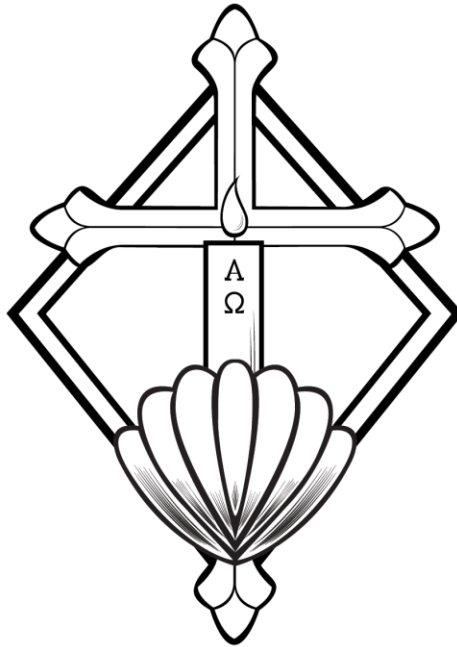




**The Funeral Service of
Valera Alegra Sheets
July 8, 1934 – September 3, 2026**

*The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.
He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.*

Psalms 145: 18-19

+ + +

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1626 E. Broadway Ave - Enid OK 73701
September 10, 2026**

In the Name of Jesus

+ + +

770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–86Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918Text and tune: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
P In Holy Baptism, Valera was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all her sin. St. Paul says: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"
C **We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of 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.**

The 23rd Psalm (Prayed together)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

³He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴Even 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.

⁵You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to Valera and to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God;
we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 46 (Prayed responsively)

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

⁶ **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

⁸ **Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, and know that I am God.**

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Epistle

1 Peter 1: 3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 3: 1-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

C 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, died and was 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.

sts. 1-5

570 Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Each petition concludes with:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence 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, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **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.**

Nunc Dimittis

P “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”

C **Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal You to the nations
and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”

Concluding Prayer and Benediction

P Lord God, our Shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Blessing of the Body

P May God the Father, who created this body; may God the T Son, who by His blood redeemed this body; may God the Holy Spirit, who by Holy Baptism sanctified this body to be His temple, keep these remains to the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

C **Amen.**

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, by the death of Your Son Jesus Christ You destroyed death, by His rest in the tomb You sanctified the graves of Your saints and by His bodily resurrection You brought life and immortality to light so that all who die in Him abide in peace and hope. Receive our thanks for the victory over death and the grave that He won for us. Keep us in everlasting communion with all who wait for Him on earth and with all

in heaven who are with Him, for He is the resurrection and the life, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

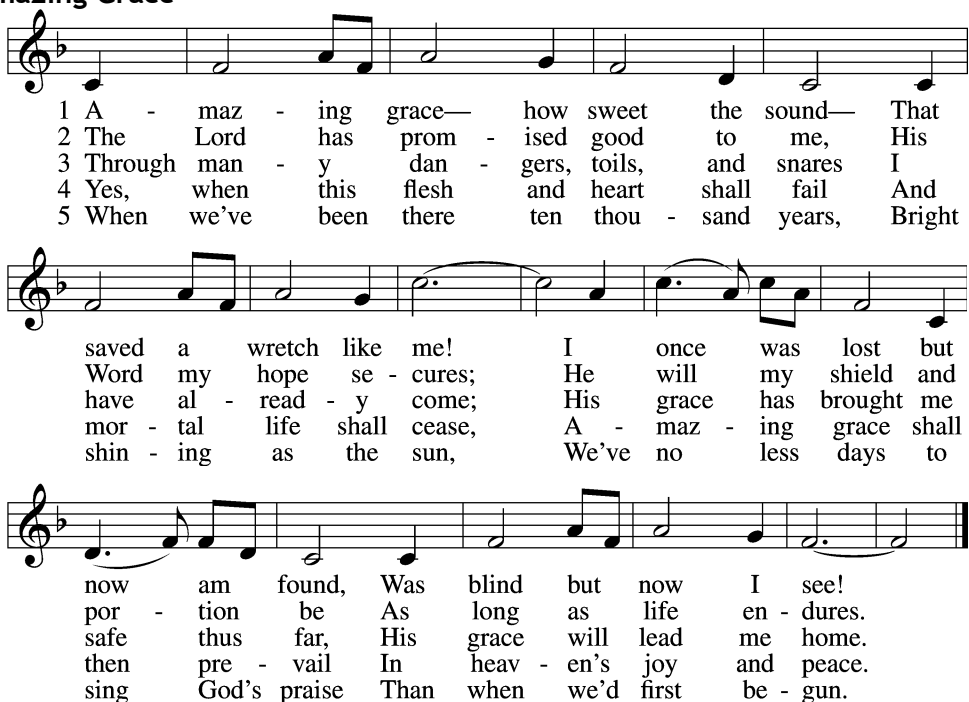
C **Amen.**

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

744 Amazing Grace

sts. 1–5



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond

This concludes today's service.

