



Europe-Volume 1

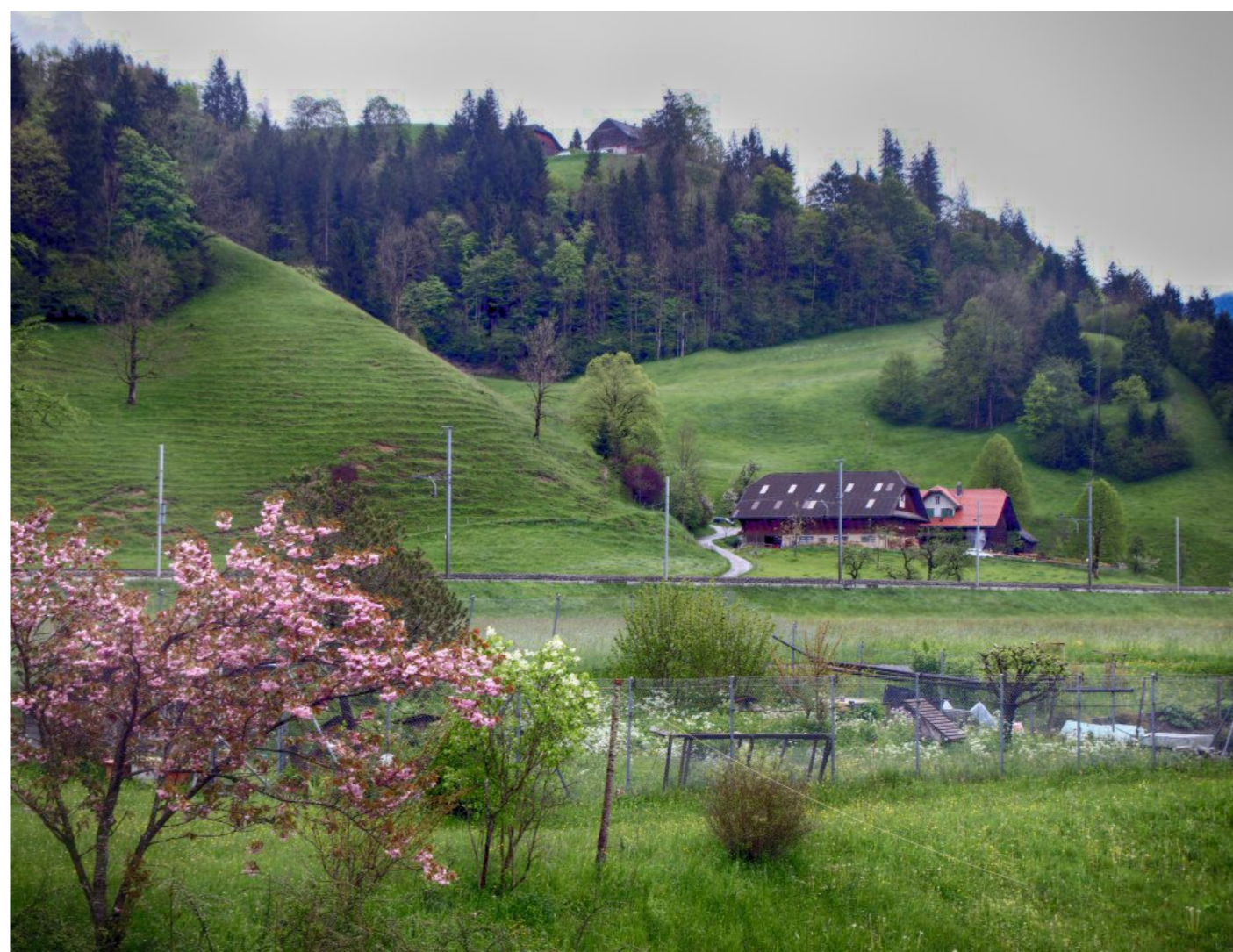
51st Wedding Anniversary Adventure 5/17/2016 - 6/7/2016



This picture was actually taken our 2nd day in Europe, but we feel it really symbolizes our joy and excitement of being and doing what we had always dreamed of doing, which is exploring new worlds together. Our 51st Wedding Anniversary Adventure was filled with joyous moments like the one above. We were on a boat from Lucerne going on a day trip up and down Mt. Pilatus, Switzerland.

We left Wichita, Kansas on May 17th, 2016 and arrived safely in Geneva, Switzerland late in the day May 18th. We picked up a rental car and went to our first stop, Chateau de Bossey near Geneva. We stayed in a beautiful room overlooking Lake Geneva and beautiful gardens. The next morning we awoke ready to go and we drove to Lucerne through green lush hills on a grey cloudy day. We arrived and finally found a hotel where we booked 2 nights and then went exploring. We visited 2 well known watch shops where we had our picture taken while drinking champagne and looking at a \$60,000 watch which we did NOT buy. We had a great dinner and walked in the early evening back to the hotel taking many pictures.







