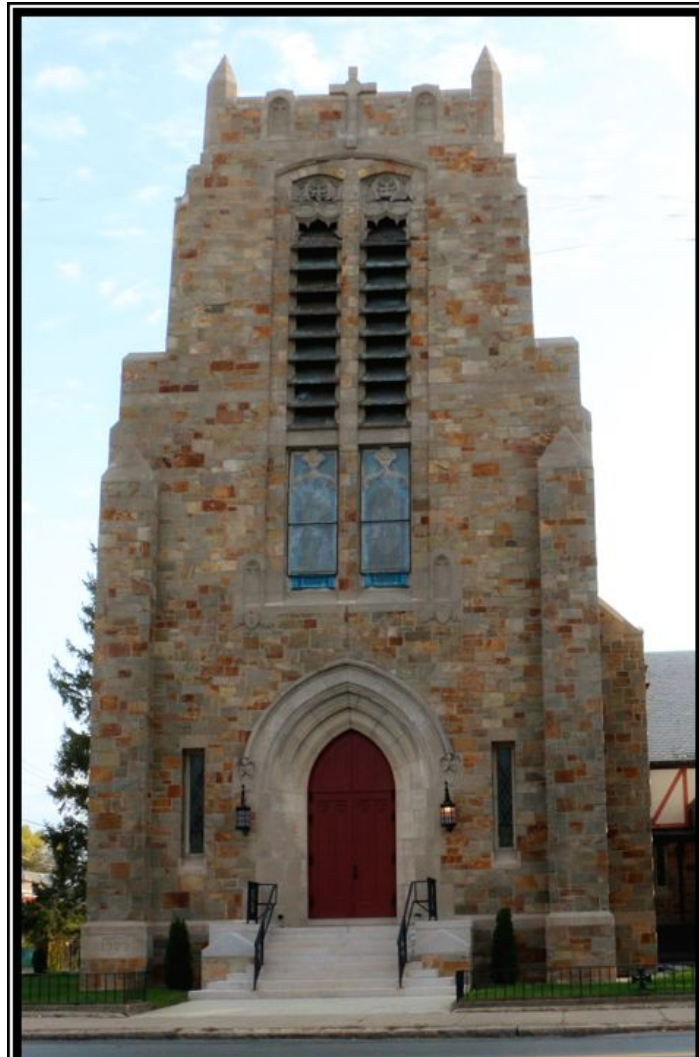


First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Friday, October 30, 2026
11 a.m.



**DIVINE SERVICE AND
FUNERAL FOR
JENNIE CHRISTENSEN**



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE AND FUNERAL
FOR JENNIE CHRISTENSEN
April 20, 1932- OCTOBER 22, 2026

Welcome!
We're glad you're here!
to join us in worship and fellowship today

Everyone here at First Evangelical Lutheran Church are celebrated and welcomed just as God made them, even if that's wiggly and giggly

Worship Leaders Today

Presider: The Reverend Jeffrey C Johnson
Assisting Minister: Jeanne Govoni
Acolyte: Matthew Carlson
Lay Eucharist Minister: Jeanne Govoni

**A Reconciling in Christ Church is where we fully embrace
Racial Equity & Welcome Everyone Regardless of**

Ability, Special Needs, Age, Ethnicity, Languages, Right
Circumstances, Gender Identity & Expression,
Marital Status

Welcome and Gathering

Prelude:

Hymn of Majesty and Power- arr. Mark Thallander (b. 1950)

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

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

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.

Opening Hymn:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

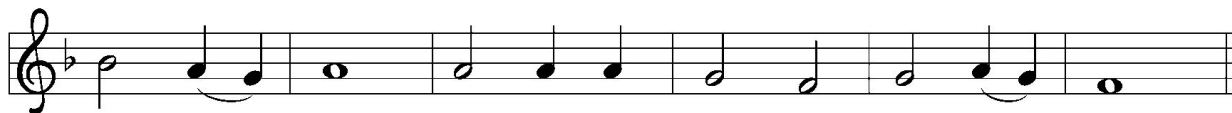
ELW 803



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

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.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer

Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort,
graciously tend those who mourn,
that, casting all their sorrow on you,
they may know the consolation of your love;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

“My Jewels”

(author unknown)

read by Mrs. Linda Lovett

I have four priceless jewels that shine...as bright as stars
above...They light my way to happiness and fill my life with
love...they have a very special way...of driving my cares
away...and when I hold them in my arms...my heart feels light
and gay...no other jewels could half compare...with all the joys
that they bring...for they can change the wintertime into
blushing spring...I keep them in a secret place where only I can
see...for they are locked within my heart...and there they'll
always be...because my children are my jewels and they will
always shine far brighter than the brightest gem...for they are
only mine.

Isaiah 43: 1-7- read by Mr. Colin Ingraham

- ¹ But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.
- ² When 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.
- ³ For 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.
- ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight
and honored and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
- ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
- ⁶ I will say to the north, “Give them up,”
and to the south, “Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
- ⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

Psalm 121 - read by Mr. Gary Ingraham

- ¹ I 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.
³ The 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;
⁵ the 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.
⁷ The 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

Gospel

John: 14: 1-7

Read by Mr. Tim Benson

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

Homily

Mr. David Olson

Homily

Pastor Jeff Johnson

Hymn of the Day: I Love to Tell the Story

TFF 228



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo-ry



and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.



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 INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ.

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn,
and a sure and certain hope in your loving care,
that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand,
to believe and trust in the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he 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, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that
the Lord is good.

