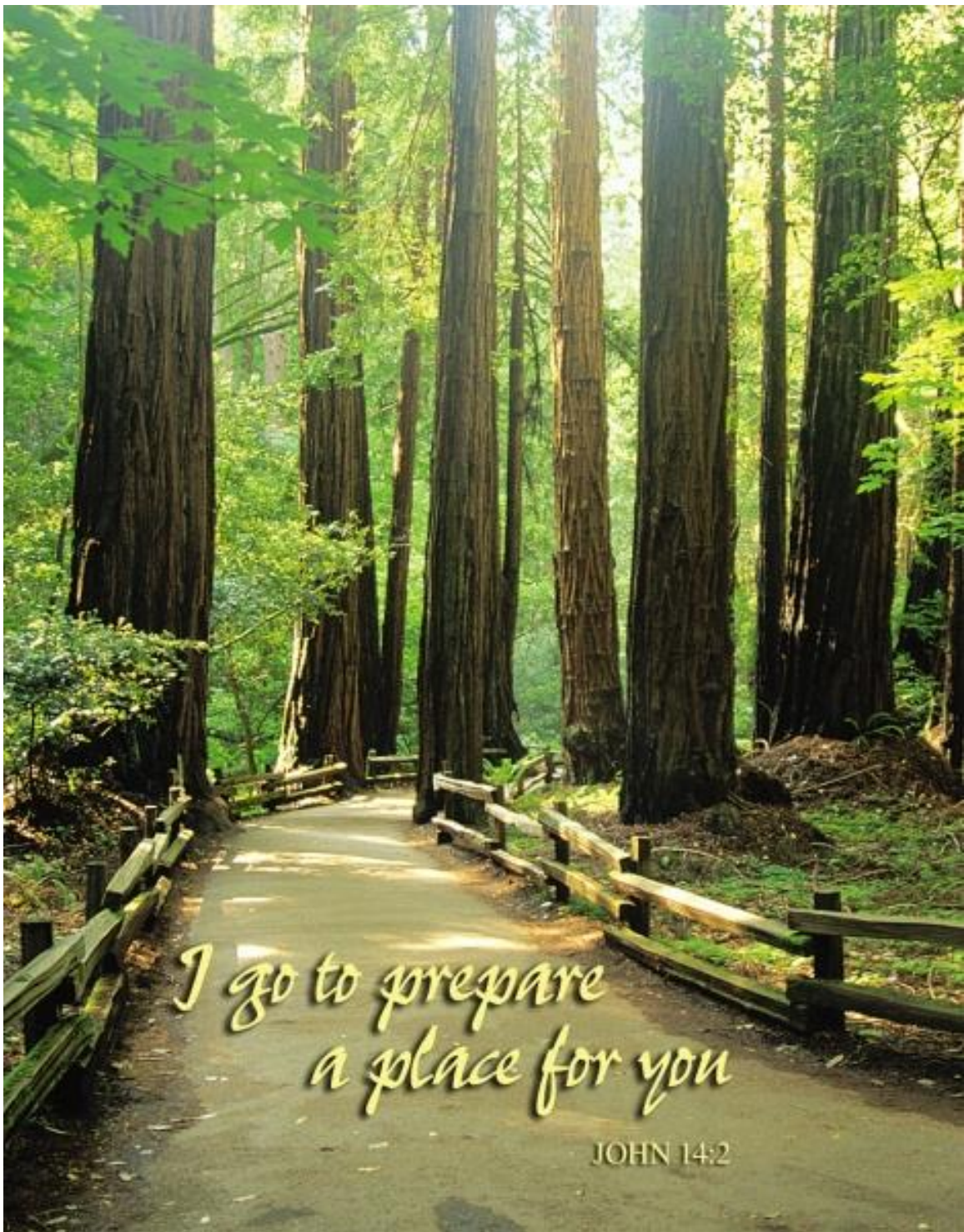


In Loving Memory of Gerald "Jerry" Ruff



English Lutheran Church, La Crosse, WI  
Saturday, April 3, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.

Congregation responses are in **bold**.

Prelude

*The King of Love my Shepherd Is*

Thanksgiving for Baptism

We glorify you. **We glorify you.**

We praise you. **We praise you.**

We worship you. **We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

*On Eagle's Wings*

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.... **Amen.**

Poetry Reading

Mary Ann Ruff

Family Tribute

Ethan Ruff

Readings

Isaiah 40: 1-11; 28-31, Psalm 121, Hebrews 6:19-20

Gospel

John 1:1-5, 9-14

Sermon

Pastor Becky Goche

Special Music

*How Can I Keep from Singing*

The 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

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Commendation

**Amen.**

Hymn

*Amazing Grace*

Dismissal

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Postlude

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## The Fellowship of Trees

A sense of ease and fellowship  
pervades among the trees.

All rooted in the same soil,  
all rising toward the same sun,  
they have their moment, short or long,  
and they are gone. It is well.

Yet, they have left something  
in the soil, in the air they shared.  
Some granted shade, others heat,  
others simply breath, but in essence,  
they were. That is enough.

And when I walk among them,  
their presence is a holy thing.  
They care not what I think  
or who I am, but we are together,  
the trees and I, and this is sufficient.

So leaf and branch, root and trunk,  
and ever-rising canopy  
of twinkling light, thank you.  
I've got this seed of gratitude to give,  
and I must be going too.

*Written by Jerry Ruff*

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Officiants  
Musicians  
Special Music

Pastor Becky Goche, Father John Parr  
Trevor DuPey, Brittany Thummel  
Pat and Paul Ruff