

**A CELEBRATION OF THE  
45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDINATION OF  
THE REV. DR. JULIUS CARROLL,  
DOCTOR OF MINISTRY**



**Church of the Abiding Savior, Lutheran**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Dr. Christian Scharen, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor and Gordon Braatz Chair of Worship -  
Lutheran School of Theology, at Chicago

**Preacher:** The Rev. Timothy Poston, MA; M.Div.  
Senior Pastor - St. Philip Lutheran Church,  
Raleigh, North Carolina

June 7, 2026

# CELEBRATING 45 YEARS OF ORDINATION FOR THE REV. DR. JULIUS CARROLL

## PRELUDE

### \* BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

[P] In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and, of the Holy Spirit

[C] **Amen**

[P] Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[C] **Amen**

[P] If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[P] Most merciful God.

[C] **We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

[P] Almighty God, in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

### \* SHARING THE PEACE:

[P] The peace of the Lord be with you always.

[C] **And also with you.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN: “We Have Come Into This House” - *This Far By Faith* #136**

**We Have Come Into His House And Gathered In His Name To Worship Him. We Have Come Into His House And Gathered In His Name To Worship Him.. We Have Come Into His House And Gathered In His Name To Worship Christ The Lord, Worship Him, Christ The Lord.**

**So Forget About Yourself And Concentrate On Him And Worship Him.  
So Forget About Yourself And Concentrate On Him And Worship Him.  
So Forget About Yourself And Concentrate On Him And Worship Christ  
The Lord, Worship Him, Christ The Lord.**

**Let Us Lift Up Holy Hands And Magnify His Name And Worship Him Let  
Us Lift Up Holy Hands And Magnify His Name And Worship Him  
Let Us Lift Up Holy Hands And Magnify His Name And Worship Christ The  
Lord, Worship Him, Christ The Lord.**

**GREETING**

[Pastor] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

[Congregation]       **And also with you.**

**KYRIE: Lord Have Mercy**

[Congregation] **Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.  
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy on us.  
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.**

[Pastor] Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth.

**HYMN OF PRAISE: This Is The Feast**

[Congregation] **Refrain: This is the feast of vict'ry for our God. Alleluia, alleluia.  
This is the feast of vict'ry for our God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. Refrain

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. Refrain

3 For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia, alleluia. Refrain

## **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

[Assisting Minister] The Lord be with you.

[Congregation] **And also with you.**

[Assisting Minister] Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day.

[Congregation] **Ever-living God, strengthen and sustain pastors -- especially Julius Carroll, that with patience and understanding he may love and care for your people. Grant that Julius may follow in the way of Jesus the Christ, our Savior and Sovereign, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 61: 8 – 10**

<sup>8</sup>For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. <sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

**Psalmody:** I Love The Lord

## **Second Lesson: 1Peter 5: 1 – 4**

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you <sup>2</sup> to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight,[a] not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it—not for sordid gain but eagerly. <sup>3</sup> Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. <sup>4</sup> And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.

## **ALLELUIA VERSE: HALLELUJAH**

[Congregation] **Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah  
Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah.**

*(Repeat)*

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: St. John 21: 15 – 17**

[Congregation] **Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Lord we praise your holy name!**

**Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Lord we praise your holy name!**

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ And he said

to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.

**[Pastor]** The Gospel of the Lord

**[Congregation]** **Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Lord we praise your holy name!**  
**Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Lord we praise your holy name!**

**SERMON**

*The Reverend Timothy Poston*

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY: The Lord of Sea and Sky"**

"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

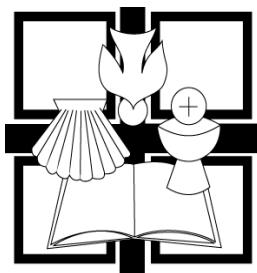
"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain

"I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**[Congregation]** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.**  
**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**  
**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again 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**

# ACCLAMATION FOR 45 YEARS



*(Presiding Minister)* The Rev. Dr. Christian Scharen:

Pastor Carroll, at your ordination the Metropolitan New York Synod bishop **addressed you** with these words from Scripture:

Strive for right living in the eyes of God, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith (1 Timothy 6: 11, 12)

Take heed to yourself and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit had made you a guardian, to feed the Church of the Lord which he obtained with his own blood. (Acts 20: 28)

Tend the flock of God that is our charge, not by constraint but willingly, not for shameful gain but eagerly, not domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock. (1 Peter 5: 2 – 3)

Pastor, then the bishop **admonished you** with these words:

Care for God's people, bear their burdens and so not betray their confidence. So, disciple yourself in life of teaching that you preserve the truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the Church. And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Pastor Carroll, in the testimony that we hear across the NC Synod and across the ELCA we at the Church of the Abiding Savior, Lutheran can attest that your labor has not been in vain, these 45 years and we give God the glory and thank you and Geneva for your faithful service.

