



1938-2023

Memorial Service for:

Vance Zehringer

Celebration of Life for
Vance Zehringer

October 28, 2023

Officiants: Rev. Nathan Mugaas & Rev. Anne Schaefer

PROCESSIONAL SONG

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

VERSE 1

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found,
Was blind but now I see.

VERSE 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

CHORUS

My chains are gone.
I've been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.

VERSE 3

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures. *CHORUS 2x*

VERSE 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine.
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine,
Will be forever mine.

GATHERING

Pastor: Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our brother Vance, to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his baptism, Vance was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory.

ACCLAMATION

Pastor: 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.

All: We glorify you.

Pastor: 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.

All: We praise you.

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

All: We worship you.

Pastor: To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort, graciously tend those who mourn, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

WELCOME

REMEMBRANCES

Mitch, Paula, and Sam Zehringer
Janelle Fischer
Brother Michael French

MUSIC

Hallelujah

By Leonard Cohen

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 23

Read by Melissa Fischer

Isaiah 43:1-5

Read by Sarah Rossmann

Matthew 11:28-30

Read by Pastor Nathan Mugaas

SERMON

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

MUSIC

Children of the Heavenly Father, ELW 781

VERSE 1

Children of the heavenly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

VERSE 2

God His own doth tend and nourish,
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them,
In His mighty arms He bears them.

VERSE 3

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

VERSE 4

Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**All: 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.**

PRAYER'S OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: ...God of mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

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

Pastor: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Vance. 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. **All: Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, **All: Amen.**

RECESSIONAL SONG

Cheeseburger in Paradise

By Jimmy Buffett

Following the service, you are invited to a luncheon gathering in the Community Room. A private burial service at Orono Cemetery will take place at a later time.

Vance Zehringer, age 85, of Elk River, died suddenly on Oct 21, 2023 with his beloved family by his side.

He was born on March 13, 1938 in Clinton, MN to Vernon and Ruth (Martinson) Zehringer. He graduated from high school in 1956 and went on to graduate from South Dakota State University with a BA in Science in 1961. Upon graduation, Vance moved to Hutchinson, MN and took a position teaching high school science classes at Silver Lake, MN for the next 15 years. He also taught drivers education classes to over 1000 students! While living in Hutchinson Vance met Elizabeth "Betty" French, of Red Lake Falls, MN and they married in 1965. They had two children, Mitchell and Nicole.

In 1977, Vance moved the family to Elk River, MN when he accepted a position with the United Power Association. He retired in 1999 as Manager of their Energy Management Division. He worked with manufacturers to get affordable heating and cooling equipment and water heaters into homes throughout the cooperative service areas in Minnesota to reduce the electrical demand. He traveled extensively to promote energy conservation programs and was well respected for his knowledge and leadership in this field. Upon Retirement, he opened his own Energy Consultant firm and served as Interim General Manager of Elk River Municipal Utilities, Chairman of the Energy City Commission, and he continued to be involved in the Electrical Power and Research Institute.

Vance was very active within the Elk River community volunteering his time and talents with the Orono Lake Improvement Association, Habitat for Humanity, and especially active at Elk River Lutheran Church. Vance was an inaugural inductee into the Three Rivers Community Foundations Hall of Fame in 2008. Over his lifetime, Vance enjoyed many hobbies, including piloting small aircrafts, collecting/working on collectible cars, serving as captain of countless pontoon tours of Orono Lake, and spending as much time as possible with his family and friends.

Vance is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Betty; sister, Mona (Dave) Kohl; son, Mitch (Paula); nieces and nephews Janelle, Kim, and Greg; grandchildren, Sam, Joe, Sarah, Tyler, Melissa, Katie, Zach, Garrett; great grandchildren; Milo and Atlas.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Jeanne Lou; daughter, Nicole; nephews, Tony, Scott, and David.



Trusting in God's grace, an accepting,
joyful community, serving God & neighbor.