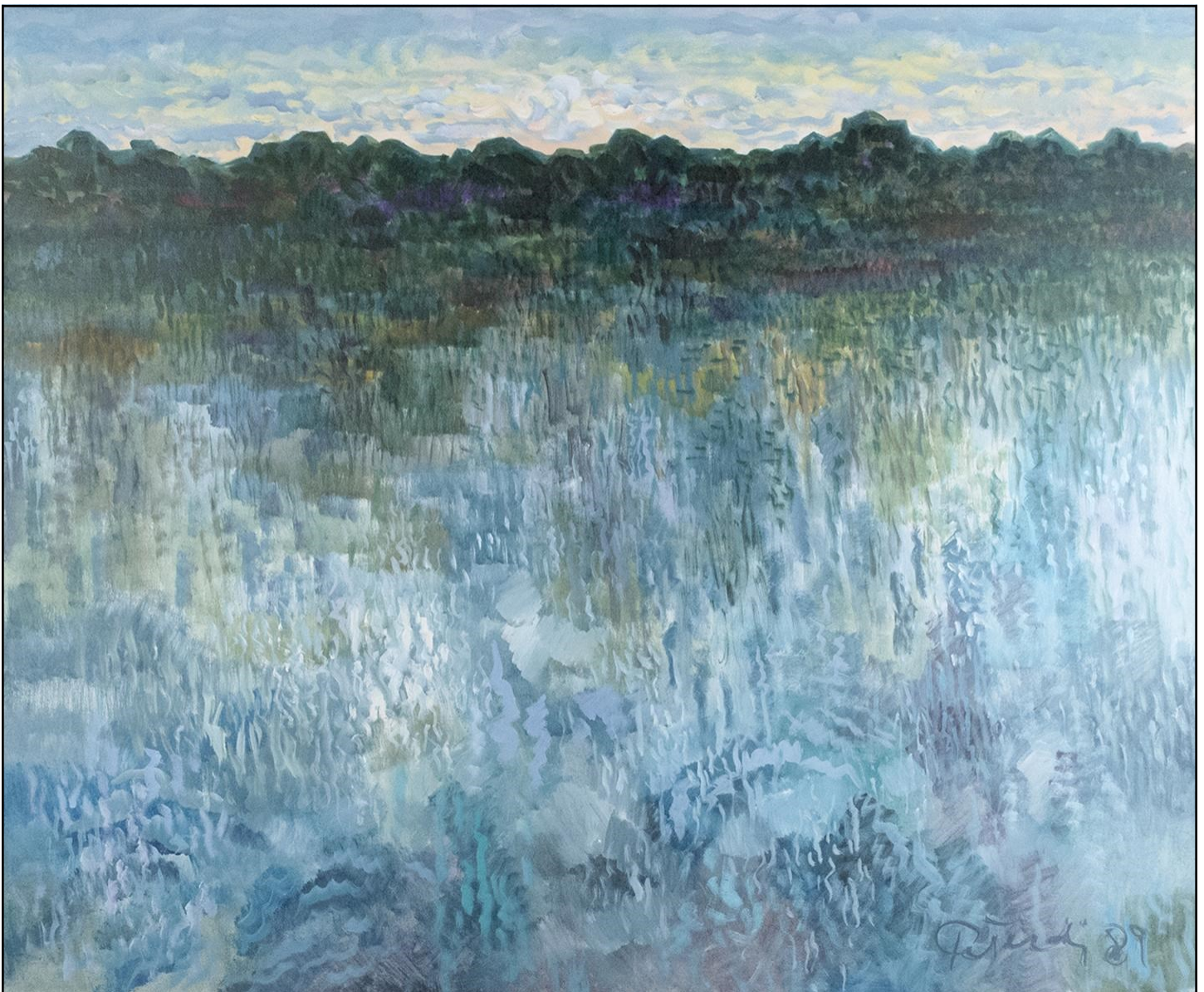


# SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING

“After the Deluge”

St. Olaf College 50th Reunion • Class of 1975

Friday, May 30, 2025 • 10:00 AM • Boe Memorial Chapel



# GATHERING AND WELCOME


## PRELUDE “Shall We Gather at the River”

arr. David Cherwien

Ruth Bretheim Aaseng, flute

## OPENING LITANY “Praise the Rain”

Joy Harjo

 Praise the Rain;  
the seagull dive  
The curl of plant,  
the raven talk-

Praise the canoe  
the fish rush  
the hole for frog  
the upside-down-

Praise the hurt  
the house slack  
The stand of trees,  
the dignity-

Praise the day  
the cloud cup  
the mind flat  
forget it all-



Praise the dark  
the moon cradle  
The sky fall,  
the bear sleep-



Praise crazy  
Praise sad  
Praise the path on which we're led.  
Praise the roads on earth and water

Praise the mist  
the warrior name  
The earth eclipse,  
the fired leap-

Praise the eater and the eaten.  
Praise beginnings; praise the end  
Praise the song  
And praise the singer

Praise the backwards  
upward sky  
the baby cry  
the spirit food-

 Praise the rain  
 **It brings more rain**

 Praise the rain  
 **It brings more rain**

# THANKSGIVING AT THE WATER

## Song Over the Waters

Marty Haugen

*The refrain will be sung as indicated below during the Thanksgiving at the Water;  
first the choir and then the choir and the congregation.*

Refrain



- L** God, you have moved upon the waters; You have sung in the rush of wind and flame; And in your love, you have called us sons and daughters; Make us people of the water and your name.

