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Evelyn Marie Eskeli

October 7, 2026

June 2, 1938	*May 25, 1941*	*August 30, 2026*
birth	*baptism*	*death*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

GREETING AND WELCOME

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

All **And also with you.**

P 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.

All **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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.
O God of grace and glory,
we remember before you today our sister, Evelyn Marie.
We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love
as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.
In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.
Give us your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life,
that we may continue our course on earth in confidence
until, by your call, we are reunited
with those who have gone before us;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

HYMN *(see insert)*

"Be Still My Soul"

WORD

POEM

"Before I Was Myself, You Made Me, Me" *by Nicholas Gordon*

READINGS

Each reading will end, "Word of God. Word of life."
Please respond **"Thanks be to God."**

First Reading Psalm 71:1-15

Gospel John 15:1-17

SERMON

HYMN *(see insert)*

"He Leadeth Me: Oh, Blessed Thought!"

CREED

A We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

All **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.**

THE PRAYERS

Each petition will end "God of mercy,"
Please respond **"hear our prayer."**

LORD'S PRAYER *(1789)*

All **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.

SENDING

HYMN *(hymn)* **840**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

FAREWELL AND COMMENDATION

P Evelyn, our companion in faith,
we entrust you to God.
Go forth from this world in the love of God who created you,
in the mercy of Jesus who died for you,
in the power of the Holy Spirit who receives and protects you.

All **May you rest in peace and rise in glory,**
where pain and grief are banished,
and life and joy are yours forever.

P Into your hands, O merciful Savior,
we commend your servant, Evelyn Marie.
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.

P Rest eternal grant her, O Lord;

All **and let light perpetual shine upon her.**

BLESSING

P The risen Christ give you all joy and peace in believing
that you may abound in hope.
Almighty God, Father, ✢ Son, and Holy Spirit
bless you now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace.

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

POSTLUDE

The congregation is invited to gather for a luncheon and mutual conversation and consolation.

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Melissa Pohlman	*preaching*
Pat Hansen	*assisting minister*
Melanie Ohnstad	*organist*
Sara Masters	*sound operator*

MEMORIALS may be directed to:
Central Lutheran Church

INTERMENT
At the Finnish Cemetery in Plummer, Minnesota at a later date.

THANK YOU
The family of Evelyn wishes to thank the many special people who were a significant part of Evelyn's life and faith, and those who provided care for Evelyn. We have all been enriched by your generosity and love.

This service is being streamed live on the internet. www.centralmpls.org

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Evelyn Eskeli

1938 – 2026

Evelyn Marie Eskeli, age 88 of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and formerly of Plummer, Minnesota, passed away on August 30, 2026. Evelyn was born June 2, 1938, in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, to parents Woodrow and Laina (Kauppila) Eskeli. She was baptized and confirmed at the Immanual Lutheran Church in Plummer, and she attended school in Plummer, graduating with the class of 1956.

Following high school, Evelyn attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, before later moving to the Minneapolis area where she worked in several secretarial and administrative positions with various companies. She later worked at Donor Services with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in Minneapolis until her retirement in 2003.

Throughout her life, and especially in retirement, Evelyn was extremely active in several Finnish organizations. She was Director and President of the Salolampi Foundation which raises funds and provides scholarships for students to attend the Finnish Language Village near Bemidji, Minnesota. Salolampi is also one of several Language Village Programs of Concordia College in Moorhead. Evelyn was also President of Finnish American Cultural Activities Inc., and a member of the Finnish American Society in Minneapolis.

Evelyn spoke fluent Finnish, and she and her sister Glenyce traveled extensively throughout Finland over the years to experience the Finnish culture firsthand. Evelyn and Glenyce also attended many annual FinnFest celebrations throughout the United States, to include FinnFest 1999 in Seattle, Washington, where she and Glenyce enjoyed a FinnFest sponsored cruise to Alaska.

Evelyn's interests included tennis, golf, hiking, dancing, travel, photography, and music. She was also an active and dedicated member of Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Evelyn is survived by her brother Bruce of Plummer, Minnesota, along with numerous cousins and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents Woodrow and Laina, sister Glenyce, brother Rodney (Jill), grandparents Nick and Ilmi Eskeli and William and Lempi (Piikila/Kauppila) Waha. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

Exploring the promise of God for all
333 South 12th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404
centralmpls.org | 612 870 4416

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