

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE AND HOPE

Dedicated to the Memory of

Royce Merlin Code

October 1, 1954– January 19, 2025

Welcome to this worship celebration in which we celebrate the life of Royce and our hope of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. May God comfort and strengthen you in this difficult time through the remembrance of his life and God's gracious promises.

PRELUDE Marcia Yernberg, pianist

*GREETING Pastor Penny Bonsell
We are reminded of our eternal hope in Jesus Christ, God's covenant with us in baptism, and God's steadfast love and faithfulness to His covenant.

*THE WORD OF GRACE (*responsively*)
Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life.
**Those who believe in me, even though they die,
yet shall they live,
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.**
I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end,
the first and the last.
**I died, and behold I am alive forevermore,
and I hold the keys of hell and death.**
Because I live, you shall live also." (John 11:25-26)

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Jesus Loves Me* *UMH #191* **All**

*OPENING PRAYER (*responsively*)
Eternal God, we praise you for the great company of all those who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labor.
**We praise you for those dear to us
whom we name in our hearts before you.**
Especially we praise you for Royce Code
whom you have graciously received into your presence.
To all of these, grant your peace.
Let perpetual light shine upon them;
**and help us so to believe where we have not seen,
that your presence may lead us through our years,**

**and bring us at last with them into the joy of your home
not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

READINGS 1 Samuel 16:17-23 Stena Code
2 Corinthians 9:5-9 Brittney Graunke

HYMN *Amazing Grace* *UMH # 378* **All**

PSALM 23 (*in unison*)
**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures:
he leads me beside the still waters.
He restores my soul:
he leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for you are with me;
your rod and your staff they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies:
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Go Rest High on That Mountain" by Vince Gill
Sung by Jeff Sartor

WITNESS TO Royce Code
POEM *All is Well* by Henry Scott Holland read by Brittney Graunke

WITNESS TO THE WORD Pastor Penny Bonsell

PASTORAL PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN *Go Tell It on the Mountain* *UMH # 251* **All**

BLESSING

POSTLUDE Marcia Yernberg

Royce Merlin Code Obituary

Royce Merlin Code, 70, of Claremont, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at his home.

Born in Northfield, Minnesota, on October 1, 1954, to Aylmer and Janice (Cheney) Code, Royce grew up embodying the values of hard work, dedication, and the importance of family. Royce attended Northfield High School, where he laid the foundation of his education, which would guide him through his life's endeavors. His passion for knowledge led him to further his studies at Golden Valley Lutheran College, earning an Associate of Arts Degree, and then to Concordia College in Moorhead, where he majored in Philosophy. This academic journey shaped Royce's thoughtful approach to life and his interactions with others.

In his professional life, Royce worked diligently at the family's sawmill in Northfield. At the young age of 18, he began a lifelong career at Three Links, where he was currently working as an activities director. Royce's gentle guidance and kind-hearted nature were felt deeply by all those he worked with and he was a treasured member of the team until his very last days.

An avid outdoorsman, Royce cherished times spent fishing and hunting, often sharing stories of his adventures. His love for riding motorcycles and playing the guitar brought a spirited joy to him, and to those who were lucky enough to accompany him on his many journeys. A true connoisseur of pumpkin pie, and a night owl by nature, Royce found solace in the quiet hours, often with a Bible in hand, reflecting on the profound truths that guided his life.

Remembered as a quiet, helpful, and kind soul, Royce made a positive impact on the lives of those around him. He is survived by his brother, Lyndon (Bonnie) Code of Northfield; niece, Lynn (Russell) Lemke; nephew, Jay (Grace) Code; great nieces, Brittney, Brandi, Bridgette, Stena; great nephews, Avery and Gaven; cousins, Harvey (Jill) Degen, Myron Hanson, Beverly Acker and Mark (Judy) Code; and many other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Aylmer and Janice (Cheney); and cousin, Dwight Degen.

Funeral services will be held at 11 AM, Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at Little Prairie United Methodist Church, 2980 130th Street East 2980 130th Street East Dundas, MN 55019. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church and a reception will follow. Interment will be in Groveland Cemetery in Dundas.

Funeral arrangements are trusted to Bierman, Benson & Langehough Funeral Home & Crematory. www.northfieldfuneral.com www.littleprairieumc.org

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January 28, 2025, 11:00 am

Little Prairie United Methodist Church
Dundas, Minnesota



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