

**FUNERAL SERVICE FOR
PASTOR KEVIN CRAMM
DECEMBER 14, 2025 -- 11:00 A.M.**

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



**REVEREND DR. BERNHARD LUTZ, PREACHER
WOODBURY, MINNESOTA**

**PASTOR BILL HEITHOLD, LITURGIST
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**KATHY MAILANDER, ORGANIST
MISSION LUTHERAN CHURCH, LAS CRUCES, NM**

**On this fourteenth day of January 2025, we come to remember
Pastor Kevin Cramm and proclaim his entrance to his heavenly home.**

ORDER OF SERVICE

BEGINNING HYMN: "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL" LSB PAGE 357

✠ INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Pastor: In Holy Baptism Pastor Cramm 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?"

People: 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.

ENTRANCE HYMN: "FOR ALL THE SAINTS" LSB PAGE 677

✠ KYRE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People: Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

✠ SALVATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Pastor Cramm 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.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT -- ISAIAH 40:27-31

Pastor: The Old Testament reading is from the fortieth chapter of Isaiah.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Pastor: This is the word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God.

✠ Psalm 46

Pastor: ¹God is our refuge and strength,

People: a very present help in trouble.

Pastor: ²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

People: though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

Pastor: ³though its waters roar and foam,
People: though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
 Pastor: ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
People: the holy habitation of the Most High.
 Pastor: ⁵God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
People: God will help her when morning dawns.
 Pastor: ⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
People: He utters his voice, the earth melts.
 Pastor: ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.
 Pastor: ⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD,
People: how He has brought desolations on the earth.
 Pastor: ⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
People: He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.
 Pastor: ¹⁰“Be still, and know that I am God.
People: I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”
 Pastor: ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.

THE EPISTLE -- ROMANS 8:18-39

Pastor: The Epistle reading is from the eighth chapter of Romans.

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified. 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.

Pastor: This is the word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God.

✠ THE VERSE

All: Alleluia. Alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; to Him be glory and power forever. Alleluia.

✠THE HOLY GOSPEL - JOHN 11:21-27

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

People: Glory to you, O LORD.

²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

✠THE APOSTLE'S CREED *INSIDE THE BACK COVER OF THE HYMNAL*

SERMON HYMN: "ON EAGLE'S WINGS" *LSB PAGE 727*

THE SERMON

HYMN: "THY STRONG WORD" *LSB PAGE 578*

✠PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give to the family of Pastor Kevin Cramm 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Receive our thanks for Pastor Cramm 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,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

✠THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Pastor: I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." *John 11:25-26*

**People: Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal You to the nations
and the glory of Your people Israel. *Luke 2:29-32*
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.**

✠CONCLUDING COLLECT

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

✠BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. [*Psalm 103:1*]

Pastor: 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 T give you peace

People: Amen. *Numbers 6:24-26*

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace,

People: In the name of the Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "ABIDE WITH ME" LSB 878,

Acknowledgments

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If desired, memorials can be made to the Lutheran Heritage Foundation, 51474 Romeo Plank Rd., Macomb, MI 48042. Please indicate on the check that it is for the LCMS Ministries of South Sudan.

Reverend Kevin Cramm

Through the Lord's divine love, grace and mercy, "he called you out of the shadows and into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9) Kevin was born to Russell and Sheryl Cramm on July 28th, 1955. He was baptized as a child of God and confirmed in the faith. He graduated from Stephen F Austin University in 1978 and went on to be a surveyor in West Texas. Ever faithful, God whispered the call of servanthood and ministry onto the heart of Kevin. "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8) He then went on to attend Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana. While completing his post graduate degree, the Lord opened another door for him and called him to serve as a chaplain in the United States Army.

Adventurous spirit, contemplative soul, deep and abiding faith and a servant, above all else, are just a few of the gifts that the Lord bestowed on Kevin. Ministry, for Pastor, was a deep and abiding walk with Jesus and only through His grace and mercy. "For it is by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9) He started his ministry at Grace Lutheran Church in Port Alberni, British Columbia, Canada. It was there that God blessed and enriched his life with his beautiful wife, Lisa Mohns. They were married April 5, 1986. Blessings continued as they welcomed 4 children; Jessica, Joel, Sarah and Matthew into their family. In his words, his family was "a special gift." His call to serve continued at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada and then at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Island, Illinois. After retirement he went on to serve as a vacancy Pastor in Apache, Oklahoma; Carlsbad, New Mexico; and Las Cruces, New Mexico.

During his ministry in the Armed Forces, Kevin served in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm. He was one of the hospital chaplains located only a few miles from the front lines, receiving some of the first casualties. In 2004, he was called to active duty and served as the deployment chaplain for the guard and reserve that deployed from Fort Sill. He served as a chaplain in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Additionally, he served with the Special Forces and traveled to Central and South America. He retired in 2015 as a full bird colonel.

Kevin was not fond of sitting still. His firm belief was that he would continue to do God's work and God would work the rest out. As he continued ministry into retirement, he found a new and beautiful calling from the Lord. "And how to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "how beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news." (Romans 10:15) Kevin continued his ministry as a Professor at the Lutheran seminary in Yambio, South Sudan. He was able to travel to South Sudan many times over the course of the past several years. Later in life he continuously expressed his joy and love in serving the South Sudanese people. During his life, he was blessed richly and loved deeply by so many. Through God's infinite grace and mercy, He welcomed Kevin home on January 5th, 2025. Those who mourn his departure but cling to the eternal promise of salvation are his wife, Lisa; his daughter, Jessica and her husband David and their 2 precious children Joseph and Asher; his son Joel; his daughter Sarah and her husband Casey and their 3 precious children, Evelyn, Quinn and Abigail; and his son Matthew; his mother, Sheryl, his brother Brian and his wife Deb and their children Stephan and Helen; and his sister Barb. Awaiting to greet him in eternal glory was his father, Russell Cramm who preceded him into death.

Visitation will be held on January 13th from 5:30-7:30pm at Alamogordo Funeral Home. His funeral will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Alamogordo, NM on January 14th at 11am. Kevin will be laid to rest at the national cemetery in Santa Fe, NM on January 16th. It is in this promise that we cling to our Lord's faithfulness "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26)