Celebration of Life and Thanksgiving
for
Mark Gerald Chytracek
November 6, 1958 – October 9, 2015
October 24, 2015
1:00 p.m.
Augustana Campus, University of Alberta

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18
Rejoice always;
pray without ceasing;
in everything give thanks:
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus

A reception will be held in the Forum today after the Celebration of Life.
Those who have come from a distance are invited to greet the family today.
Those who live in the Camrose area are invited to join the family at Bethel Lutheran Church on Tuesday, October 27th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Preacher
Rev. Craig Wentland, Chaplain, Augustana Campus

Presiding Minister
Rev. Dr. Deboran Ann Taylor, Bethel Lutheran Church

Readers
Amanda Chytracek, David Chytracek

Assisting Minister
Robyn Simpson Mohr

Musician
Dr. Milton Schlosser

Eulogists
Tim Hatfield
Rob Ford
Jonathan, Amanda and David Chytracek
Brandi Chytracek

Soloists
Angela Chytracek, Jonathan Mohr, Amanda Clark

Choir and Communion Assistants
Family and friends

Choir Conductor
Dr. Jonathan Mohr

Drummer
Lucas Brown
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.

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

C: And also with you.

Choir Anthem: “Standing on Holy Ground”
Prayer of the Day
P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Let us pray...

First Reading
26 Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:
   Who created all these?
He who brings out the starry host one by one
   and calls forth each of them by name.
Because of his great power and mighty strength,
   not one of them is missing.
27 Why do you complain, Jacob?
   Why do you say, Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord;
   my cause is disregarded by my God”?
28 Do you not know?
   Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
   the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
   and his understanding no one can fathom.
29 He gives strength to the weary
   and increases the power of the weak.
30 Even youths grow tired and weary,
   and young men stumble and fall;
31 but those who hope in the Lord
   will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
   they will run and not grow weary,
   they will walk and not be faint.

Psalm 30:11-12
11 You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing.
   You have taken away my clothes of mourning
   and clothed me with joy,
12 that I might sing praises to you and not be silent.
   O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever!

Solo
“You Raise Me Up”
1 Thessalonians 5:16–18
16 Rejoice always;
17 Pray without ceasing;
18 In everything give thanks:
   for this the will of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation
“All Creatures, Worship God Most High!”
Gospel Reading

John 14:1-4

1 "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

2 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.

3 And you know the way to where I am going."

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

P The Holy Gospel according to John

C Glory to you, O Lord

The Gospel of the Lord!

P The Gospel of the Lord!

C Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Rev. Craig Wentland

Hymn of the Day

"O God beyond All Praising"

Each petition will end:

A In your mercy

C Hear our prayer

Prayers will conclude

A God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Saviour Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come shall 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
Peace
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

You may greet one another with a sign of peace. This is a time for hugging. That's what Mark was most known for. Some say they felt "enveloped" by Mark's hugs.

Presentation of Gifts
Gifts of bread and wine are received.

"Here I Am, Lord"

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
   I have heard my people cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
   I have borne my people's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
   I will tend the poor and lame."
Great Thanksgiving

P  The Lord be with you.
C  And also with you.
P  Lift up your hearts.
C  We lift them to the Lord.
P  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C  It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P  It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise, O Lord, almighty and ever-living God. In Christ who rose from the dead, our hope of resurrection dawned. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life. And so with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus  “You Are Holy”

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

C  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.

Invitation

P  The gifts of God for the people of God.
C  Thanks be to God.
Communion

All are invited and welcome at the table of the Lord.

During communion the following hymns may be sung:

Hymn

The soloist sings the verses.

The congregation sings the refrain

"You Are Mine"

1. I will come to you in the silence,
2. I am hope for all who are hopeless,
3. I am strength for all the despairing,
4. I am the Word that leads all to freedom,

I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the healing of the ones who dwell in shame.
I am the peace the world cannot give.

You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice.
Be shadows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.

still and know I am here.
Come and rest in me.
all will know my name.
up, now walk and live!

Text: David Haas, b. 1957
Music: David Haas
Text and music © 1999 GIA Publications, Inc.
Hymn

“Blest Are They”

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
2. Blest are they, the lowly ones;
3. Blest are they, who show mercy;
4. Blest are they, who seek peace;
5. Blest are you who suffer hate,

Theirs is the kingdom of God.
They shall inherit the earth.
Mercy shall be theirs.
All... because of me.

