

I am the  
resurrection  
and the life



# **SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE**

February 7, 2026

**In Loving Memory of**

**Jerold Lee Bangs**

**December 21, 1939 – December 23, 2025**

We gather here today mindful of two realities at once. We feel the weight of separation and the sadness that comes with death. Yet, at the same time, we come in faith and hope. We place Jerry into the care of the God who created, redeemed, and sanctified him. In Christ, death does not have the final word. If sorrow and joy can possibly come together, now is the time – as our loved one has passed from this earthly brokenness and tribulation into the arms of his Savior in paradise.

† † †

In Holy Baptism, Jerry was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul writes: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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. (*Romans 6:3-5*)

## **CHRISTIAN OBITUARY**

*(page 11)*

## HYMN

### “In The Garden”

I come to the garden alone  
While the dew is still on the roses,  
And the voice I hear falling on my ear,  
The Son of God discloses.

#### Refrain:

And He walks with me And He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there  
None other has ever known.

He speaks and the sound of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
And the melody that He gave to me  
Within my heart is ringing

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Tho' the night around me be falling,  
But He bids me go thro' the voice of woe,  
His voice to me is calling.

## INVOCATION

- P** We gather here today to receive and to share with each other the comfort and strength of our Lord.
- C** **In His Word is both life and hope which is ours through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- P** In You, O Lord, do we trust. Be with us this day as we need and seek Your guidance and direction in grief and sorrow.
- C** **In You, O Lord, do we trust. And so, we make our beginning in the name of the Father Who created us, the Son Who redeemed both body and soul, and the Holy Spirit Who made this earthly body the temple of our Lord. Amen.**

**P** O God of grace and glory, we remember before You today, Jerry, our brother in Christ. We thank You for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion here on earth. In Your unlimited compassion, console us who mourn.

Enable us, Lord, to be able to see in death the gate to eternal life and that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by Your call, we are reunited with Jerry and those who have gone before us; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God the Father Who loved us, and by His grace gave us eternal life, strengthen you in every good deed and word.  
(*2 Thessalonians 2:16–17*)

**C** **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

## Psalm 23 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. <sup>3</sup> He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. <sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. <sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

## EPISTLE READING

## 2 Timothy 4:6-8 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup> For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>11</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

**HYMN OF COMFORT****“Beautiful Savior”**

Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine!

**MESSAGE**  
**“LIFE IN THE SPIRIT”**

**Rev. Jim Sprengle**  
**John 3:1-6; 11-16**

## **PRAYER**

- P** O God, our Father in Heaven:
- C** **Have Mercy.**
- P** O God the Son, Redeemer of the world:
- C** **Have Mercy.**
- P** O God the Holy Spirit, our Counselor:
- C** **Grant us Your peace.**
- P** O, how glorious is that Kingdom wherein all the saints rejoice with Christ.
- C** **They are clothed with white robes and follow the Lamb wherever He goes.**
- P** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
- C** **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**P** Loving and merciful God, if it were not for the promise of the resurrection and life eternal, we could not endure the sorrow which has come upon this gathering. Only the assurance of Your continual presence enables us to carry on during these times. Lord, do not let these loved ones mourn as those who have no hope. Comfort them day after day with the precious promise of Your Word. Give them grace to come to You and to find rest for their souls.

Merciful God, You have appointed us to endure trouble and sorrow with our Lord Jesus Christ before we enter with Him into glory. Enable us to be strong in faith to the end and to find peace and joy in the blessed hope of the resurrection of the dead and of the glory of the world to come. We pray through Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P** 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.

## THE COMMENDATION

**P** Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend Your servant, Jerold (Jerry) Lee Bangs. We humbly ask, Lord, that You acknowledge him as a sheep of Your fold, a lamb of Your flock, and a sinner whom You have redeemed.

Receive him into Your merciful arms, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in Heaven.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

*(Elderly Simeon spoke the following words when Baby Jesus was presented to him in the temple.)*

**P** Sovereign Lord, as You have promised, You now dismiss Your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel. *Luke 2:29-32*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{\texttildelow}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN

### “How Great Thou Art”

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

**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!**

But 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)**

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)**

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*The family invites you to join them  
in the Community Room for a time of refreshment,  
remembrance and fellowship.*

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**Remembrances:**  
Ascension Lutheran Church

Officiant: **Rev. Jim Sprengle**  
Musician: **Brad Hall**

## **Acknowledgements**

Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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# CHRISTIAN OBITUARY

## Jerold (Jerry) Lee Bangs

### December 21, 1939 – December 23, 2025



Jerold Lee Bangs passed away at the age of 86, surrounded by love, leaving behind a legacy of hard work, devotion to family, and a lot of great stories.

Jerold was baptized and confirmed at Ascension Lutheran Church on January 1, 1963. He attended and raised his children there, remaining a member until the time of his death.

He graduated from David Douglas High School and went on to serve in the U.S. Army as a helicopter mechanic. Jerold married June Helen Senff, and together they had two children, son, Troy and daughter, Tammy. June preceded him in death in 1993.

Jerold worked at the Owens-Illinois Glass Factory in Portland, Oregon, for 42 years. He was known not only for his dedication but also for his great sense of humor. He loved joking with coworkers, teasing them, and making plaques and posters just to get a laugh.

Fishing was his true passion. He especially loved steelhead fishing near Dodge Park, which was why he was so proud of the house he had just three and a half miles away from the Park.

In 1999, Jerold found love again and married Alma Alita Tesler. They retired together and enjoyed traveling.

Jerold had many hobbies, including hunting, water skiing, camping, and of course, salmon fishing. He cherished fishing trips with his cousin Tim, his friend Roy, and the rest of the GRAY PANTHERS, and enjoyed hunting with Troy, TJ, and Randy.

Jerold and Alma took pride in their yard, always keeping it neatly mowed and filled with beautiful flowers and trees. Jerold had a thing about picking up the fir cones. He did not like all the cones in his yard. They grew a garden as well, and the only reason he allowed tomatoes was for his wife Alma, he despised them.

More than anything, Jerold was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He took care of his family and showed his love through his actions every day. He loved his home, the life he built, and the people in it.

Jerold is survived by his wife, Alma Bangs; son, Troy Bangs (Lori); daughter, Tamera Bowman; stepdaughter, Diana Letz (Matthew); stepson, Vincent Tesler; brother, Darrell Bangs (Joanie); sisters, Sandra Snow (Frank) and Darlene White (Bob); six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.

## *Fisherman's Prayer*

*God grant that I may live*

*to fish for another shining day.*

*but when my final cast is made*

*then I most humbly pray*

*when nestled in your landing net*

*as I lay peacefully asleep*

*You'll smile at me and judge that*

*I'm redeemed and Yours to keep.*