

CHRISTIAN FUNERAL FOR LOIS EMMA STICHMANN

(April 7, 1931 – December 18, 2020)

December 28, 2020 – 12:00 noon

GREETING AND PRAYER

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn for Lois, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts, dispel our doubts and fears, and lead us to praise you for having brought her to faith. In your rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to eternal life. Strengthen us with your Word, and lead us through this earthly life until at last we are united with you and all the saints in glory everlasting. Amen.

PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.

He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

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.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

HYMN

Just As I Am, without One Plea

Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down.
Now to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

RESURRECTION COMFORT

M: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. The apostle Paul writes to the Romans: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Jesus gives us this comfort: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

M: Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!

C: **He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

M: When Christ, who is our life, appears,

C: **Then we also will appear with him in glory.**

M: We will be before the throne of God

C: **And serve him day and night in his temple.**

M: Never again will we hunger;

C: **Never again will we thirst.**

M: For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water.

C: **And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.**

M: Let us pray.

God of all grace, you sent your Son Jesus to destroy the power of death and to open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives, we too shall live. Comfort us with your promise that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LESSONS

Psalm 116 *Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.*

Revelation 21:1 *A new heaven and a new earth.*

John 14:1-6, 25-27 *Jesus comforts his disciples.*

HYMN

I'm But a Stranger Here

I'm but a stranger here; Heav'n is my home.

Earth is a desert drear; Heav'n is my home.

Danger and sorrow stand Round me on ev'ry hand.

Heav'n is my fatherland; Heav'n is my home.

What though the tempest rage, Heav'n is my home.

Short is my pilgrimage; Heav'n is my home.

And time's wild, wintry blast Soon shall be overpast;

I shall reach home at last; Heav'n is my home.

There at my Savior's side -- Heav'n is my home.--
I shall be glorified; Heav'n is my home.
There are the good and blest, Those I love most and best,
And there, I, too, shall rest; Heav'n is my home.

Therefore I murmur not; Heav'n is my home.
Whate'er my earthly lot, Heav'n is my home.
And I shall surely stand There at my Lord's right hand.
Heav'n is my Fatherland; Heav'n is my home.

CHRISTIAN OBITUARY

SERMON

Lois Is Blessed, for She Died Having Seen Her Salvation

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

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
But there is room and welcome there for me.

In that unlikely place I find him as they said:
Sweet newborn babe, how frail! and in a manger bed,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.

How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
His prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.

Can I, will I forget how Love was born, and burned
Its way into my heart unasked, unforced, unearned,
To die, to live, and not alone for me,
To die, to live, and not alone for me?

PRAYERS

M: Almighty God, we praise you for the great company of saints who have finished their lives in faith and now rest from their labors. We remember especially our loved one, Lois, whom you have redeemed by the blood of your Son and received as your dear child through Holy Baptism. We thank you for giving her to us as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your compassion, comfort all who are sad in this hour. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

M: We praise you for your love in Christ, which sustains us in life and death. In our earthly sorrows, help us find strength in the fellowship of the church, joy in the forgiveness of sins, and hope in the resurrection to eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

M: You do not leave us comfortless but strengthen and care for us through your Word and sacrament. You give us family, friends, and neighbors to help when there is loneliness now and in the days to come. Brighten our future with a firm trust in your promises and care. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Remove our fears, and make us bold to pray with confidence as our Savior has taught us:

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.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

KEYBOARDISTS *Meg Eichstadt and Alexis Wagner*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

CHRISTIAN OBITUARY FOR LOIS EMMA STICHMANN

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the one he loves" (Ephesians 1:3-7).

As part of God's plan for her eternal election, Lois Emma Schauwitzer was born to Edward and Alice Schauwitzer on April 7, 1931, in Muskego, Wisconsin. God kept his promise and adopted her into his family by means of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at her family home in Muskego on April 26, 1931. After being instructed in the fundamentals of the Christian faith, she proclaimed the Triune God as her Savior-God and confirmed her Christian faith at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Tess Corners, Wisconsin, on May 20, 1945. Her confirmation verse was Luke 11:28: *"Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it."* By the grace of God, Lois vowed to remain true to her Lord and his Word until death, a promise the Spirit empowered her to keep all her life.

The Lord led her life and that of Harlow Stichmann to come together. On June 30, 1951, they promised to remain true to each other as husband and wife and were married at St Paul's in Tess Corners. The Lord blessed them with sixty-five years of marriage, when Harlow was taken home to heaven on September 18, 2016.

He also blessed them with 5 children:

Brian (and Diann) Stichmann,
Bruce (and Julie) Stichmann,
Gail (and Dan) Hyland,
Gwen (and Jeff) Lang, and
Greta Wagner.

And he blessed them with eighteen grandchildren:

Tammy (Dave) Strasburg,
Benny (Kitty) Stichmann,
Tracy (Paul) Siegler,
Kristy Stichmann,
Aimee (Craig) Latzke,
Laura (Brad) Price,
Beth (Steve) Dussinger,
Jody Brandemuehl,
Duly (Chloe) Stichmann,
Meg (Steve) Eichstadt,
Ruth (Anthony II) Aiello,
Anna (Chris) Pulvermacher,
Brent (Stephanie) Stichmann,
Tim Hyland,
Alexis Wagner,
Caleb Lang,
Jacob Wagner, and
Zachary Wagner.

They were additionally blessed with 22 great-grandchildren:

Samantha Wisniewski,
Shauna Wisniewski,
Andrea Concotelli,
Joshua Siegler,
Adam Concotelli,
Alexa Latzke,
Luke Siegler,
Noah Brandemuehl,
Benjamin Price,
Emmalise Latzke,
Ella Latzke,
Theresa Aiello,
Olivia Aiello,
The late Saige Strasburg,
Grant Eichstadt,
Travis Dussinger,
Anthony Aiello III,
Reed Dussinger,
Levi Eichstadt,
William Price,
Titus Eichstadt, and
Great-grandson Stichmann soon to be born.

And one great-great-grandson: Vincent.

Lois is further survived by other relatives and friends.

Lois was preceded in death by her husband; her brother, Robert Schauwitzer; her sisters, Elaine Waldo, Shirley Ringer, and Joanne Patch; her parents; and her great-granddaughter, Saige Strasburg.

Lois' family has many memories of their mom, including these: She always baked her own bread, and the smell of fresh baked bread and other baked goodies lingered for long after the actual baking. She insisted on using a wringer washer and hanging the clothes outside on the line to dry. She gardened and canned and froze enough food to keep her freezer well stocked. She enjoyed playing games and would sit on the floor to play with her grandchildren, who would look forward to tea parties with four-course menus, sleepovers, and lots of fun when visiting her. There was often a large puzzle on the table for all to contribute to when visiting. Lois loved the outdoors, enjoyed walks, and instilled a love for God's wonderful creation in all her children. She had a childlike faith in Jesus and led by example. She was a lifelong member of St Paul's. She was the rock of the family and will be missed dearly.

The Lord kept Lois in his family by leading her to be faithful in her use of the means of grace, that is, his Word and sacraments. On July 20, 2020, due to declining health, she was lovingly placed into the care of The View at Pine Ridge in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, where she was ministered to by her pastors. On December 18, 2020, at the age of 89 years, eight months, and eleven days, her soul was carried by God's holy angel to live with her Savior, Jesus, into all eternity.

"The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. May the name of the Lord be praised."