

a CELEBRATION OF LIFE
and resurrection



Lucas James Knudson

APRIL 1, 2007 – NOVEMBER 17, 2024



**Trinity
Lutheran**
LONG LAKE

AN ELCA CONGREGATION
2060 CTY RD 6 | LONG LAKE, MN 55356

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024 AT 11AM

PRELUDE

GATHERING and THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. God comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

Thanks be to God.

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new 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.

HYMN | *Here I Am, Lord* ELW 574

“I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who
will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

“I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love along. I will
speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?”

Refrain

“I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?”

Refrain

GREETING and PRAYER

REMEMBRANCE | Chad Knudson

READING | Expert from poem by Henry Scott-Holland

Everything remains exactly as it was.

I am I, and you are you,

and the old life that we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged.

Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.

Call me by the old familiar name.

Speak of me in the easy way which you always used.

Put no difference into your tone.

Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed together.

Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.

Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.

Let it be spoken without an effort, without the ghost of a shadow upon it.

Life means all that it ever meant.

It is the same as it ever was.

There is absolute and unbroken continuity.

What is this death but a negligible accident?

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?

I am but waiting for you, for an interval,

somewhere very near, just round the corner.

All is well.

READING | 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

GOSPEL | John 14:1-6

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

SERMON | Pastor Adam Butler

HYMN | *On Eagle's Wings* ELW 787

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

For to the angels God's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Final refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PRAYERS

After “God of mercy,” please respond, “**hear our prayer.**”

THE LORD’S PRAYER

SONG | *Beautiful Savior* Oliver and Theo Knudson

MEAL PRAYER

COMMENDATION

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, *Lucas James Knudson*. 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. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

SONG | *10,000 Reasons*

Chorus

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I’ll worship Your holy Name.

The sun comes up, it’s a new day dawning;
It’s time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Chorus*

You’re rich in love and You’re slow to anger,
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Chorus*

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. *Chorus x2*

POSTLUDE

Pastors | Rev. Adam Butler, Rev. Ann Fenlason
Music Director | Mark Hemingway
Soloists | Oliver Knudson, Theo Knudson
Musicians | Ben Richter, Terry Morse, Mark Strobel, Dan Anderson

Immediately following the service, you are invited to greet the family in the Great Hall where lunch will be served.

OBITUARY FOR LUCAS JAMES KNUDSON

Lucas James Knudson was born on April 1, 2007, in St. Louis Park, Minnesota to Brian and Renae Knudson of Corcoran, Minnesota. Luke walked into the arms of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on November 17, 2024, at the age of 17. Luke was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Julian and Jeannette Rhude of Elk Mound, Wisconsin, and maternal great uncle, Rodney Rhude of Elk Mound, Wisconsin.

Luke is survived by his parents, Brian and Renae Knudson of Corcoran, Minnesota; two sisters, Julia and Lauren of Corcoran, Minnesota; beloved yellow labs, Daisy and Millie; paternal grandparents, Jim and Ruth Valerius of Brainerd, Minnesota; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Luke was a senior at Orono High School in Long Lake, Minnesota and planned to attend college in the fall of 2025.

Luke was a special boy from a very early age. He adored his mother and loved being held by her, twirling her hair with his fingers. As a young boy, he was extremely imaginative, and would play with his toys for hours – particularly his Skylanders and Lego figurines – often by himself, crashing them together in vocal destruction. He was also passionate about dinosaurs and would page through his many books on the various species. Often his bedtime reading, Luke would remember arcane facts on unique species and later recite them while reenacting a dinosaur battle.

Luke spent his entire school life in the Orono school district. Again, early on, it was clear that Luke was special. He absolutely loved school and cried while leaving on the last day of kindergarten because he was going to miss his friends and his teachers over the summer. He cherished the social aspect of school. A common theme in Luke's

parent teacher conferences was his "gift of gab" – he loved to talk, but he formed special relationships with so many students and teachers over the years that no one wanted to fully suppress that amazing characteristic.

Luke was also an outstanding student; not just academically, he was a model of the pillars of character that are the foundation of the Orono school district. A compassionate soul, Luke participated in Orono Unified and Letters of Love, which allowed him to care for and bring happiness to others in the community. Like others, Luke spent the first months of his senior year pouring over college essays and applications. He applied to many different colleges, and while he had not yet decided where he would attend, it was clear that Luke was extremely excited for the next chapter of his life. He planned to major in finance, study abroad and wanted to become an investment banker.

Over the years, Luke cherished weekend visits with his family to their cabin in Brainerd. Luke's paternal grandparents and aunt and uncle lived nearby, and precious family memories were made over the years with his parents, sisters, cousins, grandparents and aunts/uncles from both sides of the family. Luke also hosted countless "cabin weekends" with his friends (and, many times, his friends' families) where deep relationships were developed with so many friends and families. Luke was always up for a good game of cornhole, whiffle ball or to captain an innertube or paddle board shared by one too many people – many laughs and much fun was had by all. Basketball battles on a beat-up old hoop, played with a weathered volleyball, consumed many, many hours with friends and family.

A large part of Luke's life was his passion for playing sports. It started with t-ball and soccer, which yielded to football, basketball and baseball after starting school. Always one of the smallest kids on the team, Luke made up for his small stature with scrappiness, craftiness and smarts, which always landed him on the top teams despite his size. Basketball became Luke's real passion, which was passed down from his mom and his sisters, and he stopped playing baseball and football to focus on basketball.

Luke was a special basketball player; naturally blessed with unique moves and an amazing level of craftiness that set him apart from others. Coming off the bench, he became a critical part of the 2023-24 Orono basketball team that made it to the state tournament. He was

excited to be a starter in his senior year, playing with a core group of very talented seniors (and his best friends) who had grown up playing together for so many years – a group with big goals and dreams for the upcoming season.

While Luke loved competing in sports, what he loved most about sports was being a teammate and the relationships he developed with his coaches and his teammates (and their parents). No one was happier for the successes of his teammates than Luke. He was compassionate and he cared for others in ways that were beyond his years, and those qualities fueled what will become Luke's legacy.

Luke loved to travel and experience new places and cultures. He and his family were very fortunate to take many amazing trips together. In 2023, Luke and his family visited Kenya, where he was stunned by the beauty and the wildlife but equally stunned by the level of poverty and the quality of life of many of the people he met on the trip. He formed a special friendship with Simon and Beko, guides at one of the camps who were Samburu tribesman – a nomadic group of people who continue to live the same way today that they have for centuries. Water is scarce in Samburu and the women in the village walk several kilometers each day to gather water for the tribe. Upon his return home, Luke was determined to make a difference.

Through research, Luke recently partnered with The Samburu Project (TSP), an organization whose mission is to build hand pump wells to improve the quality of life of the Samburu people. Luke was determined to raise the necessary funds to build a well for Simon and Beko's village (and nearby villages), which would improve the lives of approximately 1,000 people (and future generations). Luke created his fundraising webpage and was recently able to contact Simon (which was no small feat), speaking directly with him to coordinate the project with TSP and the village. Luke wanted the village to make an investment in the project and he and Simon agreed that the village would make bead bracelets to be given to larger donors. While Luke wasn't able to see the results of his efforts, his legacy will live on forever through the generous gifts of others that have poured in following his death.

Please consider donating to Lucas' efforts to build wells for the people of Samburu. <https://donate.thesamburuproject.org/fundraiser/5883746>