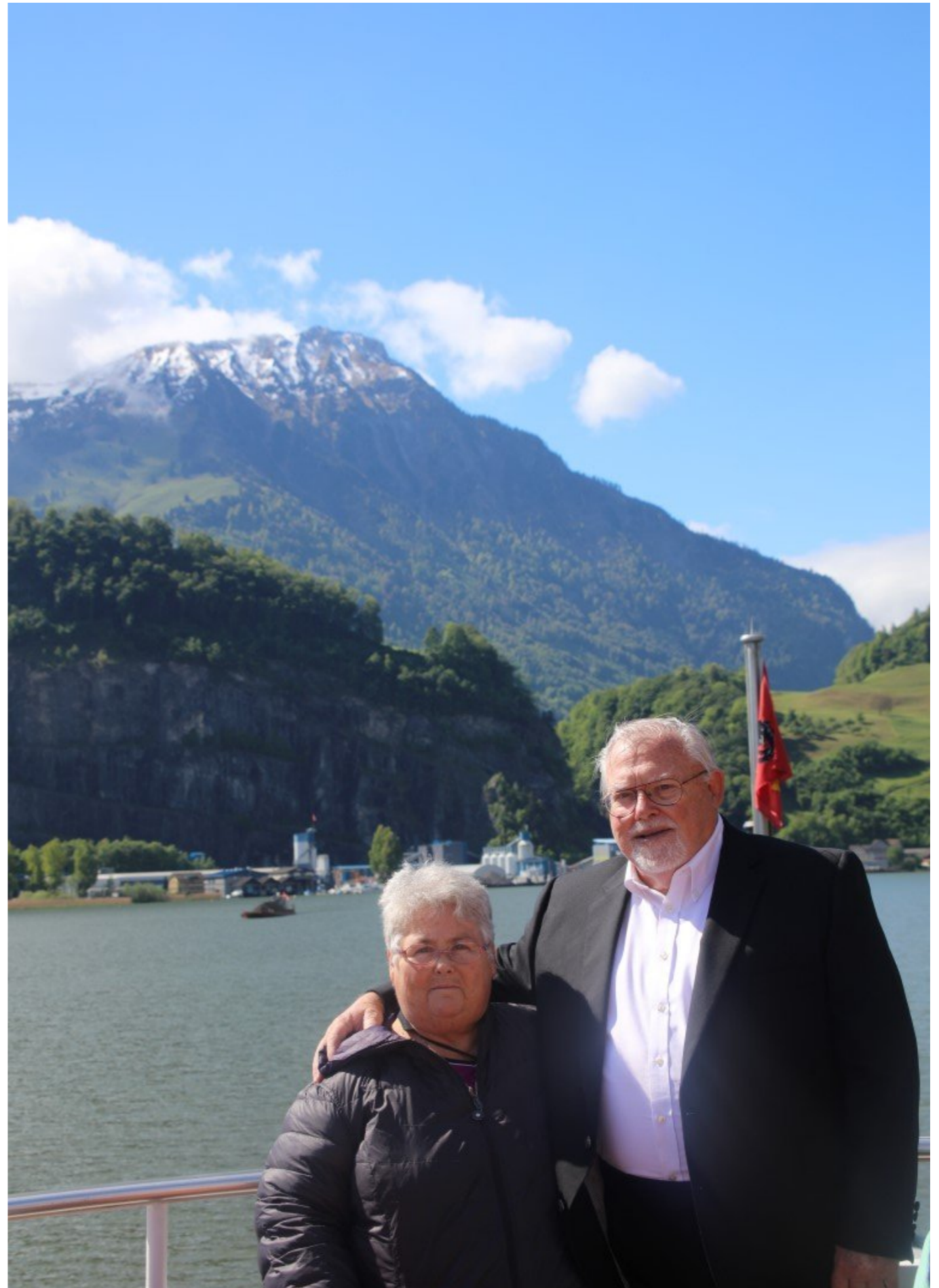




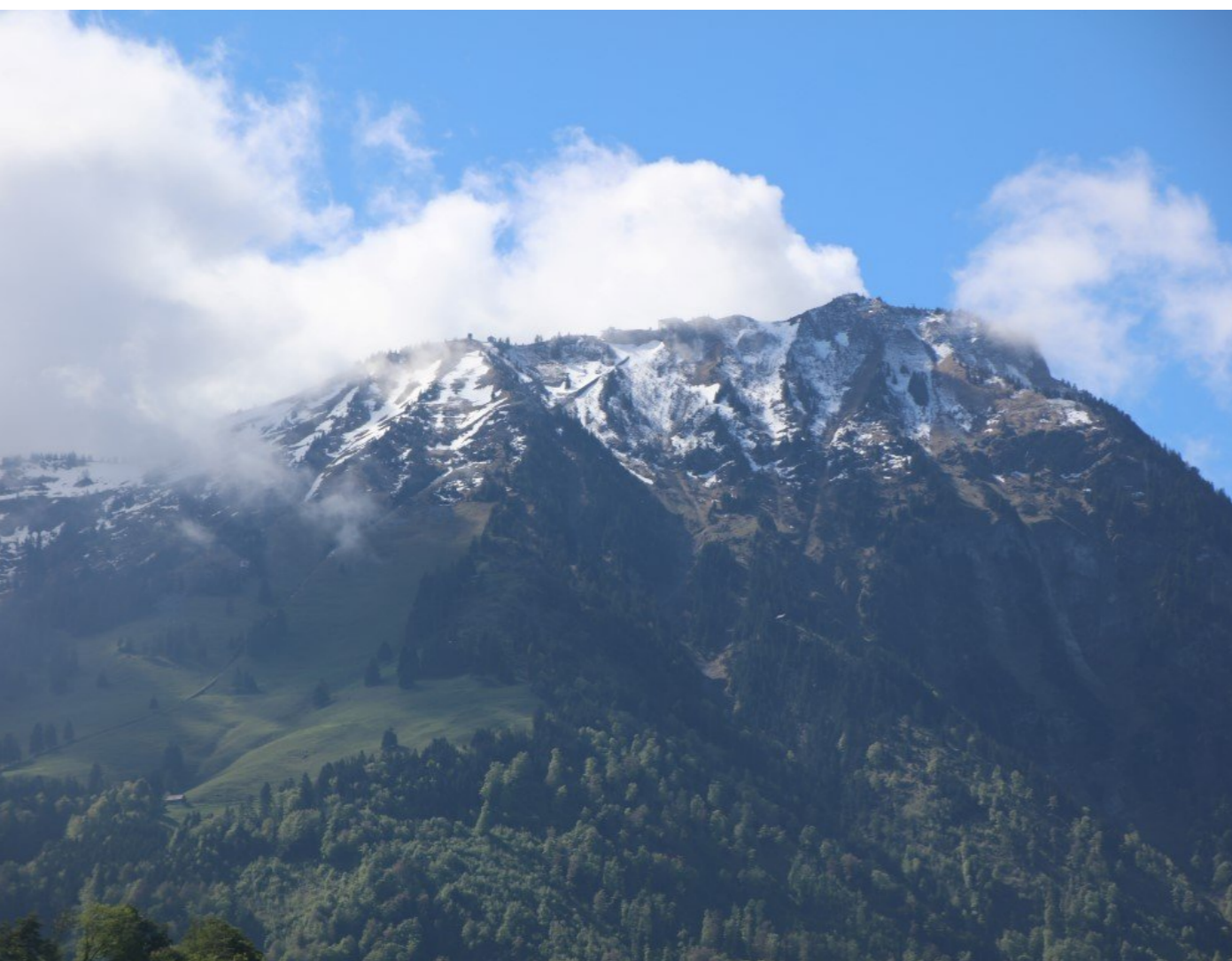


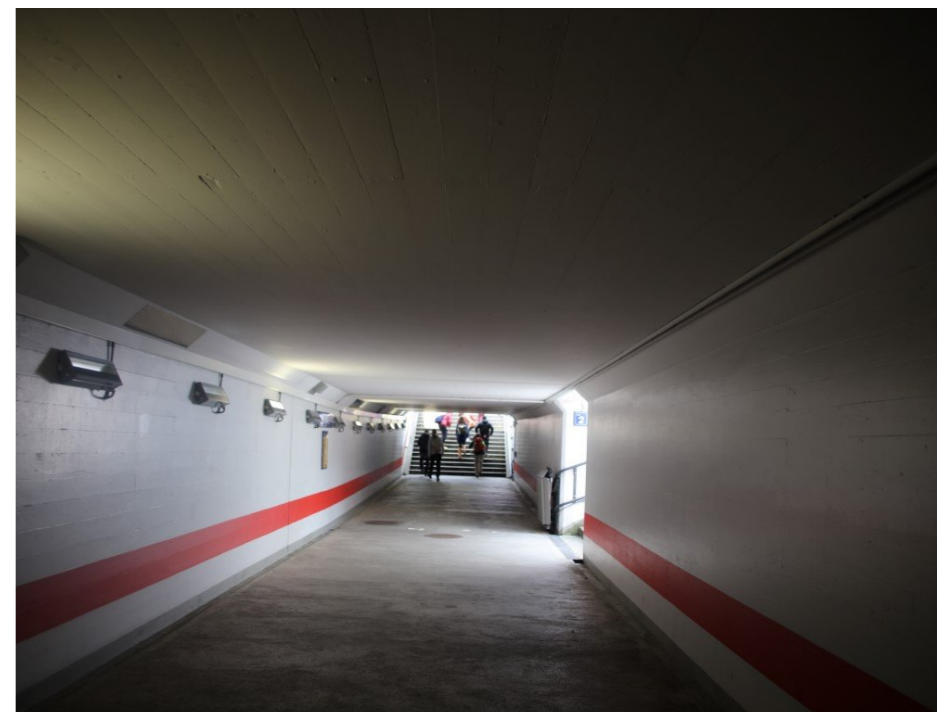


Today we took an all day (for us) trip up and down Mt. Pilatus. We left Lucerne on a bright sunny day by boat and arrived at the world's steepest incline railroad where we ascended up Mt. Pilatus. It was cold and snowy but fun and we had an expensive small lunch of fried perch up there. We rode down the mountain by gondola and it took over an hour. A short stop halfway down the mountain we enjoyed watching people walk precariously on zip lines. We then walked down hill for what we had been told was a 5 minute walk - more like 30 minutes for us but we enjoyed the entire day and each moment was very special.







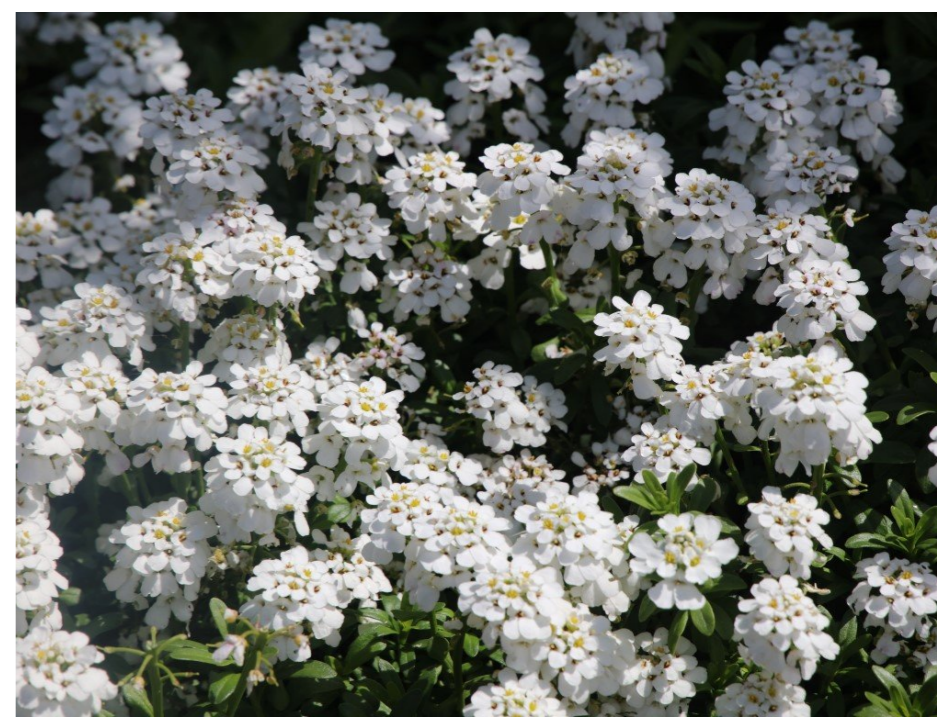
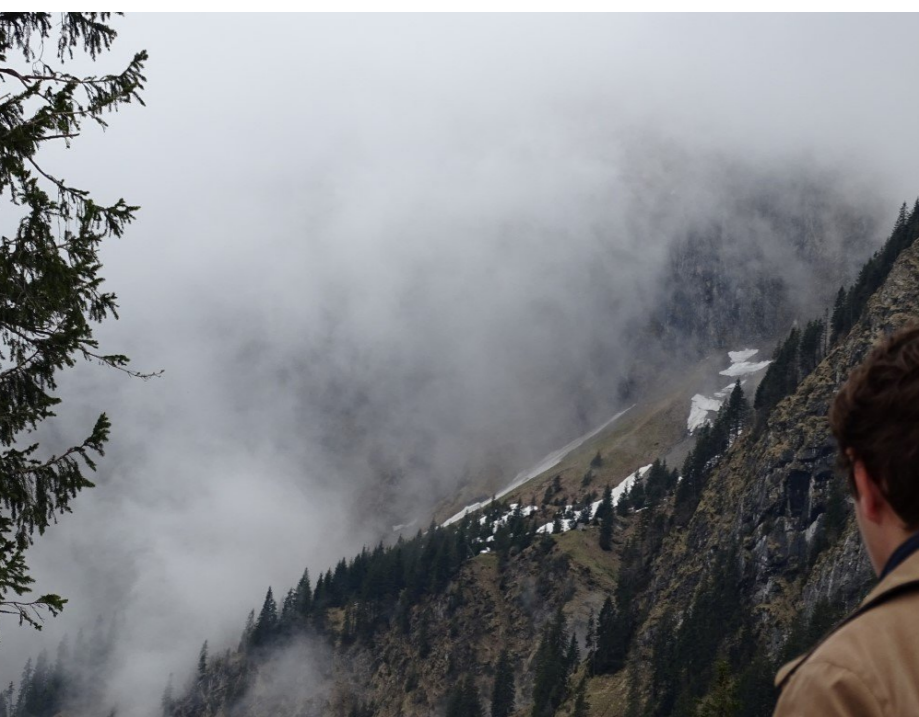
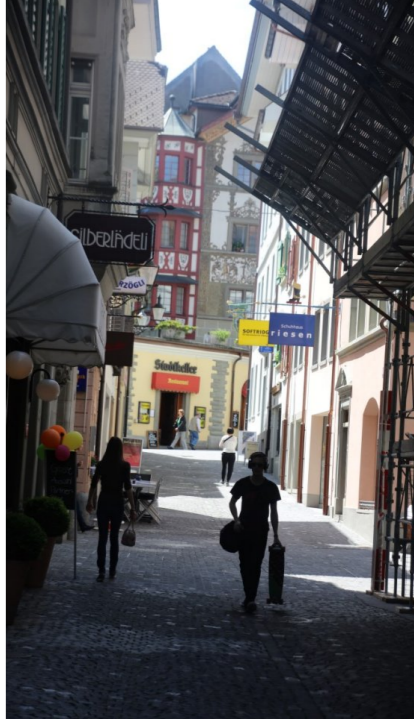




