

Memorial Service for
Kristine Patricia McGowen
February 22, 1967 – April 9, 2025
and
Kevin Adair McGowen
April 27, 1969 – April 30, 2025



Christ the King Lutheran Church
2353 Rice Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77005
June 21, 2025, at 11:00 A.M.

WELCOME

Welcome to Christ the King Lutheran Church for this service of worship in which we remember the completed life of Kristine Patricia McGowen and Kevin Adair McGowen.

The Paschal candle is lit signifying the promise of Christ's presence in life and in death with all who have been baptized.

The bell is tolled 58 times at the beginning of the service with each toll representing a year in Kristine's life. During the Lord's Prayer the bell is tolled seven times calling the community to pray the seven petitions of the Our Father. The bell is tolled 56 times after the commendation at the end of the service with each toll representing a year in Kevin's life. The bells are pealed at the conclusion of the service signifying the joyous entry into the Church Triumphant.

All worshipers are kindly asked to silence their phones.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Elegy

William Grant Still (1895-1978)

stand

Tolling of the Bell

The bell is tolled fifty-eight times at the beginning of the service with each toll representing a year in Kristine's life.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God. **Thanks be to God.**

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.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you. **We glorify you.**

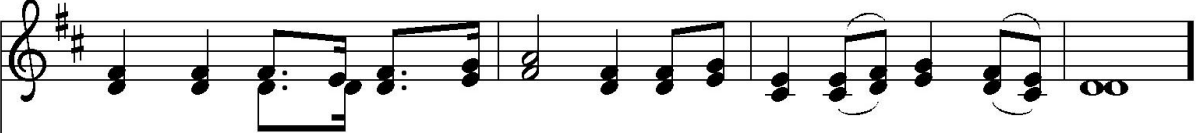
Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you. **We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you. **We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**




1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

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 sister, Kristine and our brother, Kevin. We thank you for giving them 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 your aid, so that we may see in death the gate to eternal life, that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reflection

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

sit

First Reading

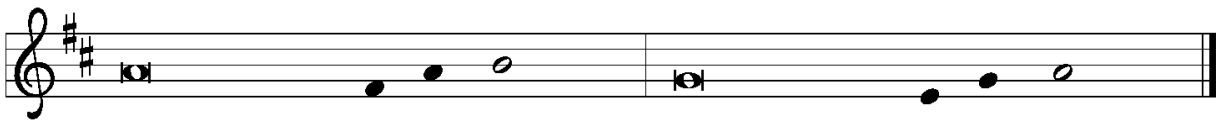
Isaiah 41:9b-10

⁹you whom I took from the ends of the earth,
and called from its farthest corners,
saying to you, "You are my servant,
I have chosen you and not cast you off";
¹⁰do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23



¹The LORD[|] is my shepherd;
I shall not[|] be in want.
²**The LORD makes me lie down[|] in green pastures
and leads me be-[|] side still waters.**
³You restore my[|] soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways[|] for your name's sake.
⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall[|] fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they[|] comfort me.**
⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence[|] of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is[|] running over.
⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days[|] of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the[|] LORD forever.**

stand

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:25-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

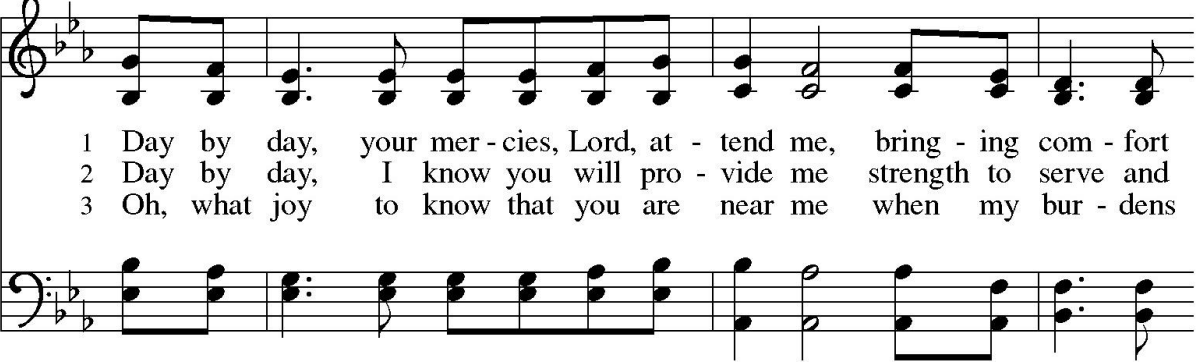
²⁸Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

