

A Celebration of Life

Barak Benjamin Teifel

April 7, 1983 – September 25, 2026



October 17, 2026 | 2:00 PM
St. Andrew Lutheran Church
Beaverton, Oregon

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GATHERING

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

PRELUDE & SLIDESHOW

Brass Quintet

WELCOME

The assembly may stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

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.

We glorify you.

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.

We praise you.

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

We worship you.

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

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Lift High the Cross | ELW 660

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Barak. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life, that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

REMEMBRANCES

Kim Taylor-Blakemore

WORD

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE READING, PREACHING, AND SONG.

READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-12

A reading from Ecclesiastes.

¹For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: ²a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; ³a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; ⁴a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; ⁵a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away; ⁷a time to tear and a time to sew; a time to keep silent and a time to speak; ⁸a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace.

⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. ¹¹God has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, God has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

²**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

The assembly may stand.

GOSPEL

John 14:1-7

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Creator'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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Creator except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Creator also. From now on you do know God and have seen God."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Pr. Allison Bengfort

The assembly may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee | ELW 836

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 OF THE PEOPLE

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST.

DIALOGUE

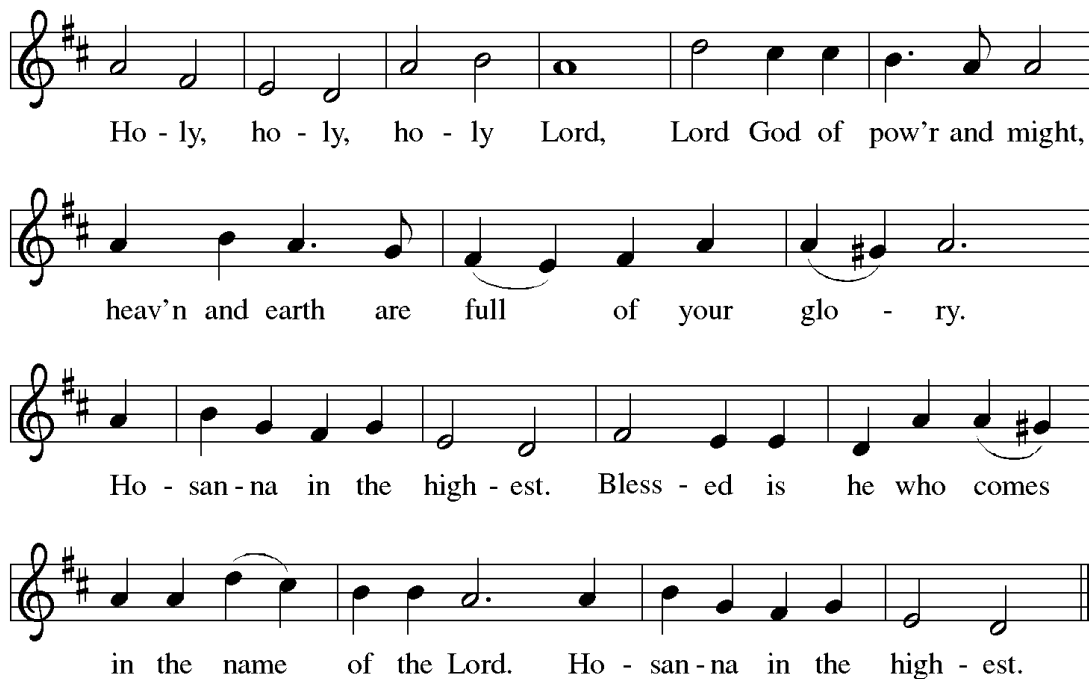
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are invited to commune without exception! At the direction of an usher, those wishing to commune may proceed down the center aisle. A piece of gluten-free bread will be placed in your hands. You may dip the bread in the wine (red chalice) or the grape juice (light-colored chalice), or you may choose to partake of bread only. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please alert an usher, and the elements will be brought to you.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Children of the Heavenly Father | ELW 781

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God | ELW 504

For All the Saints | ELW 422

The assembly may stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD.