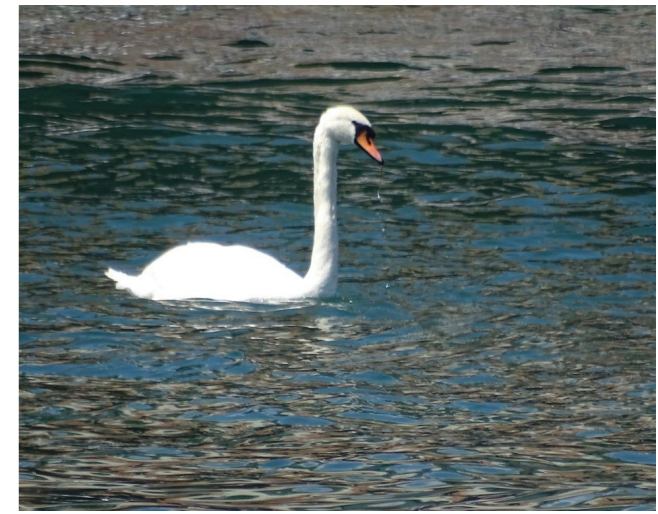
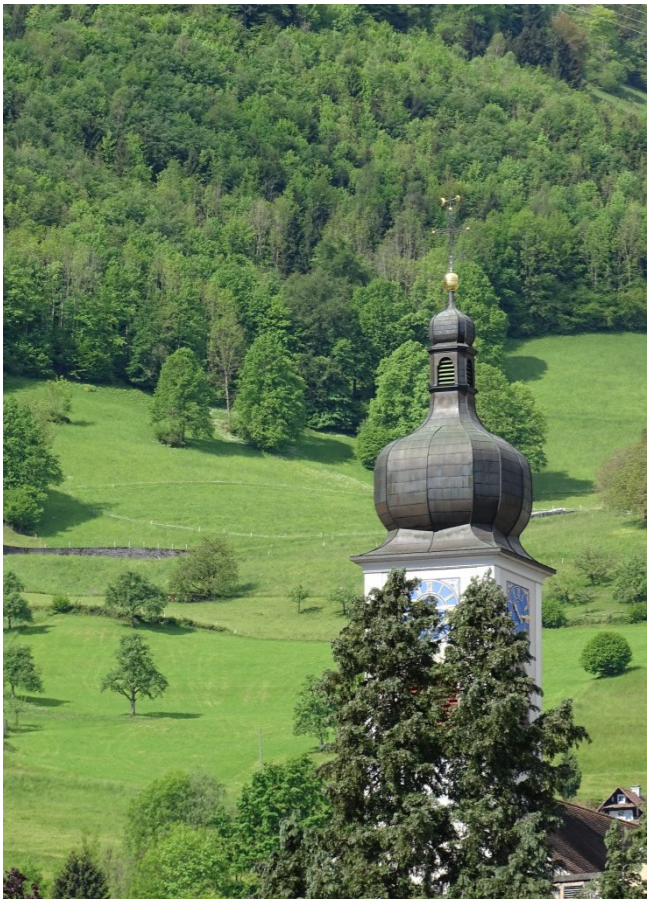












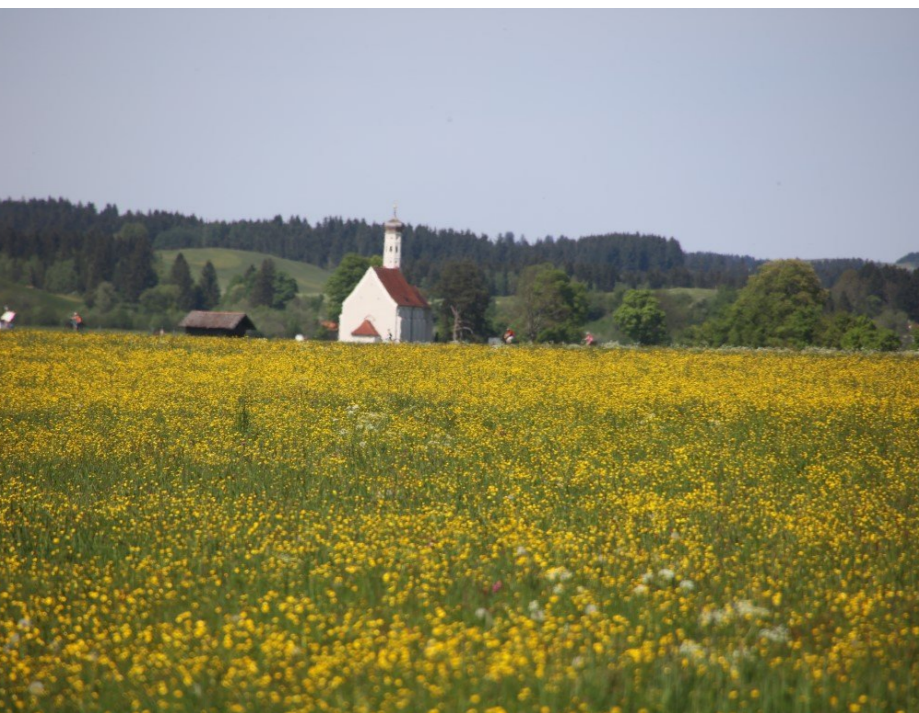




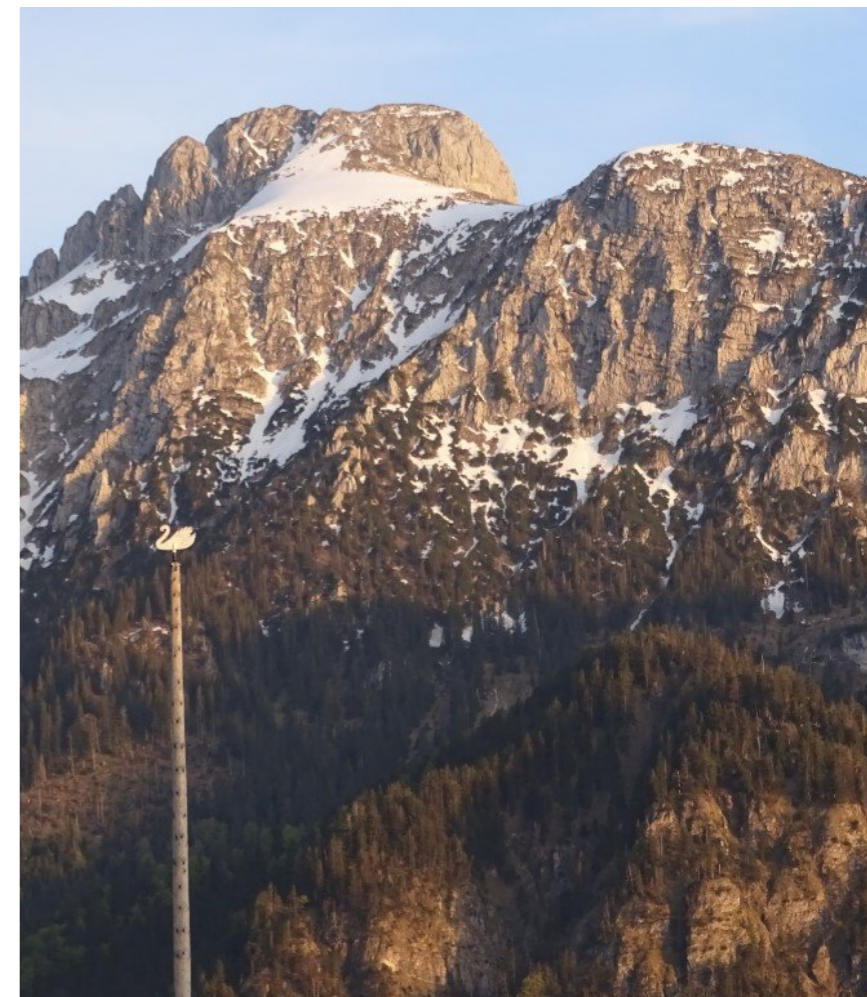
Today we drove through the Alps to the village of Schwangau, Germany.

