

**++ Dr. Steven Wayne Sumei ++**

June 7, 1954 + + + + September 23, 2024

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Okabena, MN

James Albrecht, Pastor

Ryan Mueller, Organist

September 27, 2024

## **Invocation and Prayer**

### **Choir** *This is My Word*

As the snow falls from heaven

As it comes in swirling showers from the sky, So is My Word.

As the rains bring the water To the earth that is thirsty and dry,  
So is My Word.

And the Word of my mouth, It shall not return empty;  
It will bless the earth wherever it is heard. This is My Word.

As the rains bring renewal

And the tender buds begin to come alive, So is My Word.

Giving seed to the sower,

And the bread to the hungry 'til they thrive, So is My Word.

And the Word of my mouth, It shall not return empty,  
It will bless the earth wherever it is heard, This is My Word.

O Lord, when I am weary,

When I feel the days I'm living are in vain,

My God, help me be faithful to the Word

You have given to proclaim.

And you will go out in joy And be led forth in peace,

And the hills will break before you into song.

So be faithful, brave, and true, For I will go before you.

And when your earthly journey here is done, I'll say well done!

As the snow falls from heaven And the rain comes in showers  
From the sky, This is My Word.

## **The Consolation of the Holy Scriptures**

### **Congregation** 413:1, 3, 5-6 *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.

3. Death doth pursue me all the way, Nowhere I rest securely;  
He comes by night, he comes by day, And takes his prey most surely.  
A failing breath, and I In death's strong grasp may lie  
To face eternity for aye. Death dost pursue me 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.

## **The Reading of the Obituary**

**Sermon** 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 Therefore we are not discouraged. But even if our outer self is wasting away, yet our inner self is being renewed day by day. Yes, our momentary, light trouble produces for us an eternal weight of glory that is far beyond any comparison. We are not focusing on what is seen, but on what is not seen. For the things that are seen are temporary, but the things that are not seen are eternal.

# **Dr. Sumey Could See the Unseen**

**Violin Solo** *Beautiful Savior -- Kirsa Sume*

**Prayer + The Lord's Prayer**

**The Benediction**

**Congregation** 558 *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night*

1. All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the blessings of the light.  
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings, Beneath Thy own almighty wings.
2. Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that I this day have done  
That with the world, myself and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
3. Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as little as my bed.  
Teach me to die that so I may Rise glorious at the awe-ful Day.
4. Oh, may my soul on Thee repose, And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,  
Sleep that shall me more vigorous make To serve my God when I awake.
5. When in the night I sleepless lie, My soul with heavenly thoughts supply;  
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest, No powers of darkness me molest.
6. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*The Committal will take place at St. John's Cemetery immediately after the service. A luncheon will be served in the Legion Hall once the family returns from the cemetery and has been seated.*

+ + **Pall Bearers** + +

Chris Sume	Ben Sume	Michael Sume
Daniel Sume	Elijah Sume	Graham Kesterson

## + The Obituary of Dr. Steven Wayne Sumeý +

Steven Wayne Sumeý was born to Wayne Sumeý and Violet nee Dahl on June 7, 1954 in Minneapolis, MN. He grew up in Plymouth and attended Wayzata High School, where he lettered in football, basketball, and baseball. He was also a 3-year member of the Minnesota All-State Symphony Orchestra. He went on to study Chemistry at St. Olaf College, where he played in the orchestra and on the baseball team. As a pitcher, he was awarded team MVP, winning the championship his senior year in 1976. He attended Medical School at the University of Minnesota and participated in the Rural Association Training Program in Windom, where he met a young nurse and his future wife. After graduating from Medical School in 1980, he began a 3-year Family Practice Residency in Duluth, MN. Upon completion, the couple returned to Windom where he practiced for 4 years. In 1987, they moved to Fairmont, where he practiced at the Fairmont Medical Center and Smart Clinic until 2018, famously creating animal balloons for well-behaved pediatric patients. In Fairmont, he and his wife restored a Victorian home (circa 1900), where they raised their 5 children. When not caring for patients and his young family, he continued to play baseball for the Windom Pirates, and later, the Fairmont Martins, until age 37. He enjoyed traveling with family and friends. For many years, he was the caregiver for his elderly parents and his younger brother who had suffered a traumatic brain injury. A long-suffering Minnesota sports fan, he also enjoyed golf, auto repair, furniture restoration building custom dollhouses, and spending time with his family and 10 grandchildren.

**Psalm 139:13-14, 16 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.**

He was united in marriage with Deborah Eigenberg on June 14, 1980 here at St. John's. The Lord blessed their union with 5 children: Christopher, Jessica, Benjamin, Michael, and Daniel.

**Matthew 19:5-6 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.'**

Dr. Sumeý became a member of God's kingdom when he was baptized on January 9, 1955. He was confirmed in his Christian faith at Oak Knoll Lutheran Church on May 25, 1969. He became a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in 1980. Over the past 44 years, he served as congregational Chairman, Elder, and Chair of the Mission Society. For years, he taught Advanced Bible History to grades 6-8<sup>th</sup>. Despite distance and travel conditions, he and his wife rarely missed a service. He also conducted services when the pastor was out of town.

**Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.**

Dr. Sumeý enjoyed good health for most of his life. On September 3, he went to the clinic, expecting them to find kidney stones. Instead, he learned that there was a mass on his pancreas and liver. Treatment was not a viable option, yet his attitude and faith did not change. Surrounded by family, he was crowned with eternal glory at the age of 70 years, 2 months, and 17 days.

**2 Corinthians 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house, *this* tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Susan, his brother Jon, his father-in-law Herman Eigenberg, and his brother-in-law Bruce Iverson.

He leaves behind yet in this time of grace his wife Deb, children Christopher and his wife Katie, Jessica (Sumeý) Kesterson, Ben and his wife Kimberly, Michael and his wife Megan, and Daniel and his wife Haley. Also 10 grandchildren: Elijah, Kirsá, and Ingrid Sumeý, Graham, Violet, and Penelope Kesterson, Henry, Levi, and Lyla Sumeý, and Arthur Sumeý; his brother James, mother-in-law, Lylas Eigenberg; brothers-in-law, Russ (Jeanne) Eigenberg, Bryan (Lois) Eigenberg, and Dave (Lori) Ling; sister-in-law, Doreen Iverson; as well as nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends.