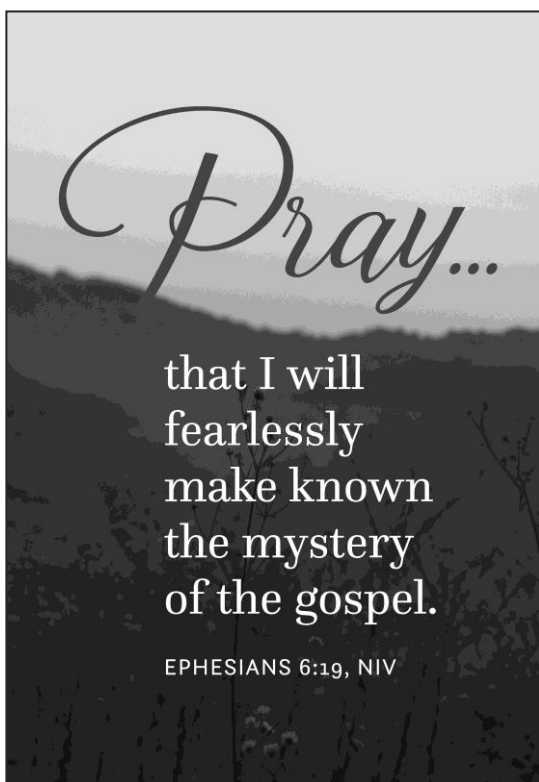

Grace Lutheran Church & School



**MEMORIAL SERVICE:
REV. RICK GRAMS**

*"I am the
resurrection
and the life."*
JOHN 11:25



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

460 75TH AVE NE
FRIDLEY, MN 55432

FUNERAL: REV. RICK GRAMS

JUNE 14, 2022 – 11:00 AM

Pastor: John P. Hein

Web: www.FridleyLutheran.org

Email: john.p.hein@gmail.com

Phone: 763-784-8784

Organist: Sue Nelson

THE ORDER OF THE MEMORIAL SERVICE

† **REV. RICK GRAMS** †

Worship Preparation:.....*Psalm 145, TLH p. 155 f.*

Family Entrance:

Invocation & Prayer:

Hymn:.....*WS 744: How Great Thou Art*

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed. [Refrain]

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to Thee,
"How great Thou art! How great Thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to Thee,
"How great Thou art! How great Thou art!"

2. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin. [Refrain]
4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" [Refrain]

Brief Biography:..... With WS 785: Children of the Heavenly Father

The pilgrimage of Ricky Richard Grams through this world of sin and sorrow into the victorious glory of heaven may be summed up as follows: Rick's earthly pilgrimage began when he was given life by his Creator on December 15, 1951, in Beaver Dam, WI, the son of Rau Ann nee Prill and Willis Grams. He was given spiritual life and became a Child of God through the gift of Holy Baptism on December 27, 1952 at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Markesan, WI. **Galatians 3:26-27:** "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

Rick started receiving the precious gift of the Lord's life-giving body and blood following confirmation on May 29, 1966, at Faith Lutheran Church in Markesan. His confirmation memory passage was **Revelation 2:10:** "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

**SING(♩): Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.**

Rick graduated from Immanuel Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI, in 1970. Thereafter Rick served in the United States Army from 1970-1974 as a linguist. Much of his service was in top secret operations in European countries.

Rick was united in marriage to Gloria nee Prellwitz on June 21, 1975, at Faith Lutheran Church in Markesan. The LORD blessed their marital union with Christian companionship and with three children: Jessica, Michael, and Jason. **Psalms 128:3-4:** "Your wife *shall be* like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house, your children like olive plants all around your table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD."

**SING(♩): God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish
From all evil things He spares them
In His mighty arms He bears them.**

Following marriage, Rick prepared for the pastoral ministry at Immanuel Lutheran College and Seminary, graduating in 1982. Committed to the truth of the Word of God, Rev. Grams served as a faithful pastor at various congregations in the Church of the Lutheran Confession, including St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Winner, SD, simultaneously at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pierre, SD; Salem Lutheran Church in Eagle Lake, MN; Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Red Wing, MN; and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Helca, SD. Rev. Grams genuinely loved what he was called to do, living a life of service to others for 37 years in the pastoral ministry, retiring in July of 2016 at Hecla.

Thereafter he lived in Boise, ID, and New Brighton, MN. **1 Corinthians 4:1-2** “Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.”

Rick was an extremely organized note taker with a silly sense of humor. He enjoyed reading, keeping up with the weather, watching movies, and, most of all, his family. Rick was a kid at heart and was always participating in any sport or hobby in which his children were active, also being an avid fan of the Minnesota sports teams. His joyful spirit will be missed by many.