We stayed in a fabulous middle of the village hotel where a traditional wedding took place. Out of respect we took no pictures of the wedding but it was a great gift for our 1st night in Germany. That afternoon we visited a beautiful lake. We also drove through the village of Fussen which was a traditional hamlet.



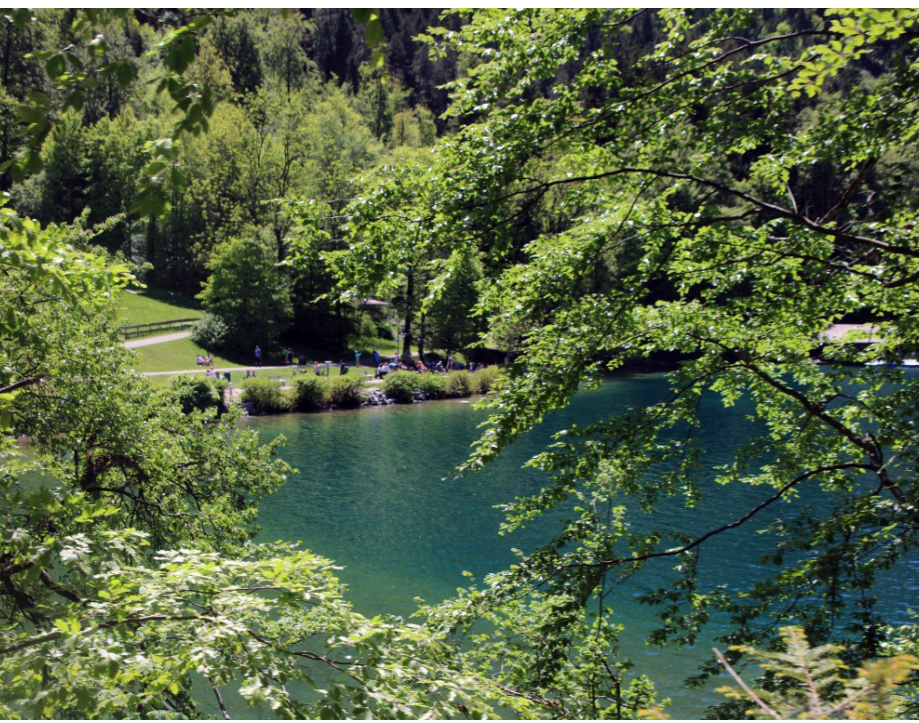






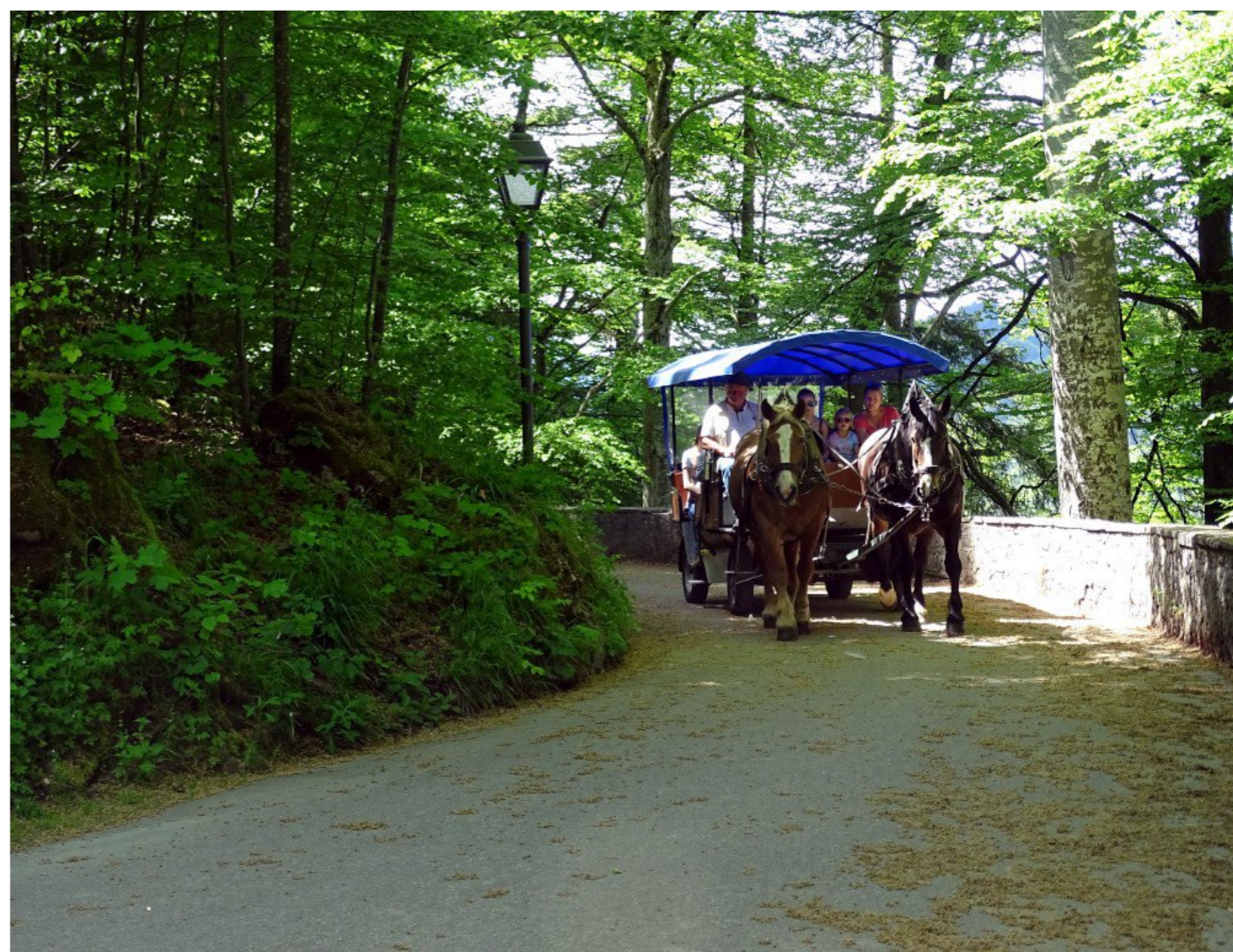


Today we visited Hohenschwangau Castle , an authentic beer garden and a wonderful art market. We met so many wonderful people who openly shared in our joy of the moment.















