



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

460 75TH AVE NE

FRIDLEY, MN 55432

MEMORIAL: BARBARA CRANDALL

JULY 26, 2025 – 12:00 PM

In my Father's house
are many mansions:

if it were not so,

I would have told you.



John 14:2

Pastor: John P. Hein

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Phone: 763-784-8784

Organist: Sue Nelson

THE ORDER OF THE MEMORIAL SERVICE

✝ **BENNIE ALLEN CRANDALL** ✝

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 46, TLH p. 134*

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

Bennie Allen Crandall was given life by his Creator on January 12, 1943, the son of the late Orville and Agnes Crandall, the fifth of seven children, living near Detroit Lakes, MN. He was given spiritual life and became a child of God through the gift of Holy Baptism, also being confirmed at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Ponsford, MN. **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."

Bennie's family was very poor financially, but rich in the faith of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Bennie lost his parents by the age of 18, and his older siblings provided care and direction. He moved to the Twin Cities shortly thereafter, under the care of his older brother Ivan Crandall. Bennie worked several jobs at Knox Lumber and welding, before settling into his long-time career with the MN State Highway Department (MnDOT) in 1967. He is acknowledged for building, repairing, and plowing many of our state highways. Often, Bennie's children would hear him put on his work boots in the middle of the night as he left to plow the roads during a bad snowstorm. Bennie was most proud of his favorite mission: the award-winning Wildflower Project along Highway 10, where he restored natural pollinator habitats along roadsides to improve vegetation, wildlife, and safety. **Colossians 3:17** And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

**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.**

During the early years, Bennie met his wife, Barbara. It was a chance encounter: she was living with her father in Anoka, and Bennie was working on his motorcycle across the street at a friend's house. Bennie and Barbara met over a plate of cookies and his motorcycle. Shortly thereafter, on December 21, 1963, they married and spent sixty years together in loving and devoted Christian companionship. **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."

Early in their marriage, Bennie and Barbara lived in and renovated several houses before they moved to their forever home in St. Michael, MN. It was there that they raised their 3 children: Kim, Cindy, and Mike. They provided a lovely home for themselves and their children. While Bennie worked full time at MnDOT, Barbara cared for the children at home. Bennie was a loving and reliable father, never forgetting his children even as they became adults. He always repaired cars, renovated homes, and rescued those stuck on the side of the road. In retirement, Bennie and Barbara renovated their family home to

provide adult foster care. For many years, they cared for the elderly through the Wright County Social Services.

Bennie's hobbies were many and spanned various fields. He was often self-taught through his many books. He loved his time in the field and on the water, being an expert fisherman and hunter. Nobody could fillet a Northern like Bennie, his favorite catch of the day! He hand-carved and painted many fishing lures, adding to his expansive hunting and fishing collection. In later years, when walking became difficult and his hands and mind could not be silent, his artistry moved to thread. He hand-embroidered quilts for his grandchildren, great grandchildren, and several cherished wall hangings.

Galatians 2:20: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

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.**

Bennie was committed to the truth of God's Word and understood by faith the payment his Savior made for his sins, living his life in thanks to Him. Over the years he maintained his confession of faith through membership at Berea Lutheran Church, Living Savior Lutheran Church, and Grace Lutheran Church.

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."

Bennie's soul was summoned to be with his Lord Jesus on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, his time of grace here on earth being 82 years, 5 months, and 5 days. On July 27, 2025, his earthly remains will be laid to rest at the cemetery located at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ponsford, Minnesota, 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).

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.**

Bennie was preceded in death by his parents, 5 siblings, and his wife, Barbara Kaye Crandall. He is survived by his older sister Marie (Curt) Mecklenberg, his 3 children Kim Rochelle Bernthal (David), Cindy Ann Bruckbauer (Robert), Michael Jeffery Crandall (Jessica Marshall), 9 grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren.

We thank the Lord for blessing us with Bennie and allowing him to touch our lives in the way that he did as a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, 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.

Solo:.... *WS 743: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (David Bernthal)*

Responsive Psalm of Comfort: *Psalm 23*

P: The LORD is my shepherd;

C: I shall not want.

P: He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

C: He leads me beside the still waters.

P: He restores my soul;

C: He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

*P: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I
will fear no evil;*

C: For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

P: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

C: You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

P: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;

C: And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Scripture Readings of Comfort:

Romans 15:4; Lamentations 3:19-26; Isaiah 43:1-3;

Romans 8:14-23; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58; Hebrews 11:13-16

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:..... *LSB 727: On Eagles' Wings*

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge,
My Rock in Whom I trust." [Refrain]

Refrain

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

2. The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His Wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. [Refrain]
3. You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day,
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come. [Refrain]
4. For to His angels He's given a command,
To guard you in all of your ways,
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. [Refrain]

