

Service of
**REMEMBRANCE
AND GRATITUDE**

May 29, 2026



Pre- service contemplation: St. Olaf students, alums, and faculty; and video “In The Stillness”

ORDER OF SERVICE

I: INVOCATION

CHIMES

The Call (from “Five Mystical Songs”)

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Cindy (Hokanson) Chapman, soloist

Reunion Choir

II: GATHERING

WELCOME

Pastor Rolf Olson

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 100 (NRSVue, edit.)

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**2 Serve the Lord with gladness;
come into God's presence with singing.**

*3 Know this: The Lord is God, **ELOHIM!***

*It is the Holy One who has made us,
we are creatures of The Divine;
we are God's peoples,
the sheep of THE SHEPHERD'S pasture.*

**4 Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving
and Divine's courts with praise.**

**Give thanks to God Almighty, EL SHADDAI,
bless The Holy Name.**

*5 For The Eternal One, **El Olam** is good;*

**God's steadfast love endures forever
and THE INFINITE'S faithfulness
to all generations.**



HYMN: *All creatures of our God and King*

arr. John Rutter

Professor Martin Hodel, trumpet

Nathan Lyle '22, trumpet

Abby Schroeder '27, timpani

Sophia Carlson '28, percussion

All Creatures of our God and King

Words by St. FRANCIS of ASSISI
Paraphrased by W. H. DRAPER

Melody from *Geistliche
Kirchengesang* (Köln, 1623)



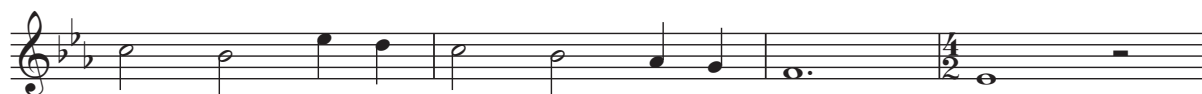
All Voices 1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing Al-le-
Tenors & Basses 2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heav'n a - long, O__
Sopranos & Altos 3. Thou flow-ing wa - ter, pure and clear, Make mu - sic for thy Lord to hear, Al-le-



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn-ing sun with gold-en beam, Thou
praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ri - sing morn, in praise re - joice, Ye
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and bright, That



sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam: O__ praise him, O__ praise him, Al - le -
lights of eve - ning, find a voice: O__ praise him, O__ praise him, Al - le -
giv - est man both warmth and light O__ praise him, O__ praise him, Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Choir Only

4. Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thee flow'rs and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them his glory also show:
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All Voices 5. Let all things their Cre-a - tor bless, And wor-ship him in hum-ble - ness, O__

praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa-ther, praise the Son, And

praise the Spi - rit, three in One: O__ praise hime, O__ praise him, Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

III: IN REMEMBRANCE

Reflections on classmates passed

Pastor Nancy Koester

CHIME

IN MEMORIAM: a video tribute

Nimrod (from "Enigma Variations", Op. 36)

Sir Edward Elgar

Gregory Peterson, organ

CHIME

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN: *For All The Saints*

For All the Saints

1. For all the saints who from their labors rest
All who by faith be - fore the world con - fessed,
Your name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er___ blest.
Al - le - lu ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Choir Only

2. Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one within your great design.
Alleluia!

3. From earth's wide bound, from o - cean's far - thest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,
Sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly___ Ghost:
Al - le - lu ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.
Tune: R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

IV: IN GRATITUDE

READING:

Gratitude contains a heightened and amazed realization of how much goodness is marbled into our strange and sometimes hard, annoying lives. Goodness catches us by surprise as if we are children, and a sudden breeze is playing with our spirits, as if paper planes, lifting us, restoring our sense of buoyancy.

We notice how often we have been helped and loved out of all sense of proportion.

We can remember when we felt that the jig was up, when we were Mr. Magoo on the high rise, about to step off the ledge, and instead? A nearby crane lowered a plank into place, connecting us safely to the next building over.

We remember times of being seen, when we had been feeling at our most invisible and uncared for.

We remember how often we have been unexpectedly enriched by life: a good person, by great art, a piece of music, a book.

We remember lucky breaks. We remember that nature is miraculous. We remember what an amazing, almost- embarrassing showoff God is.

[Anne Lamott]

ANTHEM: *How Can I Keep From Singing*

arr. Taylor Scott Davis

Reunion Choir

John Bale, piano

Laurie (Hoff) Asch, violin

Ford Campbell, bassoon

READING:

*Mentors,
you know who you are
you know why you do it
But do you know
the impact you had when you invested
your time and precious moments
your empathy, understanding, wisdom
listening, patience, consideration
respect?*

*Do you know
you inspired me to grow
do better, be better
know myself, value myself
Be myself?
Because of you I learned to try
to experience, fail, discover, succeed, develop, build*

*Mentors,
you know who you are
you know why you do it*

[adapted from a piece by Gabrielle Mahlow]

MESSAGE OF REMEMBRANCE, HOPE & GRATITUDE

Pastor Bob Rusert

VIDEO: Shaped By St. Olaf

HYMN: *Earth and All Stars!*

Earth and All Stars!



1. Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
2. Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
3. Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
4. Know - ledge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!



Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout - ing ar - my!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
Dugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
Sing to the Lord _____ a new song!

Refrain



He has done mar - - - vel - ous things.



I too will praise him with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
Tune: David N. Johnson, b. 1922

V: CLOSING

READING:

*Here, at this place, I was shaped. I began to be created.
I am not merely a mosaic,
But a complex tapestry of shards.
Each fragment tells a unique story,
Woven together with threads of love and scars,
Reflecting the myriad experiences that have shaped me.*

*My grandpa said,
“Everyone should leave something behind when he dies,
A child or book or painting or house
Or wall built or pair of shoes made.
It doesn’t matter what a person does, he said,
As long as you change something about the way it was
Before you made it into something that’s like you
After you take your hands away.”*

*Your legacy is what you do every day.
My life and impact weren’t about me.
They were about everything I could do for someone else.
When that sinks in, you start to try a little harder.
Your heart stretches to a bigger size.*

Here in this place . . . we were created.

[compiled from Isaiah 64:8, Sara Barrett, Ray Bradbury, Maya Angelou,
Shannon Alder, and Rosa Parks.]

REFLECTIONS

Pastor Rolf Olson

CHORAL BENEDICTION: *A Gaelic Blessing*

John Rutter

POSTLUDE: *Toccata* (from “Symphony No. 5”)

Charles-Marie Widor

Please be seated. Enjoy the postlude,
and stay for our class photo here in Boe Chapel.

CREDITS

ORGANIST

Gregory Peterson

REUNION CHOIR

Craig Arnold, conductor

PROGRAM PHOTOGRAPHY

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Memorial Chimes and *Boe Chapel*,
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SERVICE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Craig Arnold
Mary Lynch
Morgan McKenna
Bob Rusert
Sunny Didier (program co-chair)


MUSIC DEPARTMENT LIAISON

Chung Park

FLOWERS

Platform Floral Garden contributed by
50th reunion committee members in
honor of deceased classmates; Altar
flowers, contributed by St. Olaf College

Our thanks and appreciation to the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations for
their gracious assistance with facility arrangements, rehearsal scheduling,
platform design, technology, and IN MEMORIAM archival images.



*These treasures, we carry in our hearts
forever: sacred friendships, life-changing
moments, and the enduring gift of our
St. Olaf experience.*



Service of Remembrance and Gratitude
50th Year Reunion
Class of 1976

