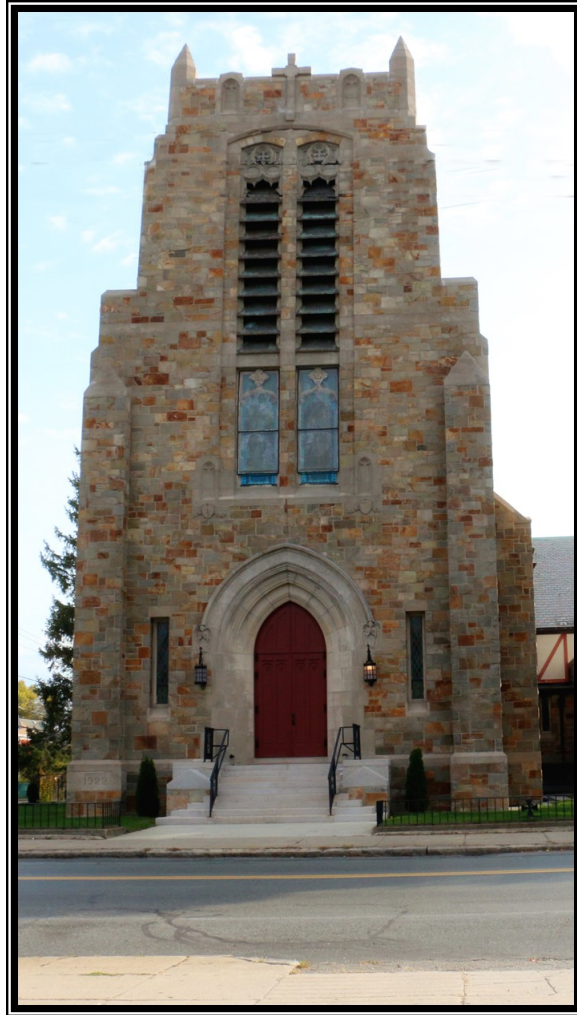


*Funeral Service
For
Harriett R. Johnson*



*Tuesday, January 14, 2025
11:30 a.m.
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
900 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301*



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

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

900 Main Street Brockton, Massachusetts 02301
Telephone: 508-586-9021 Fax: 508-583-5501
Website: www.firstevlutheran.org

Ministers: The Members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Staff

Pastor: The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson

E-mail: jjohnson@firstevlutheran.org Cell: 508-631-2246

Parish Administrator: Nina Sousa

E-mail: nsousa@firstevlutheran.org

Church Secretary: Evelyn Reuben

E-mail: ereuben@firstevlutheran.org

Minister of Music/Cantor

Dr. Steven Young

Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator: Dawn Caffelle

Sextons:

Brian D. Gagne

James Hodges

Manuel Robinson

Pastors Emeriti:

The Reverend Michael P. Fruth, Ph.D.

The Reverend Kenneth W. Hilston

Serving this Day

Presiding Minister

The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson, Pastor, First Evangelical Lutheran Church

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
900 Main Street Brockton, Massachusetts

Funeral Service for Harriett Rebecca Johnson

Born: June 13, 1929
Died: December 29, 2024

Prelude

The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson

Opening Words of Welcome

Gathering

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 our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

Hymn

856

“How Great Thou Art”

O Store Gud

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.

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. Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of all 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.**

The First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-13

(read by The Rev. Dr. David J. Rowe)

¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

²a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

³a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

⁵a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

⁸a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. ¹¹He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; ¹³moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

The Lesson Ends: Lector: *The Word of the Lord* Congregation: *Thanks be to God*

The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Second Reading:

Revelations 21: 1-6

(read by The Rev. Dr. David J. Rowe)

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' ⁶Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.'

The Lesson Ends: Lector: *The Word of the Lord* Congregation: *Thanks be to God*

The Gospel: John 14: 1-7

The Rev Jeffrey C. Johnson

The gospel is announced: The holy gospel according to Saint John the fourteenth chapter.

Congregation: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

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

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Words of Remembrance

Meditation

Pastor Jeffrey Johnson

Hymn

629

“Abide With Me”

Eventide

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:

Let us pray. 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.

Commendation

Let us commend our sister Harriett to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer; into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Harriett. 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.

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.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Hymn

773

“Precious Lord Take My Hand”

Precious Lord

*Ah, Lord, thy dear sweet angels send,
in my last hour my soul attend,
To Abraham's arms bear it.
This body in its narrow room
So softly rests from pain and gloom,
And waits the day prepared it.*

*Ah, then from death awaken me,
Unbind my eyes that I may see
In boundless joy Thy Holy face,
My Saviour, and my Throne of Grace!
Lord Jesus Christ, O hear Thou me,
O hear Thou me! I will Thee praise eternally!*

From The St. John Passion of Johann Sebastian Bach

*Following the committal at the cemetery
the Johnson Family invites you to join them
for a luncheon at Tutto Bene's.*

*1050 Pearl St.
Brockton, MA 02301
508-583-1515*

***Committal at Pine Hill Cemetery
West Bridgewater***

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 Harriett 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 Harriett 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 her 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 Harriett. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Amen.





Harriett Rebecca Johnson, 95, resident of Brockton and, more recently, Easton, and Copley at Stoughton, died peacefully at Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton on Dec. 29th.

She was born on June 13th, 1929, in Hampstead, NH, daughter of Richard and Edna (Clark) Ordway, and raised in Haverhill, MA. She is predeceased by her husband, Lester E. Johnson, several brothers and sisters, and her son-in-law, William Grigg. She is survived by Karl and Christine Johnson of Scituate, MA, Nancy Johnson and Randy Swann of Hurley, NY, Judith Johnson Grigg of Medfield, MA, and her two granddaughters, Hayley Grigg of Boston, MA, and Juliana Grigg of Medfield, MA. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

During her career, she worked as a bookkeeper for the Brockton Visiting Nurses Association and the Brookline Visiting Nurses Association. She enjoyed travel, photography, computers, and spending time with her family.

Visitation will be at First Lutheran Church, 900 Main St., Brockton, on 1/14/25 from 10-11 a.m., followed by the funeral service at 11:30. The committal and interment service will follow at Pine Hill Cemetery, 483 N. Main St., West Bridgewater. Flowers can be sent to Conley Funeral Home, Brockton, MA.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Boston Children's Hospital.