Sermon



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



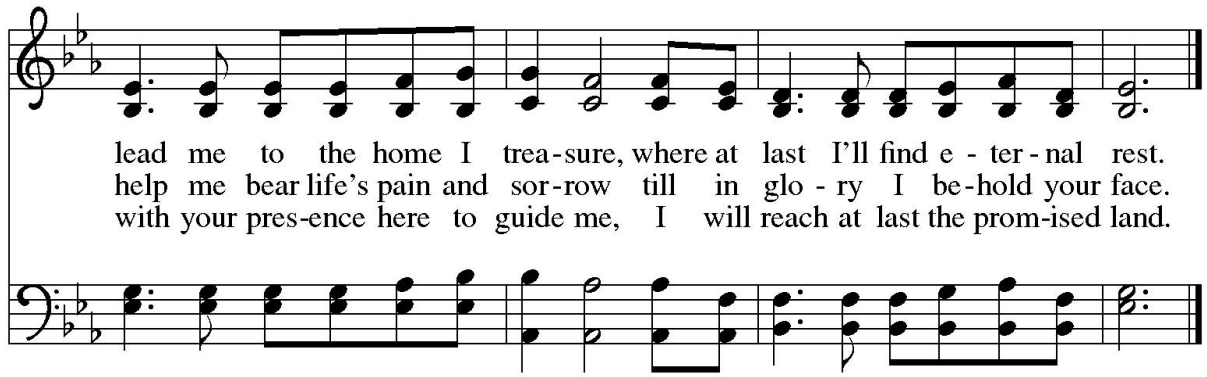
to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005
 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882
 Text © 1992 Augsburg Fortress.

Apostles' Creed

We are made God's people through our baptism into Christ.
 Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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.**

sit

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ, who said, 'I am the resurrection and the life.'

Silence

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Kristine and Kevin, and dry the tears of those who weep.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You promised paradise to the repentant thief; bring Kristine and Kevin to the joys of heaven. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Kristine and Kevin were washed in baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give them fellowship with all your saints.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Kristine and Kevin were nourished with your body and blood; grant them a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort us in our sorrow at Kristine and Kevin's death; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the intercessions.

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 to all believers. 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. **Amen.**

stand

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

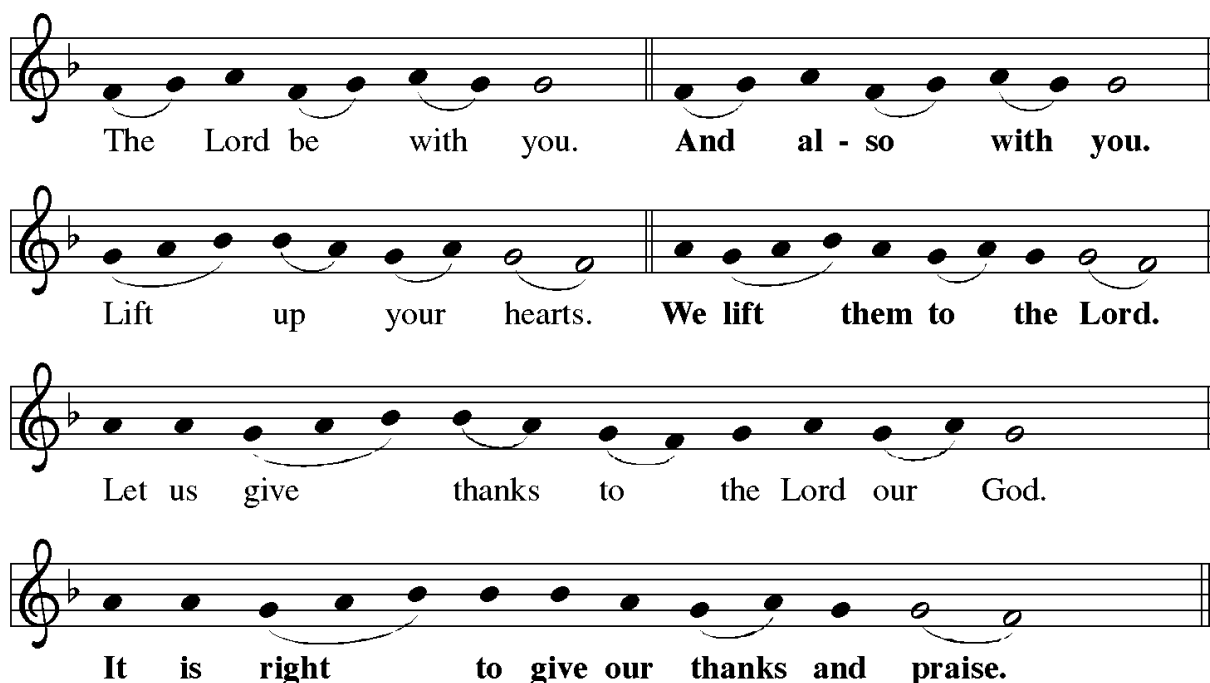
Worshippers may greet one another with the words, "The peace of the Lord."