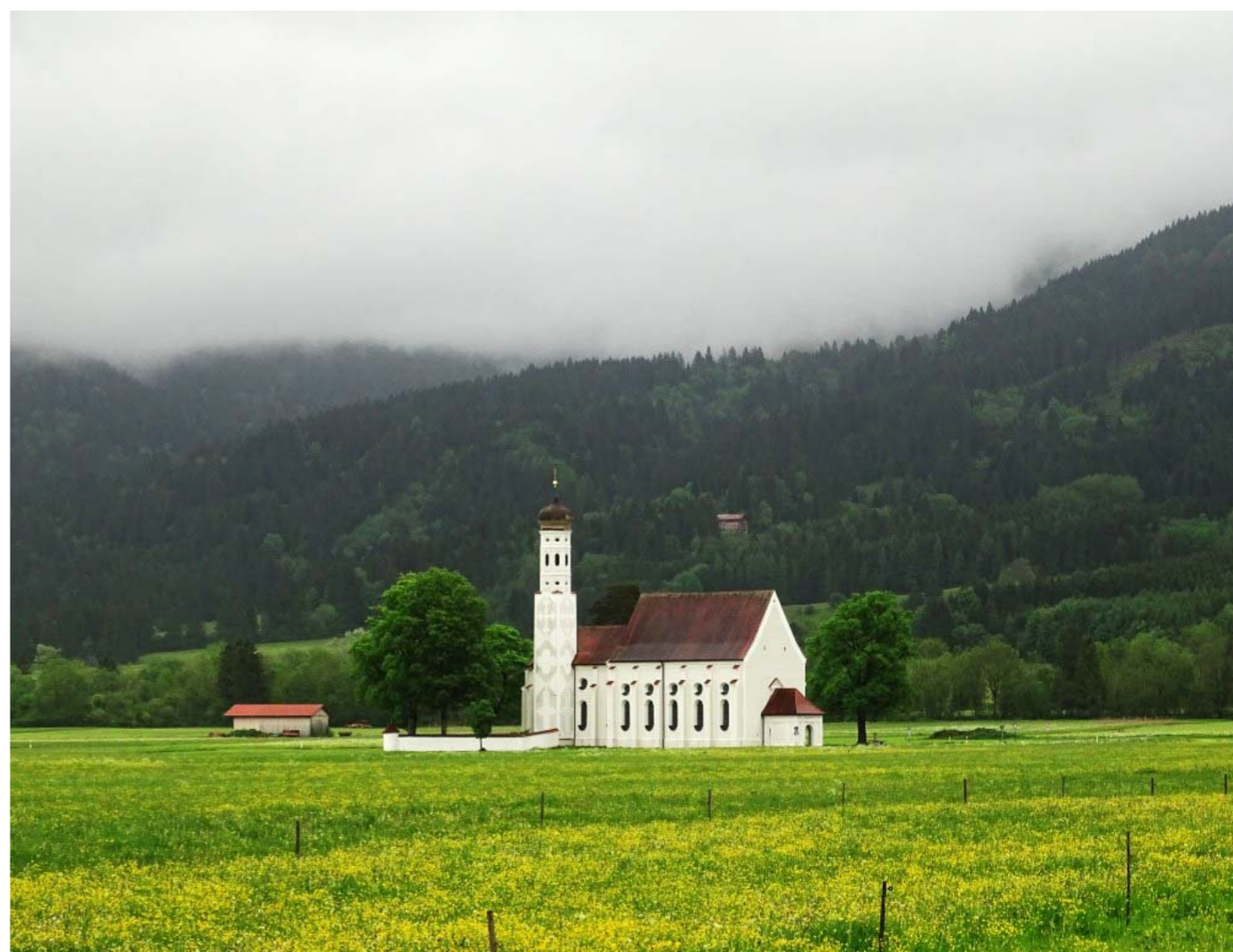






We drove through the countryside and got a beautiful room right on Königssee Lake. It was a somewhat grey and cloudy day and yet absolutely perfect.









