

IN LOVING MEMORY



HAGEN KEITH MEINS

January 12, 1962 – April 27, 2024



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 6, 2024

Funeral Service Observing the Victory the Lord Jesus Christ has Won for Keith



Stand

Opening Hymn

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

LSB 656

Words From The Family

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Remembrance of Baptism

- P** In Holy Baptism Keith was clothed with the robe of Christ’s righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul says: “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”
C We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.

Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
C Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Keith and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

LSB 803

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 43:1–3

¹But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 46

- A** God is our refuge and strength,
C **a very present help in trouble.**
- A** Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
C **though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**
- A** though its waters roar and foam,
C **though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**
- A** There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
C **the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- A** God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
C **God will help her when morning dawns.**
- A** The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
C **he utters his voice, the earth melts.**
- A** The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**
- A** Come, behold the works of the LORD,
C **how he has brought desolations on the earth.**
- A** He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
C **he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.**
- A** “Be still, and know that I am God.
C **I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”**
- A** The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

C **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.**

Epistle

Romans 8:31–39

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand Verse

P Alleluia, alleluia.
Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
C **to Him be glory and power forever.**
Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 14:1–6

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. 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, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to 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 Father except through me.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

Sit

Hymn

“When Peace, like a River”

LSB 763

Sermon

Chaplain David Witte

Kneel/Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that all who have been nourished by the holy body and blood of Your Son may be raised to immortality and incorruption to be seated with Him at Your heavenly banquet. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give to the family of Keith and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of Your Church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain

hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Receive our thanks for Keith and for all the blessings You bestowed on him in this earthly life. Bring us at last to our heavenly home that with him we may see You face to face in the joys of paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence that because He lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will be able to separate us from Your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

Concluding Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus and Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **in the name of the Lord. Amen.**

Hymn

“Onward, Christian Soldiers”

LSB 662

Acknowledgments

Funeral Service from Lutheran Service Book

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OBITUARY

Hagen “Keith” Meins passed into eternal life on April 27, 2024. He was 62 years old. Keith is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Marianne, and his four daughters: Kelsey Marie Meins, Melanie Anne Harryman, Laura Brynn Meins, and Paige Morgan Meins. He also leaves behind granddaughter Hunter Gwenevere Harryman, son-in-law Jesse Richard Harryman and his three dogs Gus, Finley and Charles. He is survived by his mother Mary Elizabeth Meins and three siblings Cathi (Mitch) Barrington, Kevin (Gayle) Meins, and Kirsten (Jim) Langston, and many nieces and nephews. Keith was preceded in passing to eternity by his father Arthur Hagen Meins.

Keith was born on January 12, 1962, in Montgomery, Alabama to Arthur Hagen Meins, a dedicated Air Force Veteran, and Mary Elizabeth Meins, devoted military wife and mother and elementary school educator. Keith bore the image of God given to him to reveal incredibly boldly and fervently throughout his life which led many to see the Father through him. Raised in the Lutheran Church, Keith spent the past 32 years as a member of Living Savior Lutheran Church in Fairfax Station, VA, with the founding members of the church. With his wife Marianne, he helped shape the lives of young teens as Youth Directors for the first five years of their marriage. God used his gifts of empathy and trustworthiness to bring countless people to faith in Jesus Christ as Our Lord and Savior, including gently leading his wife Marianne to Baptism early in their Marriage. Keith found his final spiritual home and community at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Cabot, Arkansas.

Keith was baptized as an infant on January 21, 1962 in Stuttgart, Arkansas and was confirmed in Worms, Germany at Trinity Church on June 2, 1974. The scripture Keith chose for his Confirmation is, “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses.” Acts 1:8, NKJV, and Keith walked through life with this verse every day.

Above all things, Keith is a fierce and brave son of God who shared the deepest love and care with everyone he knew. He is proudest of his Best Dad and Best Grandpa Awards and adores his four beautiful daughters and special granddaughter. Keith is known for being “larger than life” and has a capacity to love that redefines the word. He deeply believed his purpose in life to be a devoted Husband, Father, Grandfather, Son, Brother, and friend, and he walked this out every moment to the fullest. His submission to the Father’s plan was so evident in every way; he constantly exudes the fruit of the spirit: “But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23, NLT.

We take heart in this as evidence of his relationship with our Heavenly Father and reliable proof He is living eternally now.

To his daughters he is everything; he was always there, rock in the storm, cheerleader, best friend, teacher, and safe place. He taught us to be brave to feel emotion as it came, to think for ourselves, and to be strong to share ourselves with the world. He would often say “my role is to be here for you girls, for everything you need.” and we know that he is hearing “Well done my son, my good and faithful servant.”

Keith is a heavily decorated veteran having served in several wars and operations on special security teams that were first to deploy in pre-invasion operations, including the invasion of Panama during the presidency of George H. W. Bush to depose the de facto ruler of Panama, General Manuel Noriega. The operation, codenamed Operation Just Cause, concluded with the surrender of Noriega. Shortly after, President Bush ordered the organization of Operation Desert Shield in response to Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait. Keith was on the Airbase Ground Defense Team, the first airplane to deploy as a part of the order preparing American troops to become part of an international coalition launched as Operation Desert Storm. Keith received medals for his service in Operation Just Cause, Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm as well as countless other awards. During his service in the Air Force, Keith was awarded a master’s degree in security management from Webster University and prior to that he received his bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Arkansas.

Keith’s humility and sacrificial service was evident in a recent written conversation with a friend and described himself, “I am a security guy who realized Keeping God’s Children safe through my vocation was a privilege and a calling.” Keith’s most rewarding accomplishments include his volunteer roles as Director of Security for mass events like “Stand in the Gap”, held in 1998 on the National Mall with over 1.5M Christian Men in attendance. Also, more recently, serving as Director of Security for the tri-annual Lutheran National Youth Gathering with over 35,000 high school aged Lutherans gathered together for a week full of worship, bible study, servant events and fun! All four of his daughters participated in these events in years 2013, 2016, 2019, and 2022.

Keith never lost sight of his hometown roots and in 2023, he moved his family back to Jacksonville, Arkansas to be close to family and pursue his vision to help the community by providing technology-enabled opportunities for Smart Community Development. Prior to moving, Keith was advancing several entrepreneurial pursuits and founded Smart Innovation Corporation, a non-profit to facilitate executing on that vision. Keith was at the height of his career, partnering

with the most innovative and advanced technology companies to see his vision through. In March of this year, Keith and Marianne became part of the Leadership Boardroom, a Christ-centered Mastermind community focused on ensuring early-stage entrepreneurs stay focused on their God-designed purpose as they develop a Personal Vision first and Business Vision second. Through this process, Keith involved many of his best friends in crafting a vision for not only his company but setting the stage for building a Family Legacy.

While his family and friends are incredibly saddened that he is no longer with us here, we are comforted by his immense and clear faith in the Lord Our Savior that we will be reunited with him one day in heaven. “I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.” John 10:28-29 ESV.