. Please come forward as directed by the ushers. Hold open your hand to receive the bread. All of our bread is gluten free. The communion assistants will have a divided chalice with wine (large section) and white grape juice (smaller section) for you to dip in the bread.

If you wish to have communion brought to your seat, please notify an usher.

COMMUNION MUSIC: *My Jesus, I Love Thee* ~ Somlee Lee and Rebecca Solomon
It Is Well With My Soul ~ Somlee Lee

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We thank you, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have fed us in a way our hearts can understand, with the saving body and blood of Jesus Christ. Enliven us by your presence in this meal, that we may be your presence in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

COMMENDATION

P Let us commend Richard John Mauthe to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

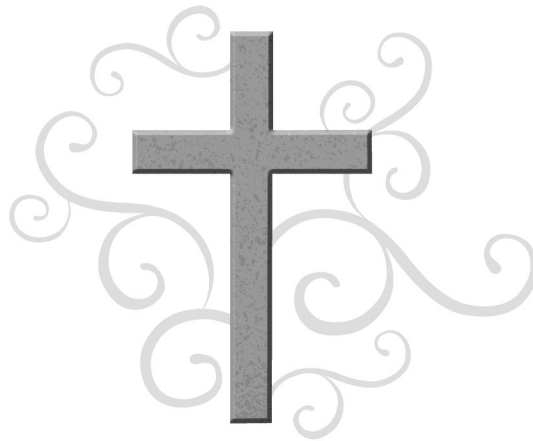
(Silence is kept.)

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Richard. 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.

C **Amen.**

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **in the name of Christ. Amen.**



“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven in the lives of others.”

- Pericles

SONG: *Great is thy Faithfulness*



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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POSTLUDE: *Abide with Me*

You are invited to process to Werner Heritage Hall to await the family, share memories, and refreshments.



“The love of God we share comforts and endures.”

Contributions may be made to LSS-SW (Lutheran Social Service of the Southwest), Lutheran World Relief, and Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.

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