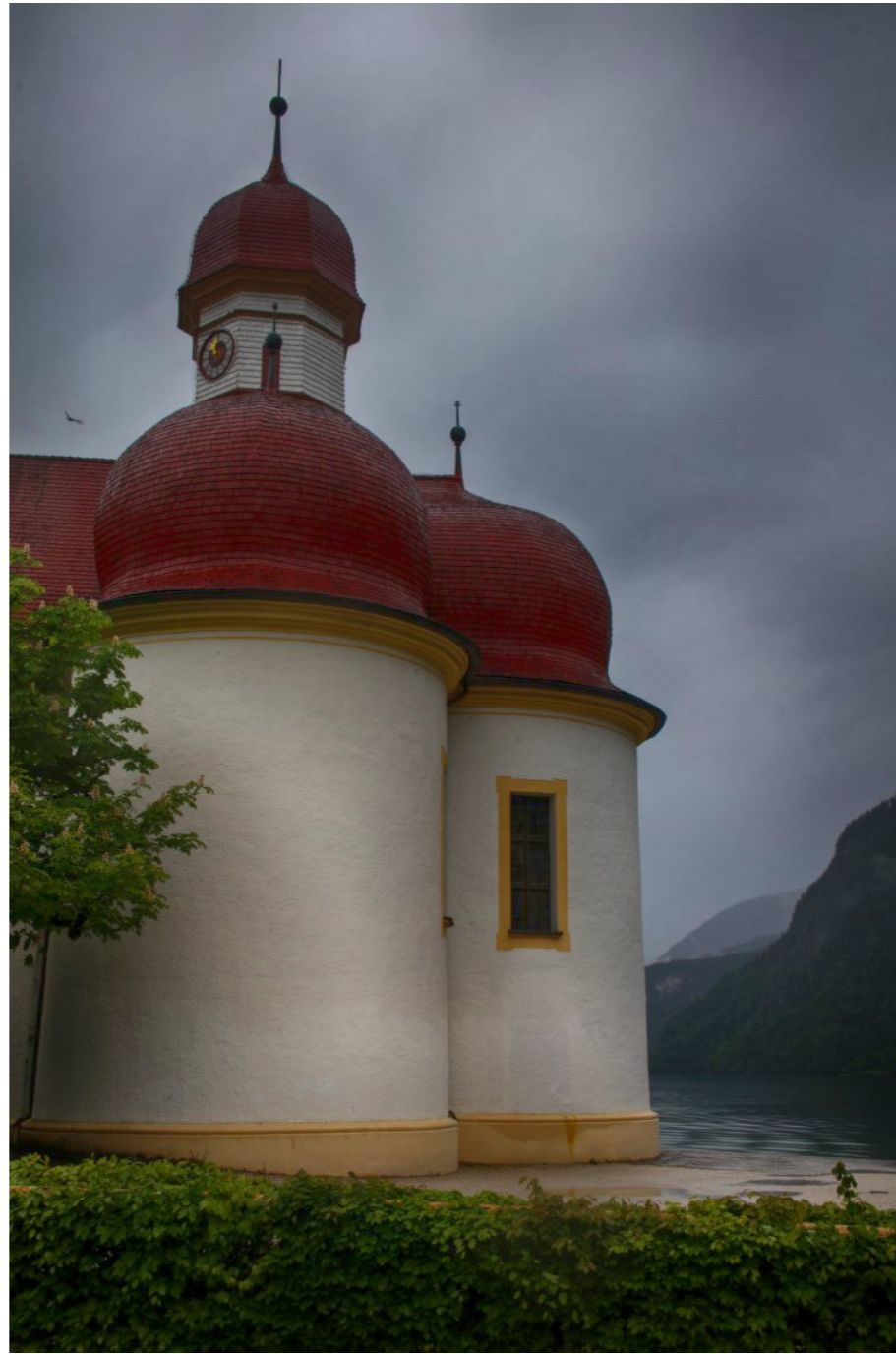


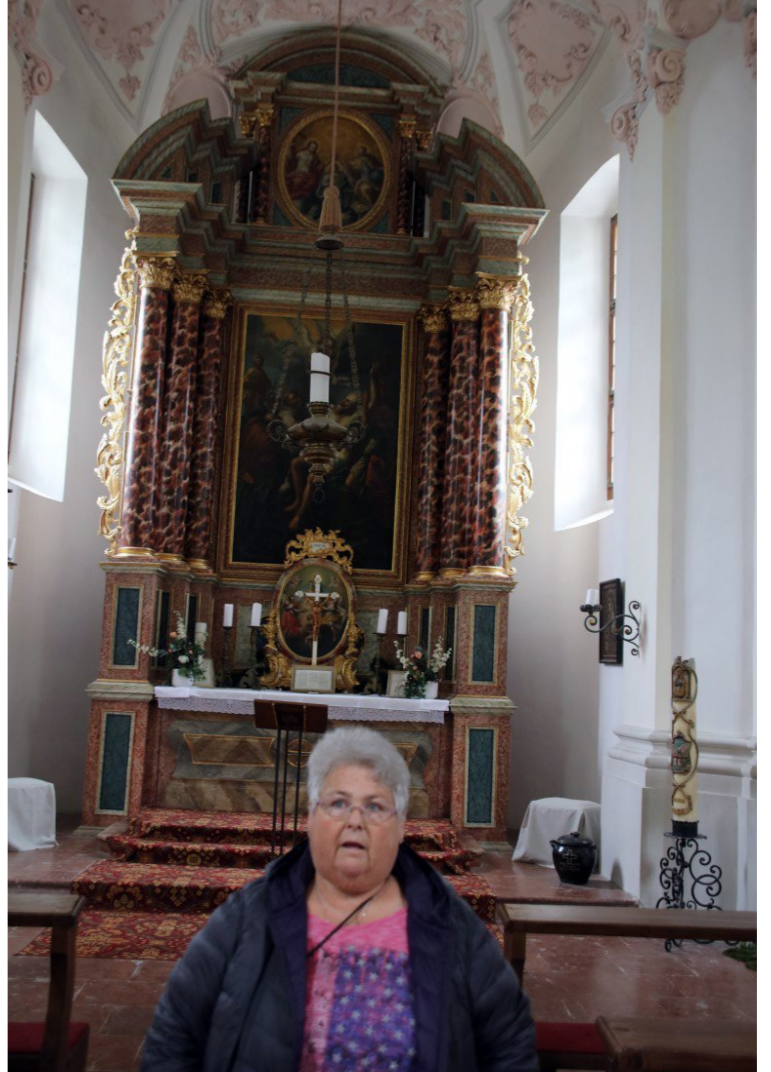


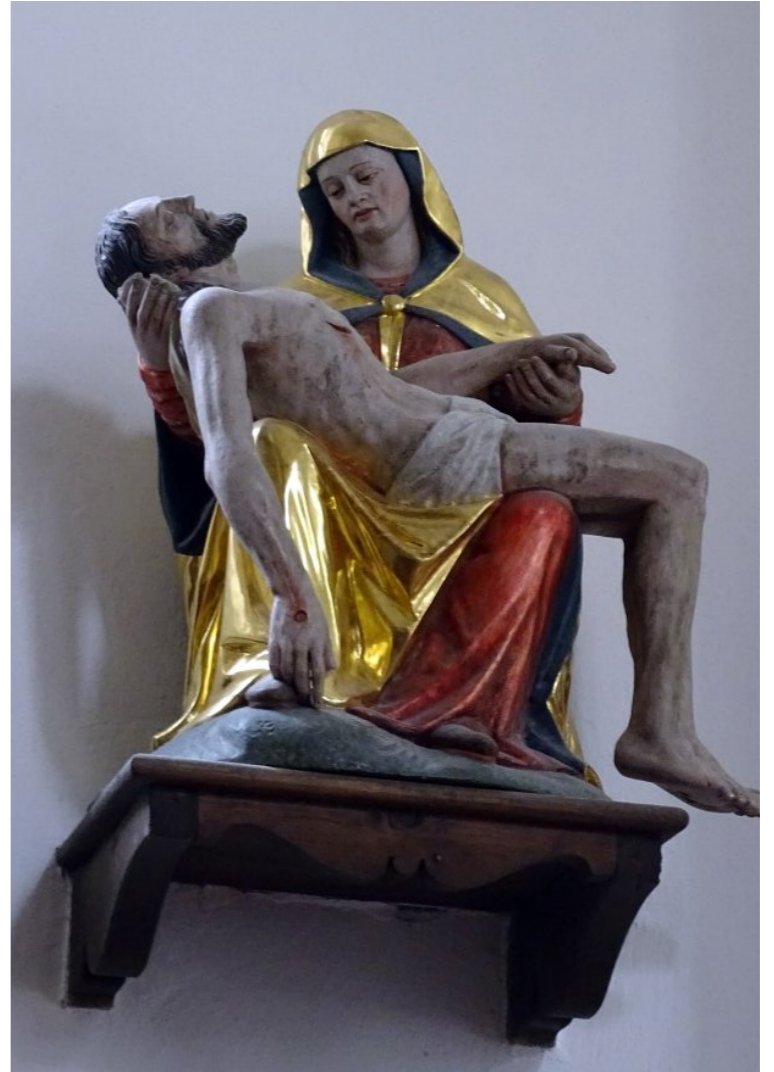
This full day at the lake was spent going to St. Bartholoma's which Linda remembered from visiting when she was 13 years old. We said our daily rosary and I sang a song of love while at the church. We had lunch on the Island and had no idea just how beautiful the next day would be because we thought today was perfect.





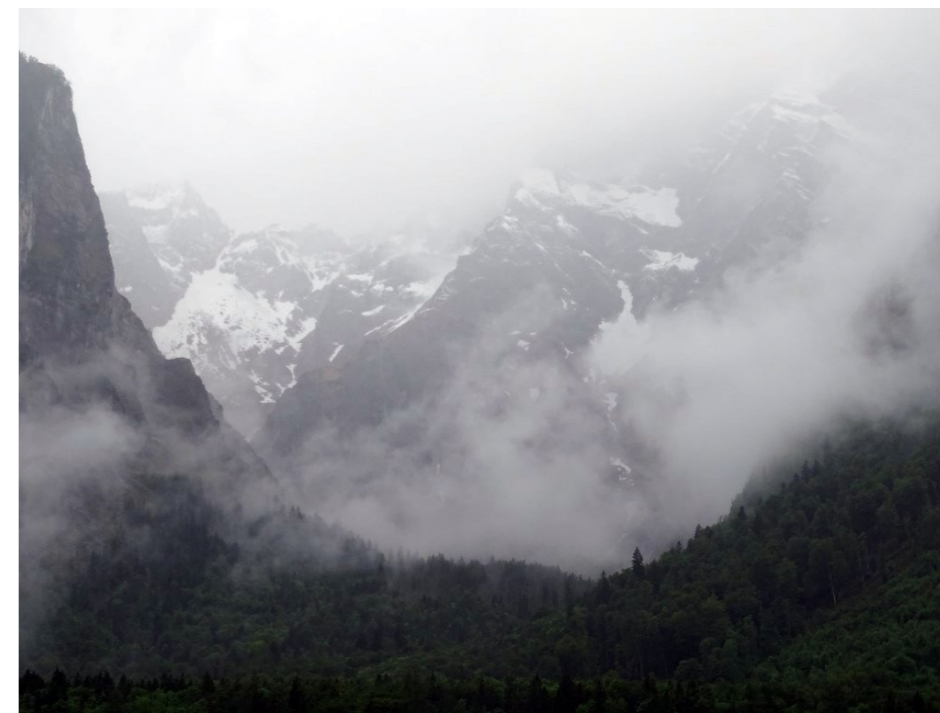
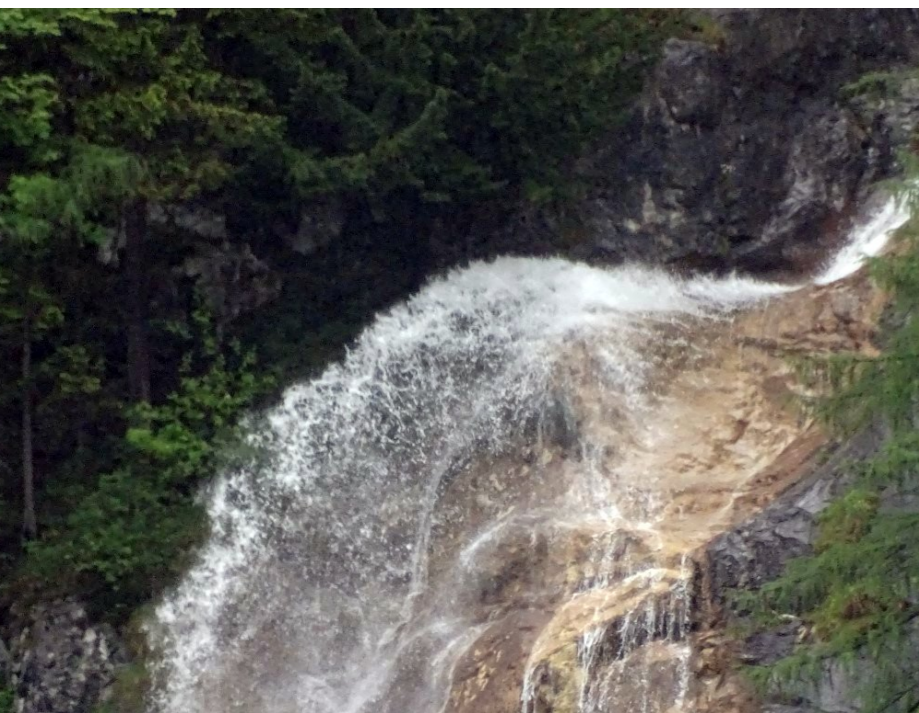


