COMMENDATION

Let us commend Barak to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Barak. 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.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

On Eagle's Wings | ELW 787

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Brass Quintet

Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall.

Memorial contributions may be made to:

Daytime Enrichment Activities & Recreation

DEAR

PO Box 5933

Aloha, OR 97006

Those who are unable to attend this memorial in-person may
access the livestream by visiting: [youtube.com/live/E29vSZLGR0U](https://www.youtube.com/live/E29vSZLGR0U)

Barak was born April 7, 1983, at Bess Kaiser in Portland, Oregon. A genetic test at six weeks showed that he had a rare partial trisomy 11Q disorder and 20 years later it became known as Emanuel syndrome. Parent-infant stimulation was started, then physical therapy to encourage his development. Music was an early passion.

On June 12, 1983, Pastor Herbert Zorn baptized Barak at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. Larry & Becky Cartier and Gary & Judy Heidinger were his sponsors. Barak attended Sunday School and had several sociable friends over the years. Pastor Harvey Blomberg gave Barak his first communion.

Barak attended Beaverton Schools: Rock Creek, Ridgewood, Beaver Acres, Five Oaks, Westview HS, and Aloha HS from which he received a modified diploma on June 2, 2004. As a member of BSA Troop 123, Barak went to summer camp at Camp Cooper with Gordon. The scouts sang before every meal which thrilled Barak.

Shriners Children's Hospital tracked Barak's skeletal development culminating in spinal rod surgery just before his 21st birthday in 2004. A 54-degree correction of kyphosis allowed Barak's internal organs to perform far better and gave him perfect posture.

With no suitable day program, Barak was engaged by companions. Missy took him to parks, stores, The Bridge recreation room, and shared pictures of their adventures. Tracie fed Barak snacks, took him on walks, and assisted him in playing the piano which he very much enjoyed. Elois read to Barak and pushed him around Costco. Kayreen helped him play the piano and took him to The Bridge for drum playing and interaction.

Gordon helped launch the DEAR day program to serve medically fragile adults with profound developmental disabilities. Barak was one of the first customers when it opened on December 17, 2008. Music therapist Julie played her guitar and sang to Barak which delighted him.

A wellness placement at a foster home became available in 2008. Barak and his dad visited 13 homes and chose Angel of Care Adult Foster Home. Owners DeJene and Ergo accepted Barak as a resident and he moved in on January 1, 2009, and lived there for 17 and $\frac{3}{4}$ years. Favorite caregivers included Hannae, Seni, and Tagash.

At age 43, Barak's Emanuel syndrome caught up with him and there was no cure for low muscle tone, swallowing issues and aspiration pneumonias that became debilitating. He died September 25, 2026, at St. Vincent Medical Center.

Barak is survived by parents Gordon & Carolyn; brothers Lance & John (Dobrina); nieces Sophia & Mary; nephew George; aunts Sarah, Norma, Joann, Christy & Mary; uncles Gerry, Ken, Damon & John; seven cousins; and many other relatives.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister & Preacher: Pr. Allison Bengfort
Assisting Minister: Kim Taylor-Blakemore
Communion Assistants: Pam Farr, Liz Hardy,
Beth Johnson, Joel Johnson
Lector: Mary Smith
Musician: Karl Gustafson
Brass Quintet: Molly Harvis, Dan Schmidt,
Mark Vehrenkamp, Glenn Widener,
John Zagorski
Ushers: Tom & Barb Lane,
Mike & Linda McDowall
Tech Team: Paul Navarre
Altar Guild: Susan Reiser
Worship Coordinator: Pat Christiansen
Reception Coordinators: Pam & Tom Jelineo

*“Lift High the Cross,” “Children of the Heavenly Father,” “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,”
“For All the Saints,” and “On Eagle’s Wings” are used with permission from One License.*

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