- C** We give thanks for water: for oceans and rivers, for rain and snow. For the water provided us each day.

Song Over the Waters: *Congregation and choir*

- C** We give thanks for water stories: Stories of creation, stories of cleansing and re-creation, stories of crossing to new lands, stories of journey, stories of endings and stories of healing

Song Over the Waters: *Congregation and choir...*

- C** We give thanks for water flowing, for water roaring, for water still. We long for limits when waters run wild and rains flood. We thirst for water in dry lands and times of stagnation. Water flows through life from beginnings to endings to beginnings.

Song Over the Waters: *Congregation and choir...*

# READINGS

## Genesis 9:12-16

God continued, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and everything living around you and everyone living after you. I'm putting my rainbow in the clouds, a sign of the covenant between me and the Earth. From now on, when I form a cloud over the Earth and the rainbow appears in the cloud, I'll remember my covenant between me and you and everything living, that never again will floodwaters destroy all life. When the rainbow appears in the cloud, I'll see it and remember the eternal covenant between God and everything living, every last living creature of the earth.

## Isaiah 35:6

The prophet wrote, "Then the eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert."

## "For the Waiting"

written and read by Patrick Cabello Hansel

These lives that rolled by ours  
and rolled on  
like waves in the sea

where are they now?

These sun-kissed, spirit breathed  
spheres of dust and water  
that stumbled, tumbled, rumbled into ours  
these beings of salt of skin of story of spring rain

(now) wait

in a quiet room  
surrounded by an even deeper silence

this sacred ground  
this wounding of time

Oh, if we could have held them  
a few moments longer  
Oh, if we could have listened with ears crisp and clear  
If we could have but...

but our love, our grief holds songs  
rising from a womb the world  
meanders through,  
a world that dies and rises and lives  
day by day by unspeakably beautiful night

what has been is always  
what will be is near

(and) so

we remember  
we cherish  
we wonder

we wait

## Revelation 21:4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look, God's dwelling place is now among people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

## HYMN "Death Be Never Last"

1 We walk in light of count - less fac - es  
2 When sor - row's heav - y hand has weight - ed  
3 When joy re - turns with laugh - ter sing - ing

bright as beams of ris - ing sun, cer - tain as the  
loss a - gainst the great - er gain, pin - ning down that  
thanks to God for life's sweet song, let us fol - low

morn - ing chas - es night in end - less a - ges' run.  
grief sore fat - ed lad - en on the bed of pain.  
af - ter bring - ing thanks to God for those now gone.

*Refrain*

Turn - ing eyes now to their shin - ing mem - 'ry, to their faith - ful past,  
saints be now the truth di - vin - ing: death be now but nev - er last.

## RITUAL OF REMEMBRANCE

- The stones in our hands are like the hard things in our lives. They are reminders of the losses, the limits, the griefs and the failures we bear. Today, we join each other in remembrance and release. Together, we move forward to place our stones in this water of renewal.

*Wait for an usher to invite you to slowly process forward toward the water basins. You are invited to drop the stone you carry into one of the basins and then return to your seat.*

**HYMN** ELW #423 “Shall We Gather at the River”

We remember...

Scott Veldman; Harry Ambrose; Mark Wangsness; Timothy Maland; Thomas High;  
Louise Clark; Michael Martin; Gary Saxton; Paul Larson; Dianne Lukes Brundage;  
Marcus Hess; James Aune, Robert Bunge.

**HYMN** “Down to the River to Pray”

traditional

*Refrain:*

As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good old way  
And who shall wear the robe and crown  
Good Lord, show me the way!

*Verse:*

O brothers let's go down  
Let's go down, come on down  
Come on brothers let's go down  
Down in the river to pray

*Additional verses:*

O sisters, let's go down ... *(refrain)*  
O mothers, let's go down ... *(refrain)*  
O fathers, let's go down ... *(refrain)*

We remember...

Knut Bolseth; John Hass; Steven Swan; Randall Lewis; Sherry Benjamin Peters; Paul Mainz;  
Todd Bierbaum; Bridget Duoos; Nancy Hansen Wilbur; Jeffery Schwartz;  
Susan Northwall Calusic; Carol Mattson Francis.