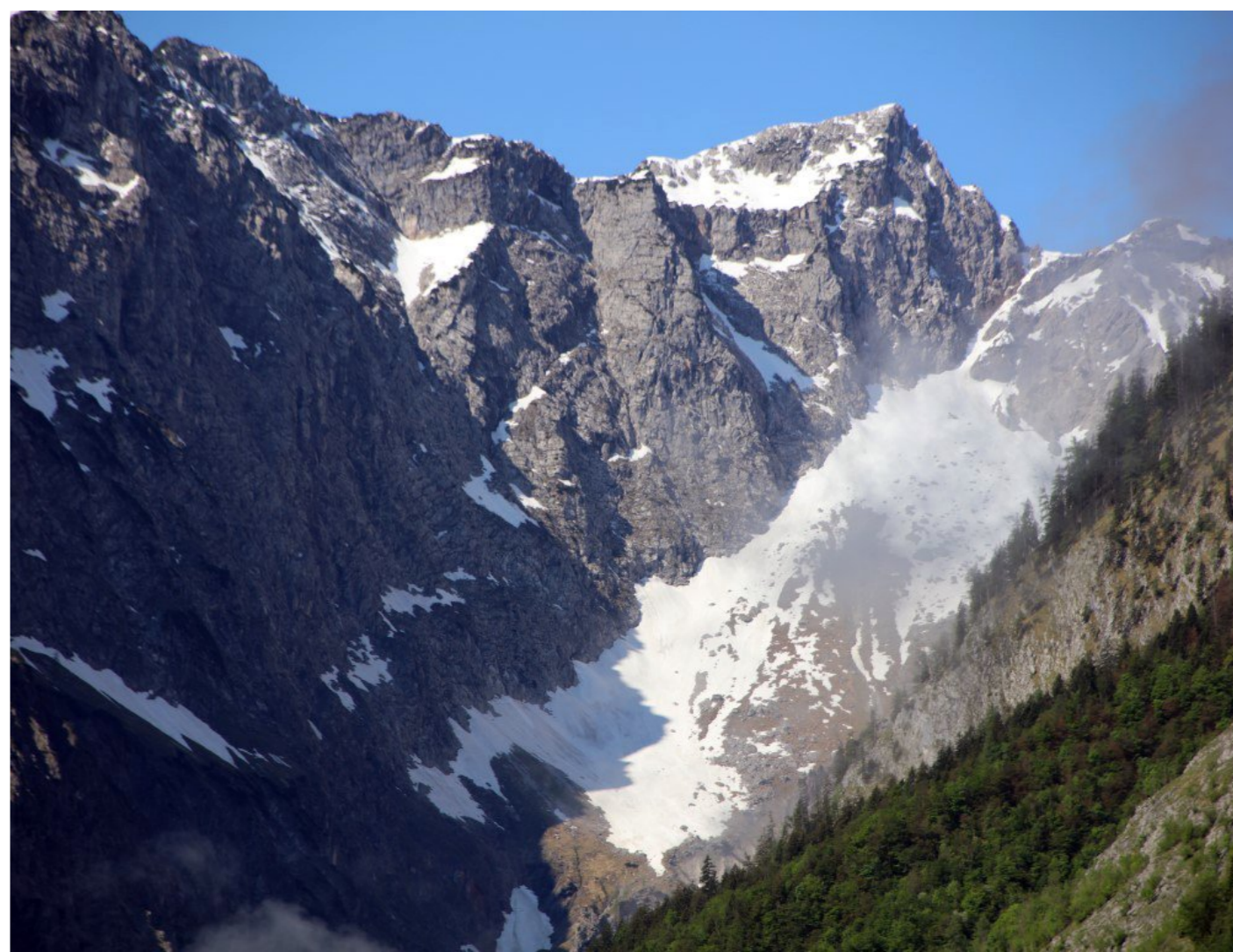
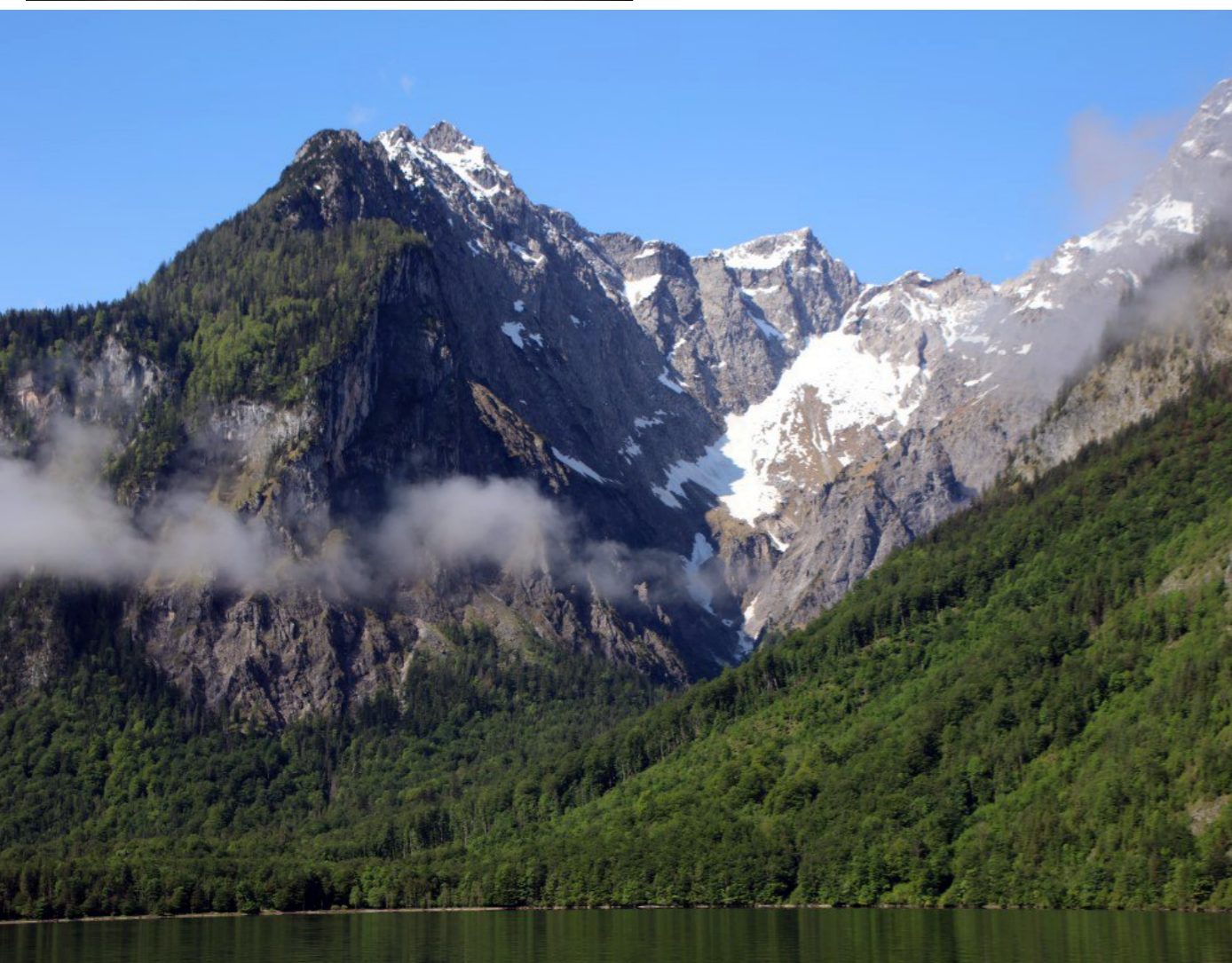


