

*In Loving Memory  
of  
Laurie Zschech*



24<sup>th</sup> April 1934 — 8<sup>th</sup> November 2025



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# FUNERAL SERVICE

for

## Lawrence Zschech

17<sup>th</sup> November 2025

10am

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### INVOCATION & REMINDER OF BAPTISM

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P As we gather here now to give thanks to God for Laurie's life, St Paul comforts us with these words: *"Don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection."* (Romans 6:3-5)

### LHS 426 "What a friend we have in Jesus"

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden?  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge!  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.

#### **PRAYER**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Eternal God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ whom you raised from the dead. Assure us that you keep watch over all your children, and not even death itself can snatch us out of your hand or separate us from your love. Comfort us in our grief and remind us that you are always near. We give you thanks for Laurie who is now with you in glory. We praise you for the love you gave us through him and the mercy you have on us all. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## REMEMBERING LAURIE

Lawrence Zschech was born on the 24th of April 1934, in Horsham, Victoria, only son of Herbert Zschech and Anna Elizabeth Tonissen. He spent his childhood on his parents' farm at Jung North which is north-east of Horsham. On the 3rd of June 1934 Lawrence was baptised in Zion Lutheran Church, Kewell, Victoria. In 1937 the family moved from the farm at Jung due to his father no longer able to work the wheat farm and purchased a grazing property "Parkside" on Depot Lane (now Beveridges Rd), Hamilton, initially living in Tarrington until the home at Parkside was built.

Lawrence attended the Lutheran School in Tarrington, until the family moved to Parkside around 1940. In 1943 his sister Cheryl was born. Lawrence attended Hamilton Gray Street School, then Hamilton High School and later Hamilton Technical School. While attending High School he had a regular paper delivery finishing his run in Mt Baimbridge Rd where friends of the family gave him breakfast before heading to school. On the 19th of December 1948 Lawrence was confirmed in the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Hamilton by Pastor Rosenblatt.

Lawrence commenced a motor mechanics apprenticeship with R.I. King Motors and completed four years before having to resign to help work the farm. Lawrence enjoyed his time working there. In his youth Lawrence rode a motor bike to work.

Lawrence and Joan Ivy Salzke were married on the 10th of September 1959 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Gerogery West, NSW. The marriage was blessed with four children; Heather, Carol, Ian and Neal. They took on 200 acres at Parkside. Animals were a passion, in particular dogs. He had Pomeranians as a child and then sheep dogs.

He did his three months National Service Training in the 1950's, (winning the Queen's Medal). He was in the R.A.E.M.E. Core. Winning the Puckapunyal Rifle Shooting Cup.

Lawrence was a member of the Hamilton rifle team that won a State Championship. For several years, he was a member of the club committee. He also enjoyed pistol shooting.

Lawrence participated in the Hamilton Luther League activities, helped with the earthworks for the Hamilton Outdoor Swimming Pool and worked on the foundation work for the current Lutheran Church.

His lifelong dream was to get his pilot's license, and he took up learning to fly light aircraft in the 1980's. He loved giving family and friends a free flight. In the 1980's Carol was in hospital in Melbourne after a knee reconstruction. Lawrence and a fellow aero club member flew to Melbourne to visit, although if you ask Carol, it was not about her, it was more about flying. Ian would say that he was better at flying than driving. As Ian tells it once he fell asleep while droving sheep and drove through a fence.

One of his hobbies for many years was Amateur Radio, his call sign was VK3ALZ. He was a member of the Hamilton Radio Club and was forever building towers, aerials and actual radios, spending many hours talking to people within Australia and overseas. When computers became a thing, he was an early adopter. Neal used to have to watch him on it and if he was lucky got to use the keyboard.

Lawrence was also a member of the CFA, and also helped Joan with the euchre nights at Community House.

Lawrence was a Church Elder for approximately 20 years. He was member of a Home Group and led their Bible Study for many years. Lawrence and Ron Hartwich spent many hours working on the amplification system in the church, and he also recorded the services on an old reel to reel tape recorder.

He was on the first Parents and Friends committee for Good Shepherd College.

In 1994 Joan and Lawrence went overseas for around seven weeks travelling around Europe, then spent a week with Allan's relatives and a further week around England with June and Brian, Allan's sister and brother-in-law.

In the year 2000 Ian took over the farm and in theory Lawrence retired. Mum and Dad went to the Sydney Olympics and Heather looked after them, taking them around to events.

In 2001 Lawrence was diagnosed with a thyroid condition which required an operation, radioactive treatment and lifelong medication.

The USA called in 2002, and they travelled to Orlando, Florida part of the trip was a weekend cruise to the Bahamas, and they then stopped off in Hawaii including a visit to the Kilauea volcano on the way home. Mum said his suitcase was always that heavy because it was full of books. Dad spent hours in libraries and reading. There was always a science book close by.

The time came in 2023 for him to hand in his license and stay off the roads behind the wheel. However, he was very good at giving other people instructions.

In November 2023 Lawrence had a replacement valve put into one of his arteries.

In August 2024 Lawrence was placed into permanent care in the Grange Hamilton as he could no longer cope at home. On the 8th of November 2025 he passed away peacefully in his sleep at the Grange. Lawrence is survived by his wife, Joan, his four children, seven grandchildren and one great grandson.

## LH 863 'Blessed Assurance'

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:

*This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending, bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love:

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love:

Frances Jane van Alstyne 1820-1915 CCLI

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### Isaiah 54:10

*"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed", says the LORD, who has compassion on you.*

This is the Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God



## John 10:14~15, 27~30

*Jesus says: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.*

This is the Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

## WORDS OF COMFORT

### LHS 793 'To God be the Glory'

1. To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in

#### Chorus:

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God!  
And every offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives:

3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:

### THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The  
third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence  
He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of  
the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### THE PRAYERS

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord Jesus, help us to pray the prayer you have taught us.  
All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom  
come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today  
our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us  
from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen

#### THE BLESSING

P The Lord watch over you, as you go out and as you come in,  
now and forever.  
And the blessing of almighty God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
– be with you always.

C Amen.

## **LHS 888    “MAY THE FEET OF GOD WALK WITH YOU”**

May the feet of God walk with you,  
and his hand hold you tight.

May the eye of God rest on you,  
and his ear hear your cry.

May the smile of God be for you,  
and his breath give you life.

May the Child of God grow in you,  
and his love bring you home.

Aubrey Podlich 1946- (1983)  
LicenSing

### **THE RECESSIONAL**

**P**    In the sure hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come, we will now take the body of Laurie, our brother in Christ, to its last resting place.

Let us go now in peace.

**C**    **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The family extends a heartfelt thank you for your presence,  
love and support today as we celebrate Laurie's life.*

*Following the committal at the South Hamilton Cemetery,  
the family invite you to join them  
in the Church Fellowship Hall for a light lunch.*