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

stand

The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

al-mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ,

who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of res - ur - rec - tion dawns.

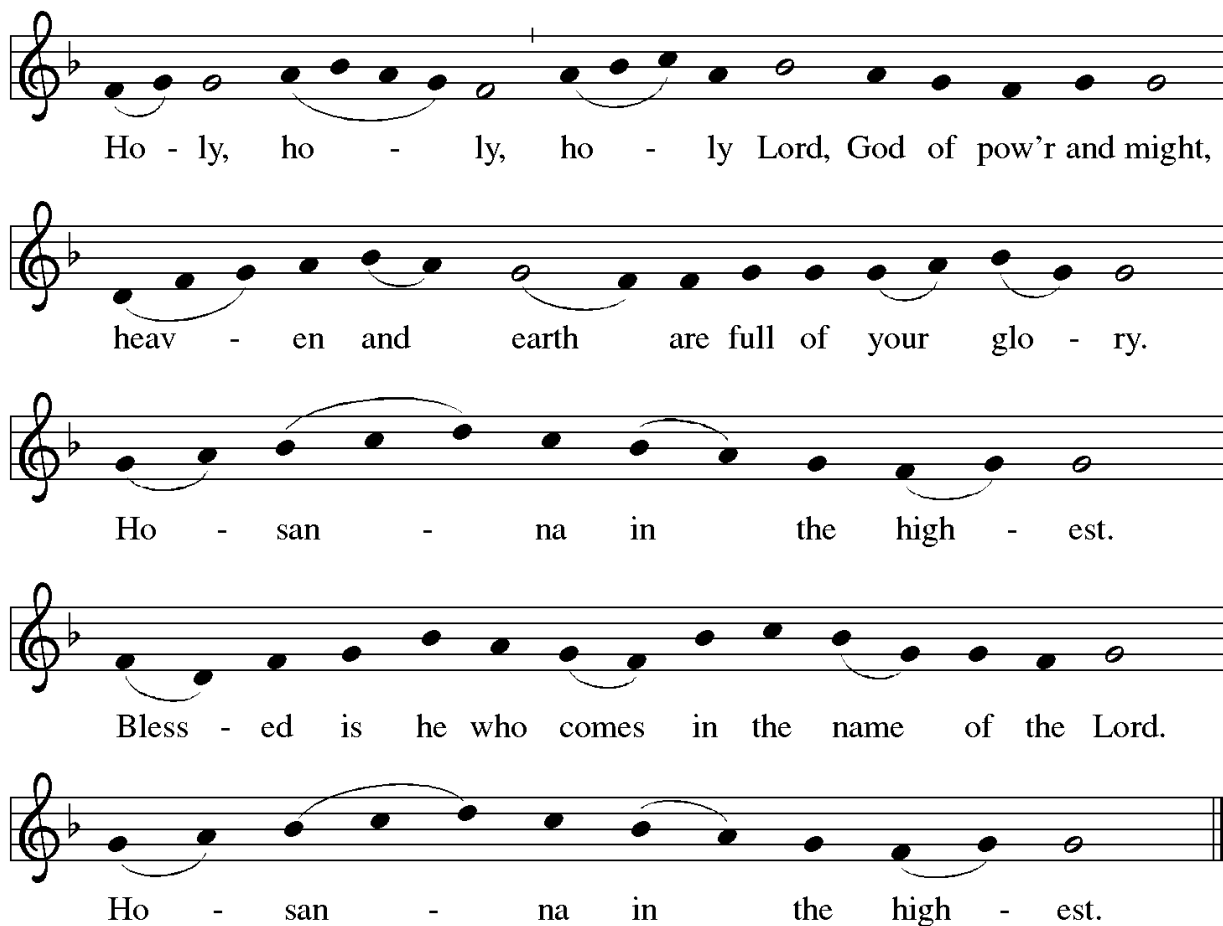
The sting of death has been re - moved by the glorious