**SING(♪): Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.**

Through the inspired Word of God and work of the Holy Spirit, Rick was committed to its truth and understood by faith the payment his Savior made for his sins, living his life in thanksgiving to Him. **Ephesians 1:13-14** “In [Christ] you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”

After facing multiple health complications – with his wife, Gloria, faithfully supporting him – Rick’s soul was summoned to be with his Lord Jesus on Thursday, June 9, 2022, his time of grace here on earth being 70 years, 5 months, and 25 days. His earthly remains will be laid to rest on a later date at Mackford Union Cemetery near Markesan, WI, awaiting the Last Day of the world when our Lord will invite all of His believers: “*Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world*” (**Matthew 25:34**).

Rick is survived by his wife of 47 years, Gloria Grams of South St. Paul, MN; children, Jessica (Fletcher) Waltman of Boise, ID, Michael (Shawn) Grams of Cottage Grove, MN, and Jason (Kassandra) Grams of South St. Paul, MN; grandchildren, Garrett & Evan Waltman, Holden & Lauren Grams, and Ruth Grams; brother, James (Connie) Grams; step-siblings Cheryl Smith, Vincent Smith, and Doris Smith-Wedel; nieces; nephews; and other loving relatives and friends.

We thank the Lord for blessing us with Rick (Pastor Grams) and allowing him to touch our lives in the way that he did as a husband, father, grandfather, pastor, brother-in-Christ, and friend. **Job 1:21**: “The LORD gave, the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD.”

**SING(♪): Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne’er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.**

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 71 (selected)

P: In You, O LORD, I put my trust; Let me never be put to shame.

C: Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape;

P: Incline Your ear to me, and save me.

C: Be my strong refuge, To which I may resort continually; ...

P: For You are my rock and my fortress.

C: Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, ...

P: For You are my hope, O Lord GOD; You are my trust from my youth.

C: By You I have been upheld from birth; You are He who took me out of my mother's womb.

P: My praise shall be continually of You.

C: Let my mouth be filled with Your praise And with Your glory all the day. ...

P: My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness And Your salvation all the day, For I do not know their limits.

C: I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD; I will make mention of Your righteousness, of Yours only.

P: O God, You have taught me from my youth;

C: And to this day I declare Your wondrous works.

P: Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, do not forsake me,

C: Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come.

P: Also Your righteousness, O God, is very high,

C: You who have done great things; O God, who is like You? ...

P: My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing to You, And my soul, which You have redeemed.

C: My tongue also shall talk of Your righteousness all the day long; ...

Scripture Readings of Comfort:

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven And is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn:..... *TLH 436: The Lord's My Shepherd I'll Not Want*

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.
2. My soul He doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.
3. Yea, tho' I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.
4. My table Thou hast furnishéd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy, all my life,
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

Sermon:..... *Romans 16:25-27*

²⁵ Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began ²⁶ but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith-- ²⁷ to God, alone wise, *be* glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen (NKJVTM)

RICK'S JOY IN REVEALING THE MYSTERY

Hymn:..... *TLH 493: Thou Who the Night in Prayer Didst Spend*

1. Thou who the night in prayer didst spend
And then didst Thine apostles send
And bidd'st us pray the harvest's Lord
To send forth sowers of Thy Word,
Hear and Thy chosen servants bless
With sev'nfold gifts of holiness.

2. Oh, may Thy pastors faithful be,
Not lab'ring for themselves, but Thee!
Give grace to feed with wholesome food
The sheep and lambs bought by Thy blood,
To tend Thy flock, and thus to prove
How dearly they the Shepherd love.
3. Oh, may Thy people faithful be
And in Thy pastors honor Thee
And with them work and for them pray
And gladly Thee in them obey,
Receive the prophet of the Lord
And gain the prophet's own reward!
4. So may we when our work is done
Together stand before Thy throne
And joyful hearts and voices raise
In one united song of praise,
With all the bright celestial host,
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer:

Lord's Prayer:.....*Solo*

Benediction & Announcements:

Closing Hymn: *TLH 341: Crown Him with Many Crowns*

1. Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.
3. Crown Him the Lord of Love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wondering eye
At mysteries so bright!

- 4. Crown Him the Lord of Life**
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.
- 5. Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n,**
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns
For He is King of all.

Announcements:

- † Rick's family thanks all who have been supportive and encouraging during this time of their temporary loss but Rick's great gain.
- † Everyone is invited to stay for a fellowship meal in the church's fellowship hall following the funeral service.
- † A committal will follow at a later date at Mackford Union Cemetery located near Markesan, WI.
- † Video of the worship service will be archived at the following website under "Sermons": FridleyLutheran.org
- † It is suggested that memorials be designated to the ILC Student Aid Fund Endowment. The family sincerely thanks those who express themselves in this fashion and conveys its gratitude for such remembrances at this time.
- † Rev. Grams will be remembered at the CLC Convention memorial service on Sat., June 25, 9 am, at the fieldhouse of the Immanuel Lutheran College campus in Eau Claire, WI.
- † Correspondence:
Gloria Grams; 455 4th Ave S.; South St. Paul, MN 55075
Email: 72grandma75@gmail.com / Cell: (651) 380-6619 (can text)