**HYMN** “The Water is Wide”

traditional

The water is wide, I cannot get o'er,  
And neither have I wings to fly.  
Give me a boat that will carry two,  
And both shall row, my love and I.

O, down in the meadows the other day,  
A-gath'ring flowers both fine and gay,  
A-gath'ring flowers both red and blue,  
I little thought what love can do.

I leaned my back up against some oak,  
Thinking that he was a trusty tree;  
But first he bended and then he broke,  
And so did my false love to me.

A ship there is, and she sails the sea,  
She's loaded deep as deep can be,  
But not so deep as the love I'm in:  
I know not if I sink or swim.

O, love is handsome and love is fine,  
And love's a jewel while it is new,  
But when it is old, it groweth cold,  
And fades away like morning dew.

We remember...

Laura Olson Elken; Eugene Freeman; Karen Magnuson Hays ; Stephen Madson; Virginia May;  
Kris Kline; Marcia Taylor Schaupp; Susan Cooper; Mary Eastwold Dettloff; Helge Smebye;  
Sandy Olson; Nancy Roach Schaus; Christopher Brauer, Thomas Cain, Lisa Carlson Griffin, Sharmi Harper;  
Gary Frederickson.

**HYMN** "Peace Like a River"

traditional

... I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river in my soul  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river in my soul  
... I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul

... I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul  
I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul

We remember...

Robert Moore; Jacqueline Jacobs; Lionel Green; Dean Engleson; William Swart;  
Debra Boss Montgomery; Ilmar Kuisk; James Wilkinson; H. Gregg Miller; Charles Moertel;  
Dwight Coleman; David Pedersen.

## **WORDS OF ENDING**

**PRAYER**

**ANTHEM** "God Remembers"

Russel Schulz Widmar

**WORDS OF CLOSURE**

**L** We give our sorrow. We offer our regret, for we have not been that to which we aspired..

And yet...we are offered renewal. We share tears of sadness and tears of joy, for the relationships, the encouragement, the laughter, the assistance and the friendship. We give thanks for the community that sustains us still and the urgency in which we are called for such a time as this.

May our tears cleanse and refresh us, may our friendships be renewed, may we re-discover the gifts that we bring to community, May we be refreshed in the inspiration that has sustained us in our lives. May we laugh and find joy. May music fill us and the waters of life nourish us in peace.

**CLOSING HYMN** ELW #838 "Beautiful Savior"

**POSTLUDE** Toccata in G Major

Theodore Dubois

**Please remain in the chapel for the postlude.  
We will take our class photo immediately following the service.**



## Participants

**Organist** - James E. Bobb   **Choir Director** - Jensine King Nolan

**Flute** - Ruth Bretheim Aaseng   **Leaders** - Rev. Kari Reiquam, Rev. Rick Hoyme

**Readers/Candles** - Rev. Patrick Cabello Hansel, Paul Sortland, Rebecca Lee, Nancy Baker

**Water Pourer** - Jennifer Olson   **Candles** - Steve Juergens, Jill Tammen, David Westgor, Inga Velde

**Ushers** - Denise Wetherille Bussa, Joel Ario, Mary Metzler

**Chapel Design** - Ruth Bretheim Aaseng, Kari Reiquam

## Service of Remembrance Committee

Ruth Bretheim Aaseng, Kari Reiquam, Rick Hoyme, Gary Briggie, Patrick Cabello Hansel

Denise Wetherille Bussa, Joel Ario, Jensine King Nolan

*St. Olaf Staff Representatives:* Ellen Draeger Cattadoris, Jennifer Kratage-Dixon



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

"Praise the Rain" from Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings. Copyright © 2015 by Joy Harjo.

"Song Over the Waters" Text & Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. ©1987, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission Onelicense.net license #A-703883.

"Death Be Never Last" Text & Tune: Ray Makeever, b. 1943. ©1993 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission Onelicense.net license #A-703883.

"Shall We Gather at the River" Text & Tune: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899. Public Domain.

"Down to the River to Pray" Text & music: American folk song; "The Good Old Way," attr. to George H. Allan, fr. *Slave Songs of the United States*, 1867. Public Domain

"The Water Is Wide" Public Domain

"Peace Like A River" African-American spiritual. Public Domain.

Bulletin cover image: *Reflection* by Gabor Peterdi. Used with permission. Part of the permanent collection of the Flaten Art Museum, St. Olaf College. With gratitude to Jane Becker-Nelson, Director and Curator.

The poem by Patrick Cabello Hansel was composed in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion of the Class of 1975 for use in the Service of Remembrance, ©2025.

The Service of Remembrance subcommittee would like to thank Kristin Kivell, Pastor Matt Marohl, and Pastor Katie Fick of St. Olaf College Ministry for their support.

The Service of Remembrance will be recorded and made available for future viewing at [stolaf.edu/multimedia](http://stolaf.edu/multimedia).