prom - ise of his ris - en life.

And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,

we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, Christ's salutary command,
life-giving passion and death, glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of Christ's coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Come; all has been prepared.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

sit

Communion

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You are invited to take an individual communion cup from the table at the corner of the pews and approach the altar rail from its corner. You may receive the sacrament or a blessing, kneeling or standing. Please return to the seats through the short center aisles where there are trays for used glasses. Children of all ages are invited to commune or receive a blessing. Our Holy Communion elements do not contain gluten or alcohol.

If you do not wish to commune, please come to the altar rail with other worshipers for a blessing.



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993

Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey

Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD

Irregular

stand

Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

stand

Commendation

Let us commend Kristine and Kevin to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

A brief silence is kept.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants, Kristine and Kevin. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming. Receive them into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Bell tolling for Kevin

The bell is tolled fifty-six times with each toll representing a year in Kevin's life.

Sending Hymn

Oh, when the saints go marching in

1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the
 2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
 3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
 4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they
 5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that

saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
 Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
 new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
 gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that
 hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that

num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.
 num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
 num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.
 num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.
 num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version

Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

Dismissal

Let us go forth in peace.

Pealing of the Bells

Please join the family for a reception in the parish hall.

In loving memory of

Kristine
McGowen

February 22, 1967 - April 9, 2025



and

Kevin
McGowen

April 27, 1969 - April 30, 2025



Saturday, June 21, 2025

11 AM

Christ the King Lutheran Church

2353 Rice Blvd.

Houston, TX 77005




Remembrance

Kristine Patricia McGowen made a lasting impact on this world through her love for family, animals, nature, and happiness. Her activism and commitment to choosing goodness for others were central to her life. As a lifelong educator, she found joy in reading and appreciating life's simple moments. Kristine was a devoted parent alongside her husband Simon, and was very proud of her three children, Noah, Ajue, and Jamie. She is missed dearly.

Kevin Adair McGowen was a multi-talented and creative soul, excelling in drafting, heraldry, glasswork, 3D design, and music. A skilled martial artist, he earned multiple black belts in Taekwondo and went on to teach others. Above all, Kevin was a devoted parent, along with Mary. He deeply loved and proudly spoke of his son, Thaddeus. You wouldn't find yourself in a conversation with Kevin when he didn't find a way to praise and beam about how proud he was of his son. He is missed dearly.

Order of Service

Tolling of the Bells (Kristine)
Memorial Service
Prayers and Communion
Tolling of the Bells (Kevin)
Catered Reception
Opportunity for Shared Remembrances
Video and Photo Tributes
Champagne Toast



Worship Leaders

Linda Murray, Jim Willcockson.....Bellringers
Jill Bailer, Chase Hooks, Cliff HelmcampUshers
Rachel McWhirterDigital Verger
Karli McGowen..... Reflection
Martin Jones Cantor
Trish ChapmanServer
Karli McGowen.....Assisting Minister
Deacon Aimee Elles..... Preacher and Presider
The Rev. Sergio Rodriguez..... Presiding at Communion



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