On behalf of the family, thank you for being here today.

Serving today:

Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Meyer
Sound: Mr. Gerald Nolte
Video: Mr. Paul Fisher

Acknowledgments

Funeral Service from Lutheran Service Book

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Valera Alegra Sheets
July 8, 1934 - September 3, 2026



Valera was born on July 8, 1934, to Henry George and Martha (Eckert) Evers at the family home in Garber, Oklahoma. She was third child of 4 children with sister Ruth, and brothers Marvin and James. In 1936, the family moved to property rented from Oscar Hayes and formerly owned by her grandparents, John Evers, located two miles south of Garber on the west side of Hwy 74. When Mr. Hayes sold the property in 1950, the family moved to Fairmont. Beginning in the summer and weekends of 1950 and 1951, Valera would stay in Enid at the residence on E. Oklahoma Street of Ruth, her older sister and husband, Bill Tharp, to do housekeeping and care for their older children, Richard and Robert. During this time, she met her future husband, Jack Dean Sheets, who lived with his parents one block west at 1702 E. Oklahoma.

Valera was baptized on July 22, 1934, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Garber by Pastor Luther Streufert and was later confirmed on March 21, 1948, by Pastor Martin A. Baumann. During her life here on earth, she was an active member of the Garber church and later St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Valera attended Garber Grade School and thereafter Garber High School until her graduation in 1952. After her graduation, she moved to Enid and lived with Ruth and Bill until she rented an apartment on E. Broadway one block east of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

On September 6, 1953, Valera married Jack Sheets at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, with Pastor August Meitler officiating. They initially lived at her apartment, then moved to a home on E. Cherokee St. in 1955, then purchased a home at 358 E. Cottonwood in December 1956. The Cottonwood residence was her home until her passing.

Valera and Jack had and raised three children, Sam Dean (1956), Jerry Lynn (1957), and Nancy Gay (1964). Her children attended and graduated from Enid High School, then attended and graduated from the University of Oklahoma with BBA degrees. She was very happy that her children accomplished educational achievements enabling their future financial success, an opportunity that she did not have.

After graduation, she began work in clerical functions for Pillsbury Mills until leaving to raise children in 1955. She later worked part-time at Union Equity and Johnson Grain Company while raising her children. She began working full-time at Union Equity in 1971 for 7 years and later began work in the freight billing department for Groendyke Transport Company. After 18 years, she retired from Groendyke on July 26, 1996. Valera worked for 33 years to support the raising of her family.

After retirement through 2013, Valera and Jack traveled most of the United States and Canada. Took cruises to Alaska and a trip to Europe. They purchased a travel trailer and spent many winters enjoying Port Aransas, Texas. Valera was a long-time member of the Enid Gem & Mineral Society following Jack's parents' membership and served as Secretary for several years. She entered and received ribbons at gem and mineral shows throughout Oklahoma displaying the Sheets' soapstone collection, her polished sphere collection and other unique rocks. Valera regularly cared for and provided cooked meals to her parents in their later years and to Jack's parents. Until her health declined, Valera regularly sent Christmas, birthday and anniversary cards to her family, nieces and nephews, and friends. She delighted in visiting and calling family and friends outside of Enid, as well as receiving visits and calls from out-of-town family and friends. Daughter Nancy cared for Valera in her final years. Valera departed this world to meet her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Thursday, September 3rd, at Baylor Scott & White Hospital in Plano, Texas, in the company of her children, Nancy and Sam.

Valera was preceded in death by the following loved ones: Her husband Jack in 2015, her parents, George and Martha Evers, her sister, Ruth Searcy (and husband Joe), and her brother, Marvin Evers, her sister-in-law, Bobett (Sheets) Larkey (and husband Irvin). Valera is survived by the following children: Sam D. Sheets and wife, Deborah, of Covington, Louisiana; Nancy Sheets of Dallas, Texas; and Jerry Sheets of Norman, Oklahoma; and daughter-in-law, Sonya Sheets of Conroe, Texas.

She leaves four grandchildren: Allison N. Broussard (husband Jared) of Madisonville, Louisiana; Emily C. McKinney (husband Travis) of Conroe, Texas; Victoria G. Moulder (husband Damian) of Katy, Texas; Erica A. Morrison (husband Jamie) of Dallas, Texas.

She leaves seven great-grandchildren: Aaron Anthony Greco, Braxton Audun Greco, Carmon Martha Rose Moulder, and Dawson Samuel Anthony Moulder, all of Katy, Texas. Carson Reid Broussard, Addison Rae Broussard, and Emerson Rose Broussard, all of Madisonville, Louisiana. She is also survived by nieces, nephews and cousins, as well as friends, although not named here, of which she loved and maintained contact.