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond

AMEN

Communion Song

Lamb of God

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff begins with a new line of music. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a final double bar line.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

PRAYER OF COMMENDATION

Let us commend Jennie to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.
Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Jennie.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive her into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light.
Amen.

Hymn after Holy Communion, the Nunc Dimittis



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Prayer After Communion

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

BLESSING AND RESPONSE

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

And the blessing of God the Father, God the Son +, and God the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Sending Hymn:

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 597



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 Whendark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Dismissal

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: For All the Saints

Denis Bedard (b. 1950)

COMMITTAL

Grace and peace from our Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

Let us pray.

Holy God, holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus, your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our sister, Jennie whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise her up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our sister Jennie, and we commit her body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless her and keep her.

The Lord's face shine on her with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon her with favor and + give her peace.

Amen.

Rest eternal grant him O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.

Merciful God, you heal the broken in heart and bind up the wounds of the afflicted. Strengthen us in our weakness, calm our troubled spirits, and dispel our doubts and fears. In Christ's rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to everlasting life. Renew our trust in you that by the power of your love we shall one day be brought together again with our sister Jennie. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God; Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.









Jennie Charlotte (Freberg) Christensen, 94, passed away peacefully on Thursday, October 22, 2026, leaving behind a lifetime of love, faith, kindness, and countless cherished memories with family and friends.

To know Jennie was to know someone who truly loved people. With her warm smile, welcoming heart, and genuine interest in everyone she met, Jennie had a special way of making others feel valued and loved. To her, there were no strangers, only friends she hadn't met yet. And if you ever had the pleasure of talking with Jennie, you knew there was no such thing as a short conversation! She loved sharing stories, hearing about others' lives, and finding connections with people wherever she went. Her warmth and enthusiasm were unmistakable, and she had a wonderful ability to brighten someone's day simply by being herself.

Faith was the foundation of Jennie's life. She was baptized, confirmed and remained a lifelong member at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brockton, Massachusetts. She lived her faith not only through worship and service but through the kindness, generosity, and compassion she extended to others every day. She served as a Youth Advisor and was a member of Martha Guild LCW. Her faith guided how she lived, how she loved, and how she cared for those around her.

One of the most special expressions of Jennie's love for others was her lifelong tradition of sending greeting cards. Birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, sympathy, or simply a note to say "Thinking of You" -- Jennie remembered them all. For Jennie, these weren't just cards. They were little reminders to the people in her life that they were remembered, that they mattered, and that someone was thinking of them. It was one of the many ways she shared her love, one envelope at a time.

Jennie was always ready with a smile, a kind word, a helping hand, or whatever she could give to someone in need. Her generosity wasn't measured by how much she had to offer, but by how willingly she shared it. She had a gift for making people feel welcome and included, and she found joy in bringing happiness to others.

Born in Brockton, Massachusetts, on April 20, 1932, Jennie was the daughter of the late Carl and Clara Freberg. She graduated from Brockton High School in 1950 and later attended Lutheran Bible Institute in Teaneck, New Jersey, Class of 1955. It was there that she met Hans Marius Christensen, who would become her husband. They were married on October 14, 1955, beginning their life together rooted in faith, family, and shared traditions.

Jennie and Hans were also proud of their Scandinavian heritage and were active members of Stenkil Lodge and the Viking Club, organizations dedicated to celebrating and preserving Scandinavian traditions. Jennie served as a past president of the Ladies Group and as financial secretary of Stenkil Lodge #92. These organizations provided yet another opportunity for her to build friendships, celebrate traditions, and share her welcoming spirit.

Jennie was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Hans Marius Christensen; her parents, Carl and Clara Freberg; her brother, Richard Freberg, and his wife, Edith; and her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, John and Marguerite Nihill.

She is survived by her son, Dana Christensen, and his wife, Karen, of Attleboro, MA; her three daughters, Linda Lovett and her husband, Thomas, of Brockton, MA, Beth Christensen of Brockton, MA, and Jan Ingraham and her husband, Gary, of Carlisle, PA; her grandsons, Alexander Christensen, Jack Ingraham, and Colin Ingraham; and her granddaughter, Maeghan (Christensen) Keene and her husband Tim. She is also survived by her nieces, Nancy Tatum and Karen Varshock, and her nephew, Michael Fortarel. She was also Mimi to her many grand dogs.

While her family and friends will miss her warm smile, her stories, and those wonderfully long conversations, they will carry forward the love and faith she shared so generously. And perhaps the most meaningful way to honor Jennie is to do what she did so naturally: reach out to someone, offer a smile, send a card, and make another person feel special.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Dahlborg-MacNevin Funeral Home, 280 Bedford Street, Lakeville, MA 02347.

A funeral service celebrating Jennie's life will be held on Friday, October 30, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 900 Main Street, Brockton, MA 02301.

For family and friends unable to attend in person, the funeral service will be livestreamed through the church's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/FELCBrockton>.

A graveside service will immediately follow at Pine Hill Cemetery, 483 N. Main Street, West Bridgewater, MA 02379.

Memorial Contributions

For those wishing to honor Jennie's memory, the family requests that memorial donations be made to one of the following organizations that reflect her faith, heritage, and values:

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Brockton, MA

Trindle Spring Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg, PA

The Viking Club, Holbrook, MA, to support the celebration of Scandinavian heritage in America

Calumet Lutheran Ministries Camp, Freedom, NH