Sermon:..... *John 14:1-6*

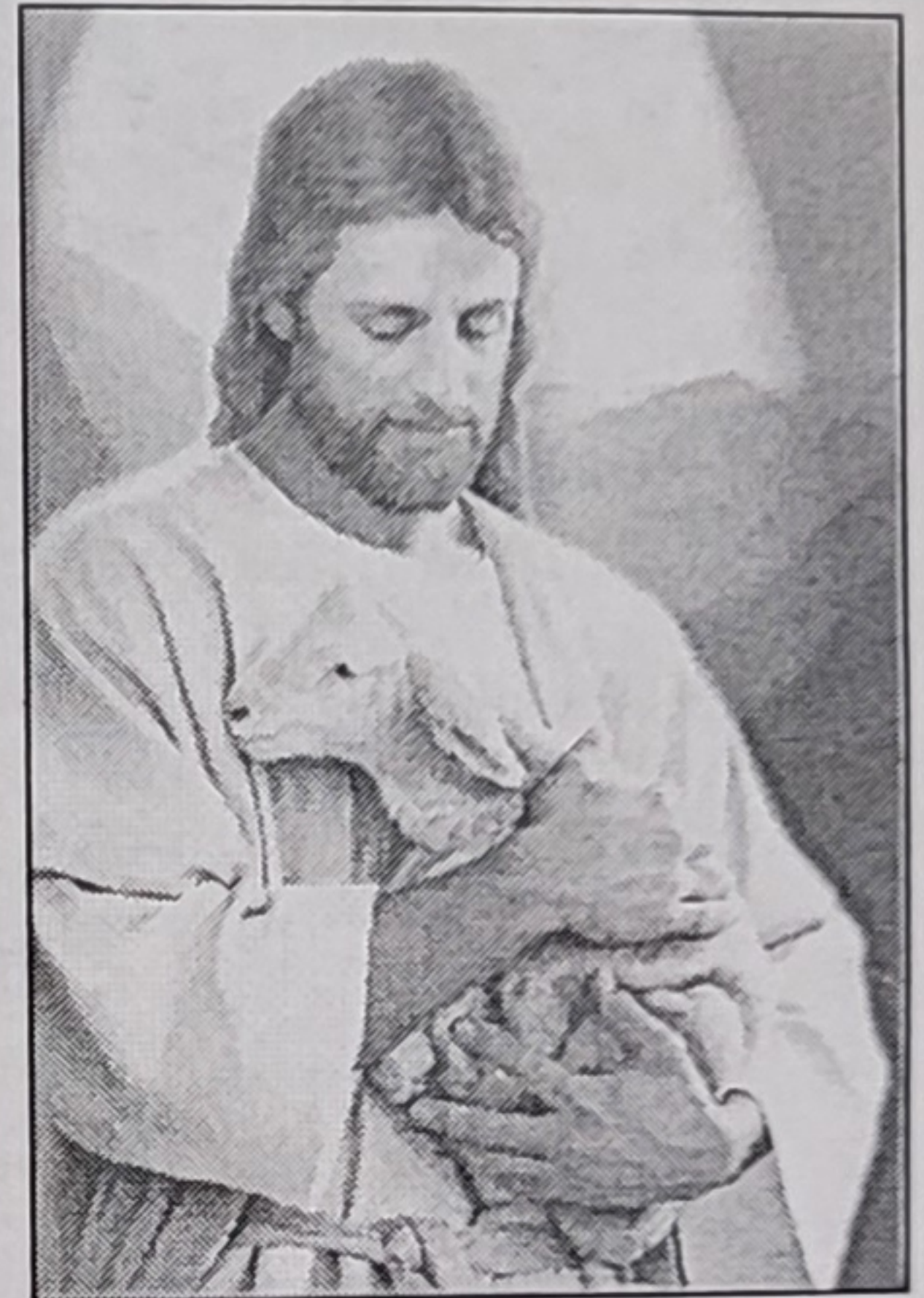
¹ "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² "In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. ⁴ "And where I go you know, and the way you know." ⁵ Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (NKJVTM)

BENNIE'S EVERLASTING HOME



Hymn:..... TLH 413: *I Walk in Danger All the Way*

1. I walk in danger all the way.
The thought shall never leave me
That Satan, who has marked his prey,
Is plotting to deceive me.
This foe with hidden snares
May seize me unawares
If e'er I fail to watch and pray.
I walk in danger all the way.
2. I pass through trials all the way,
With sin and ills contending;
In patience I must bear each day
The cross of God's own sending.
Oft in adversity
I know not where to flee;
When storms of woe my soul dismay,
I pass through trials all the way.
5. I walk with Jesus all the way,
His guidance never fails me;
Within His wounds I find a stay
When Satan's power assails me;
And by His footsteps led,
My path I safely tread.
In spite of ills that threaten may,
I walk with Jesus all the way.
6. My walk is heavenward all the way;
Await my soul, the morrow,
When thou shalt find release for aye
From all thy sin and sorrow.
All worldly pomp, begone!
To heaven I now press on.
For all the world I would not stay;
My walk is heavenward all the way.



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 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.

Benediction & Announcements:

Hymn:.....*TLH 200: I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

1. I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head.
2. He lives triumphant from the grave,
He lives eternally to save,
He lives all-glorious in the sky,
He lives exalted there on high.
6. He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly Friend,
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
7. He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death:
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.
8. He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives,
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"

Announcements:

- † Bennie's family thanks all those who have been supportive during this time of their temporary loss but Bennie's great gain.
- † Everyone is invited to stay for a fellowship meal in the church's fellowship hall following the memorial service.
- † Online obituary:
cremationsocietyofmn.com/tribute/details/81659/Bernie-Crandall/obituary.html
- † Video of the worship service will be archived at the following website under "Sermons": FridleyLutheran.org
- † In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to defray memorial expenses. The family sincerely conveys its gratitude for such remembrances at this time.
- † Correspondence:
Cindy Bruckbauer & Family
638 Minnesota Ave.; Big Lake, MN 55309