**Amen**

*“Acclamation for 45 Years”*

**\* PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH [Assisting Minister].**

**OFFERING**

[A] Please take this time to prepare your tithes and offerings. Those worshipping on site should bring your offering forward during communion and place it in the offering plate at the front of the sanctuary. Those worshipping off-site should mail their offering or visit the congregation's website (abiding-savior-lutheran.org) to give online.

**ANTHEM: Choir**

**\* OFFERTORY:**

[C] **God Has Smiled On Me -God has smiled on me. He has set me free. God has smiled on me. He's been good to me. (Repeat)**

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

[A] Let us pray.

[C] **Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

[P] May resurrection's God be with you!

[C] **And also with you.**

[P] Lift up your hearts.

[C] **We lift them to the Lord.**

[P] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[C] **It is right to give God thanks and praise**

[P] It is indeed ....

**Holy, holy, holy Lord , God of power and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

[P] In the night in which he was betrayed.....

## **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. Amen**

[P] Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

## **THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT:**

### **COMMUNION**

**Lamb Of God Verse- *From the Liturgy of Joy – Rev. Dr. James Capers***

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world.**

**Grant us peace Grant us peace.**

### **HYMN: Here Is Bread**

[P] Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: *From the Liturgy of Joy-Rev. Dr. James Capers***

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; Tell everyone what God has done. Lett all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name. Send us with your promises, O God and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Amen, amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **PRAYER**

[A] Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

[C] Amen.

### **BENEDICTION**

[P] God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. Amen.

## **CLOSING HYMN: Go My Children**

“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you  
are my own.

In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love  
you, what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me. Grow in love and love by serving,  
joyful and free.

Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

“I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace. I the Lord will smile upon you,  
and give you peace.

I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter and Brother.  
Go, my children, I will keep you, and give you peace.”

### **CHARGE:**

[P] Go in peace. Praise the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

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### **Those Who Serve - Worship Leaders**

The Reverend Timothy Poston

Guest Preacher

The Rev. Dr. Christian Scharen, Ph.D.

Celebrant

Ms. Veronica Johnson

Reader

Ms. Linda Warren

Assisting Minister

Dr. Michael Trinastic

Pianist, Church of the Abiding Savior

## MINISTERS' BIOGRAPHIES



### **THE REVEREND TIMOTHY POSTON**

Pastor Tim Poston (he/him) has served at St. Philip since January 2020. A graduate of Davidson College, Yale Divinity School, and the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, he has spent his ministry serving congregations and communities in Philadelphia, Atlanta, Detroit, and Raleigh.

Passionate about renewal and outreach, Pastor Tim has led worship in prisons, universities, and care centers, and he continues to serve the wider church through preaching, teaching, and leadership.



### **REV. DR. CHRISTIAN SCHAREN, PH.D.**

A practical theologian, he was ordained a pastor in the ELCA in 2001. He holds the Ph.D. in Religion from Emory University and has written or edited more than a dozen books and many articles, book chapters, and research reports. His research and writing focuses on theology, worship and the arts, pastoral leadership, social justice, and theological education. His early work on theological ethnography helped spark an international movement bringing together sociology and theology in the study of the church. His most recent book is co-authored with Aana Vigen, *Ethnography as Christian Theology and Ethics: A Completely Revised 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (T&T Clark).

He is currently working on a decolonial theological memoir about his family, the Ingalls of The Little House on the Prairie books, and a book on Christian worship before and after Christianity became the religion of Empire. He enjoys cooking, poetry, and music, especially learning to play on his grandfather's 1910 Washburn bowl back mandolin. He is married to Pierrette Comulada, and together they have three adult children, Isaiah, Finn, and Owen, and a bulldog named Walt.

## **REV. DR. JULIUS CARROLL, DOCTOR OF MINISTRY**



Pastor Carroll's baptismal journey began on June 5, 1961, among the faithful at Redeemer Lutheran in Flushing, NY. He is a graduate of The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (UNITED LUTHERAN SEMINARY) – Master of Divinity (1981) /Doctor of Ministry (2008). Ordained in 1981, Pastor Carroll has served congregations in: Philadelphia PA; Washington, D.C.; Oakland, CA and Raleigh, NC. In his retirement he has been an Interim pastor in New Orleans, LA; Greensboro, NC; Liverpool, NY; Clarence Center, NY; Buffalo, NY; Jackson, MS; Queens, NY – and beginning October 1, 2025, here at The Church of the Abiding Savior in Durham, NC. Dr. Carroll's synodical/churchwide work has been on: the Southeastern Penna. Synod Staff (Coalition Director for twenty-eight city congregations); the Multi-Cultural Ministries Unit of the ELCA (director for African Decent Ministries) and the faculty of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (associate professor of Contextual Education). Pastor and Geneva have six adult children and seventeen grandchildren (two sets of twins contribute to these blessed numbers!). The Carroll's children/grandchildren reside across these United States and (alas) are not close to their Raleigh home.