Blest are they, full of sorrow;
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst;
Blest are they, who suffer in faith;
The joy, the glad, yours is the kingdom;

Yours is the kingdom of God!

Refrain
All C D7 G D/F# Em G/D C
Rejoice and be glad!

Blest are they, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!

Yours is the kingdom of God!

Text: David Haas, b. 1937
Music: David Haas
Copyright © 1961 GIA Publications, Inc.
**Hymn: “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to on the road; we are here to help each other, laugh with you, I will share your joy and sorrows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Chorus:**

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to reign, and we'll walk with each other as live in the freedom of the city of God. We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

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**Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953**

**Music: Richard Gillard**

**Text and music © 1977 Taize and the Song writers, Charly Music**

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**Hymn: “We are Called”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Come! Live in the light!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Come! Open your heart!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Sing! Sing a new song!</td>
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**Text: David Haas, b. 1957**

**Music: David Haas**

**Text and music © 1984 CSA Music, Inc.**
Table Blessing
P  May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C  Amen

Prayer after Communion
A  Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction and a pledge of our inheritance of life eternal where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C  Amen.

Commendation
A Celebration of Mark in pictures
Invitation
P  Let us commend Mark to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Commendation
P  Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your servant Mark. 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.
C  Amen.

Blessing
Sending
P  Let us go forth in peace.
C  In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional
“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”
Mark Chytracek, a longtime Director of Student and Residence services at the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta died suddenly of a heart attack on Friday, October 9, 2015, doing what he loved most – loving Brandi. Mark was born on November 6, 1958 in Rochester, Minnesota to Joan and Gerald Chytracek. Mark's younger siblings Karen and Greg followed soon after. In 1968, Mark's family moved to De Forest, Wisconsin where he met his life-long, best friend, Tim Hatfield. Mark graduated from high school on May 27, 1977 and began studies at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire (UWEC).

Mark took a summer job in Atlanta, Georgia in 1979 where he met Brandi. Brandi was working as a youth staffer in the Lutheran Church and just happened to be staying at Mark's Uncles home. Mark and Brandi knew right away that theirs was a life-long relationship. Although being apart the following year was a challenge, they dedicated themselves to writing letters back and forth. Brandi moved and joined Mark at UWEC to finish university. They were married on June 20, 1981.

Mark and Brandi took on a new adventure in 1982 when Mark accepted a position as a Residence Life Coordinator at Camrose Lutheran College. Residence quickly became home and they continued to live on campus for the next 17 years. The campus community became part of their family as they raised their own 3 children Jonathan, Amanda and David in the residences. The only thing Mark loved as much as being a father, was being a grandfather to his grandson, Noah. Mark will be remembered as a man who loved strongly, cared deeply, and gave the best hugs. His impact on students' lives over the past 33 years has been as continuous as it has been profound. He was viewed by many as a model father figure.

Mark loved athletics, and could often be found in the gym watching practices or games or at fundraisers for the Augustana Vikings. He also enjoyed the arts and participated in Mannskor. He appreciated attending student performances and recitals as they achieved their personal goals. His Sundays consisted of going to church with his family, and then watching his beloved Minnesota Vikings. The thing that Mark loved the most on this earth was his family. He was a wonderful example of how to be an attentive, romantic husband, as well as a caring and devoted father and papa.

Thank you God, for the gifts you have bestowed on us through your son, Mark.

My wonderful husband, Mark was my best friend, my lover and my soulmate! God has blessed my life in so many incredible ways, but I have received no greater blessing than my life journey with Mark!
Our Heartfelt Appreciation To:

• All those who prepared, planned and assisted with today’s Celebration of Life service

• The Augustana Campus and University of Alberta Communities

• The Bethel Lutheran Church family community

• All those who offered their voice in sharing Mark’s love of music

• Tobias and Dieter Mundel and Mark’s precious Grandson, Noah, for bringing forward the sacramental gifts

• To the current RA Staff who assisted with communion ushering

• To all the family and close friends who served our Lord’s Supper

• To all those who assisted in preparing and taking down the Worship space

• To the Technology and Learning Services team for their amazing work to share Mark’s Celebration of Life service around the world

Acknowledgements: