



*Life is eternal; and love is immortal;  
and death is only a horizon; and a  
horizon is nothing save the limit of  
our sight.*

—Rossiter W. Raymond

#### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

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Pastor  
Organist  
Soloist

Stephanie Coltvet Erdmann  
Karen Daniels  
Rob Reid

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF

*Narvel A Sordahl*

December 29, 1932—May 13, 2013



TRANSFIGURATION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA  
MAY 20, 2013

**A Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving  
in Memory of**

*Narvel A. Somdahl*

**May 20, 2013  
11:00 a.m.**



*Narvel* Anker Somdahl, 80, Bloomington, MN, died May 13 in Edina, MN, two months after a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Marilyn (Dahlen); children, David (Roberta), Sonja Somdahl (Sigvald Nordland), and Deborah Somdahl (Philip Larson); grandchildren, Richard, Charles, and Elizabeth Somdahl, Michael and Kristian Nordland; sisters, Betty (John) Elfers, Sahuari-ta, AZ; and Edlyn (Raymond) Paulson, Lake Park, MN; brother-in-law Ron (Joyce) Dahlen, Michigan, ND; and 14 nieces and nephews.





PRELUDE

IN HEAVEN ABOVE (NORWEGIAN FOLK SONG)(G. WINSTON CASSLER)  
BEHOLD A HOST (NORWEGIAN FOLK SONG)(EDVARD GRIEG, ARR. G. WINSTON CASSLER)  
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY (JOHN DYKES)

HYMN

I KNOW OF A SLEEP IN JESUS' NAME

*sung to the tune of "O Day Full of Grace"*

**I know of a sleep in Jesus' name,  
A rest from all toil and sorrow;  
Earth folds in her arms my weary frame  
And shelters it till the morrow;  
My soul is at home with God in heaven,  
Her sorrows are past and over.**

**I know of a peaceful eventide;  
And when I am faint and weary,  
At times with the journey sorely tried,  
Through hours that are long and dreary,  
Then often I yearn to lay me down  
And sink into blissful slumber.**

**I know of a morning bright and fair  
When tidings of joy shall wake us,  
When songs from on high shall fill the air  
And God to His glory take us,  
When Jesus shall bid us rise from sleep, --  
How joyous that hour of waking!**

WELCOME/PRAYER

REMEMBERING AND CELEBRATING NARV

DAVID SOMDAHL (SON)  
DAVID ROKKE (FAMILY FRIEND)

VIDEO REFLECTIONS

SCRIPTURE

PSALM 121 NRSV

I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come? <sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. <sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. <sup>4</sup>He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. <sup>5</sup>The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. <sup>6</sup>The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. <sup>7</sup>The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. <sup>8</sup>The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

SCRIPTURE

PSALM 73:23-26 NRSV

<sup>23</sup>Nevertheless I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. <sup>24</sup>You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me with honor. <sup>25</sup>Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you. <sup>26</sup>My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

SCRIPTURE

MICAH 6:8 NRSV

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

SCRIPTURE

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17 NRSV

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

SOLO

MY HEART IS LONGING TO PRAISE MY SAVIOR

TEXT BY PRINCESS EUGENIE OF SWEDEN; ROB REID, SOLOIST

*My heart is longing to praise my Savior  
And glorify his name in song and prayer;  
For he has shown me his wondrous favor  
And offered me all heav'n with him to share.*

*O blessed Jesus, what you have given,  
Through dying on the cross in bitter pain,  
Has filled my heart with the peace of heaven;  
My winter's gone and spring is mine again.*

*O Christian friends, let our song ascending  
Give honor, praise to him who set us free!  
Our tribulations may seem unending;  
But soon with him we shall forever be.*

*Narvel A Somdahl*

Born to Edwin O. and Anna Sanden Somdahl in Illinois, Narvel Anker Smodahl grew up in Minnesota, Nebraska, and South Dakota, where he graduated from Webster High School. A Korean veteran, he earned a BSME degree at North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, in absentia, while serving as a 1st Lt in Verdun, France, in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He worked at Trane Co, La Crosse, WI, when he married Marilyn Dahlen June 22, 1958, at Whitman, ND. He was employed by Brunswick Corp, Dunham Bush and Perkins Restaurants along with small firms before retiring in 1999 as an Energy Engineer with the MN Dept of Public Service. After retirement, he prepared taxes for H&R Block and had three years with FEMA. He was a registered Professional Engineer in Wisconsin, Virginia, & Minnesota. The family also lived in North Muskegon, MI, Lincoln, NE, and Harrisonburg, VA, before moving to MN in 1974.

As a youth, hunting pheasants, playing violin, and enjoying country music gave way to softball and golf leagues. Later hobbies included coin & stamp collecting, photography, flying light aircraft and camping with his family. Travels took him throughout the US, Canada and Europe, frequently visiting Norway. A member of five Norwegian-American bygdslag, he was president of Ringerike-Drammen Districts Lag (2002-2013) and president of Norwegian Stevner, Inc. since 2004. He joined the Viking Lunch Club, Norwegians Worldwide, and accompanied his wife to Syttende Mai events and a dozen meetings called by the Norwegian Ambassador to the US. He was treasurer of Summerhill of Bloomington Co-operative where he lived, co-chaired the last Transfiguration capital campaign and had been president of the TLC Foundation. He was church financial secretary (before computers) and he served in many volunteer positions. He enjoyed TLC Walkers, Bible studies, small groups, and assisting with worship. He loved watching sports, especially the Green Bay Packers.



## GOSPEL

JOHN 10:1-10 NRSV

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

## MESSAGE

PASTOR STEPHANIE COLTVET ERDMANN

## SOLO

WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER (*IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL*)

ROB REID, SOLOIST

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*refrain*

*It is well*

*with my soul,*

*it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;  
my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! refrain*

*Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;  
even so it is well with my soul. refrain*

## PRAYERS

## 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.**

## COMMENDATION

L: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Narvel. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **C: Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

L: Let us go forth in peace, in the name of Christ. **C: Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

*tune: Thy Holy Wings*

**In heav'n is joy and gladness,  
But while I linger here  
I must endure the brambles  
And suffer through my tears.  
For though there are great trials  
That worry me below,  
I will live through this darkness.  
Then heaven's joy, I'll know.**

**Though some prefer this desert  
And find their joy on earth,  
I'll gladly bear my sorrow  
And sow in bitter tears.  
Then I will reap in gladness;  
My sheaves I'll gather in,  
For though the fool may taunt me,  
I would not change with him.**

**For I shall soon see Jesus,  
My hope, my joy, my stay.  
The crosses I have suffered  
He then will take away.  
Then nothing more shall grieve me,  
And no adversity  
Shall take away my gladness  
When Jesus' face I see.**

## POSTLUDE

**JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE**  
(LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN, ARR. HAL HOPSON)

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Your presence today is greatly appreciated. Following today's service you are invited into the Fellowship Hall for a time of food and conversation.

Inurnment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetary.

Memorials preferred to:

TLC Foundation

Norwegian American Historical Association  
1510 St Olaf Ave Northfield, MN 55057

Luther Seminary  
1490 Fulham St St Paul, MN 55108