St. Bartholomä

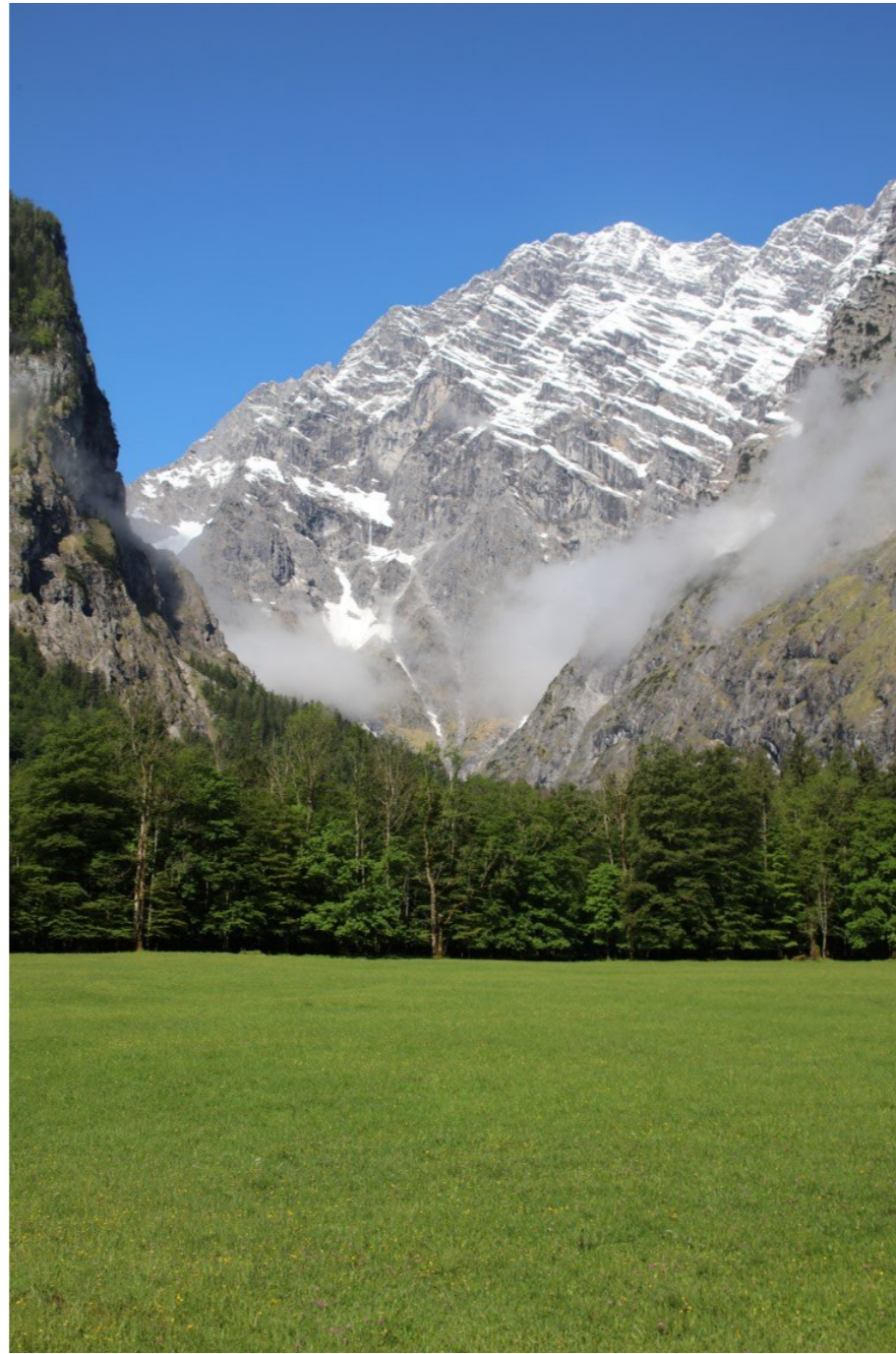




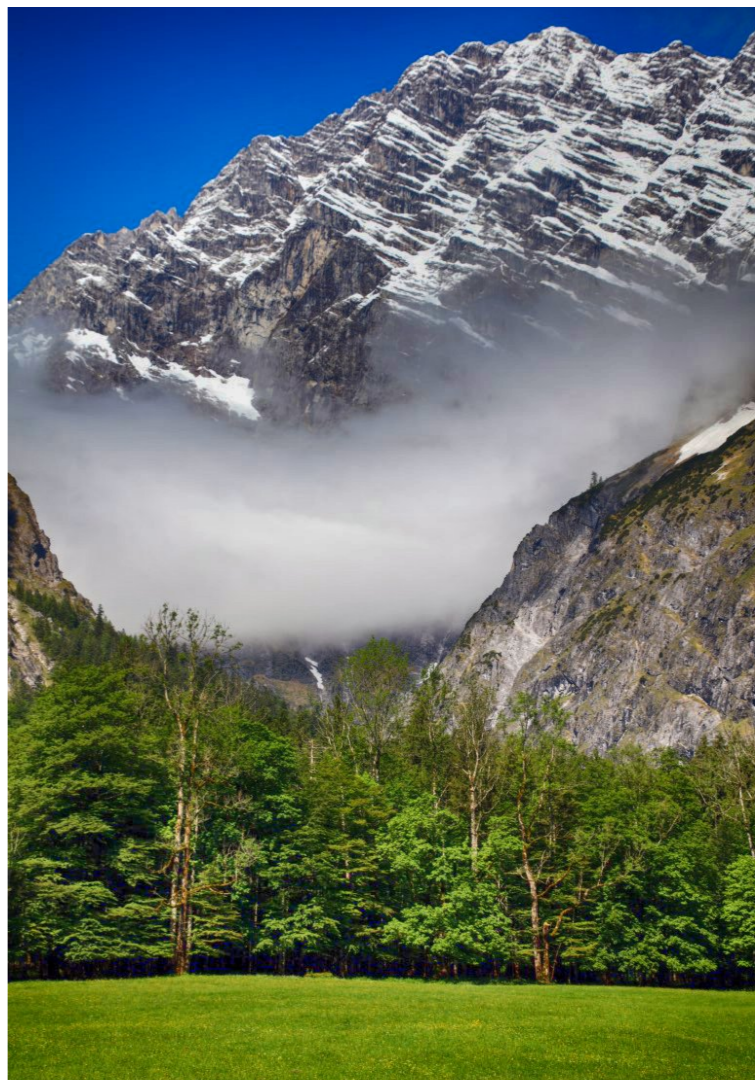
Today the sun shone brightly and the lake was even more spectacular. We took many pictures and in the afternoon drove to a wonderful B&B in Latisana, Italy. The difference in the 2 days was almost unbelievable, yet, we were there and have many pictures and movies to show.



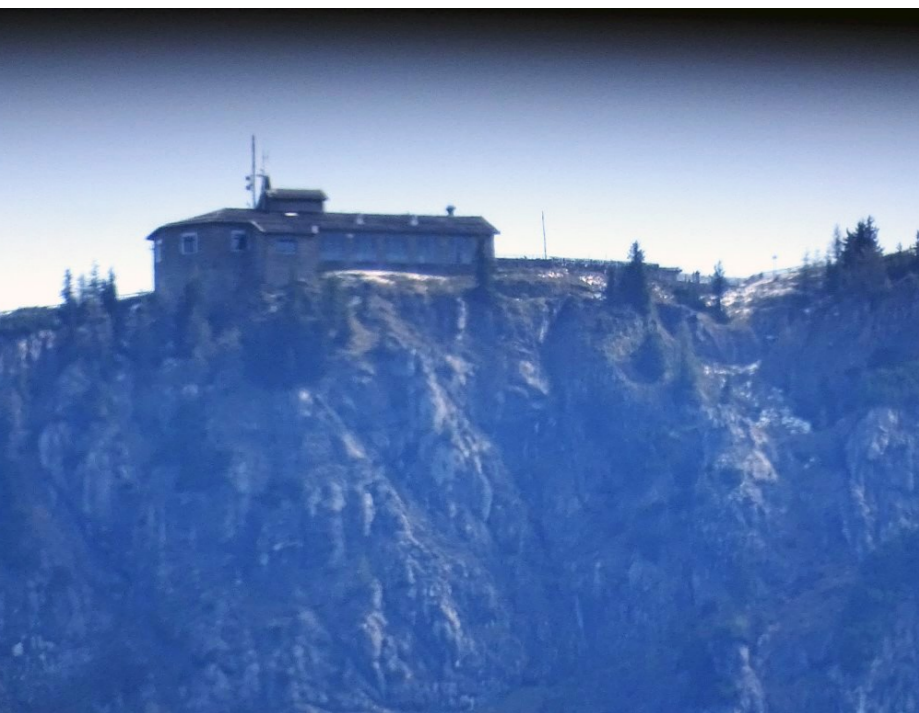






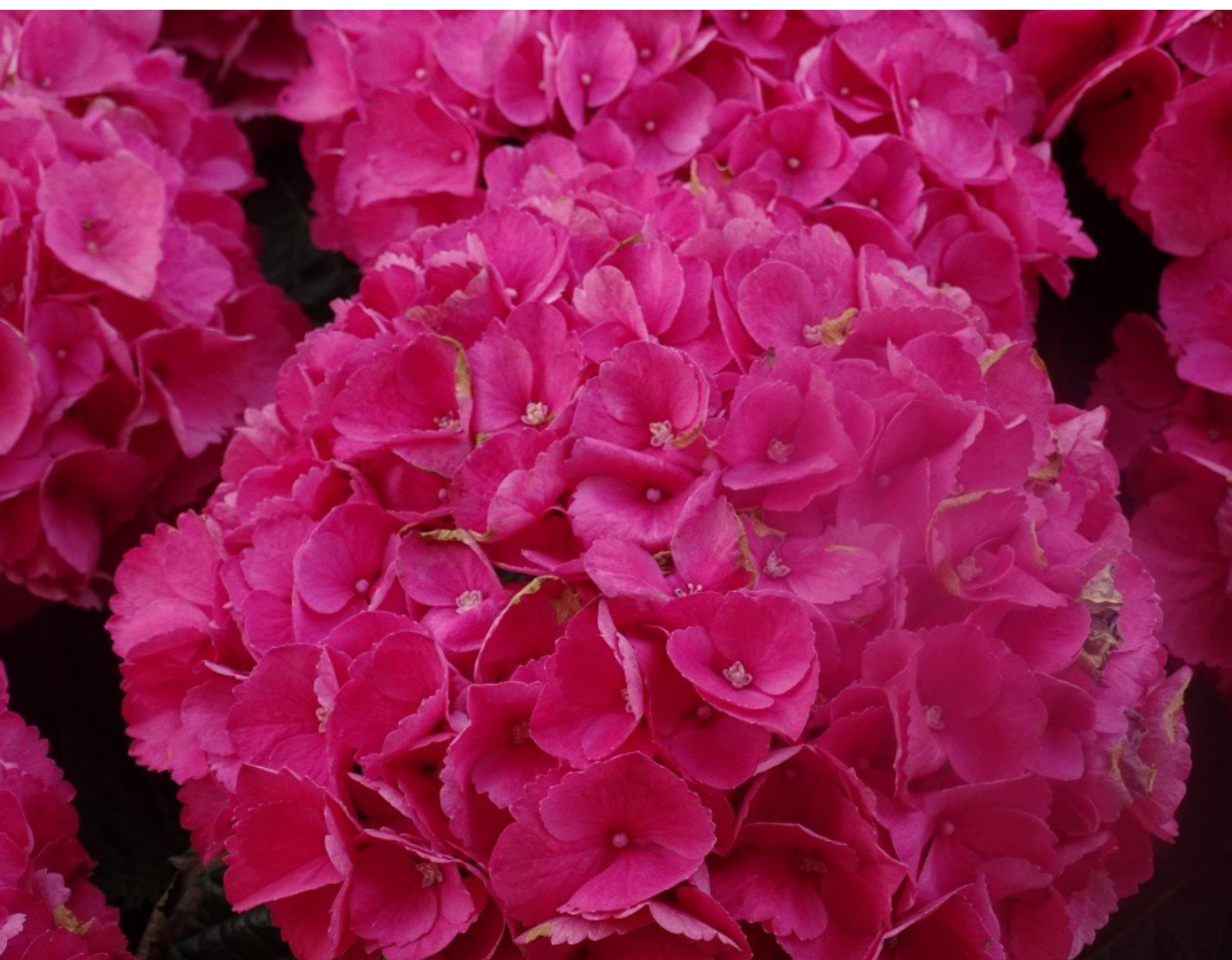


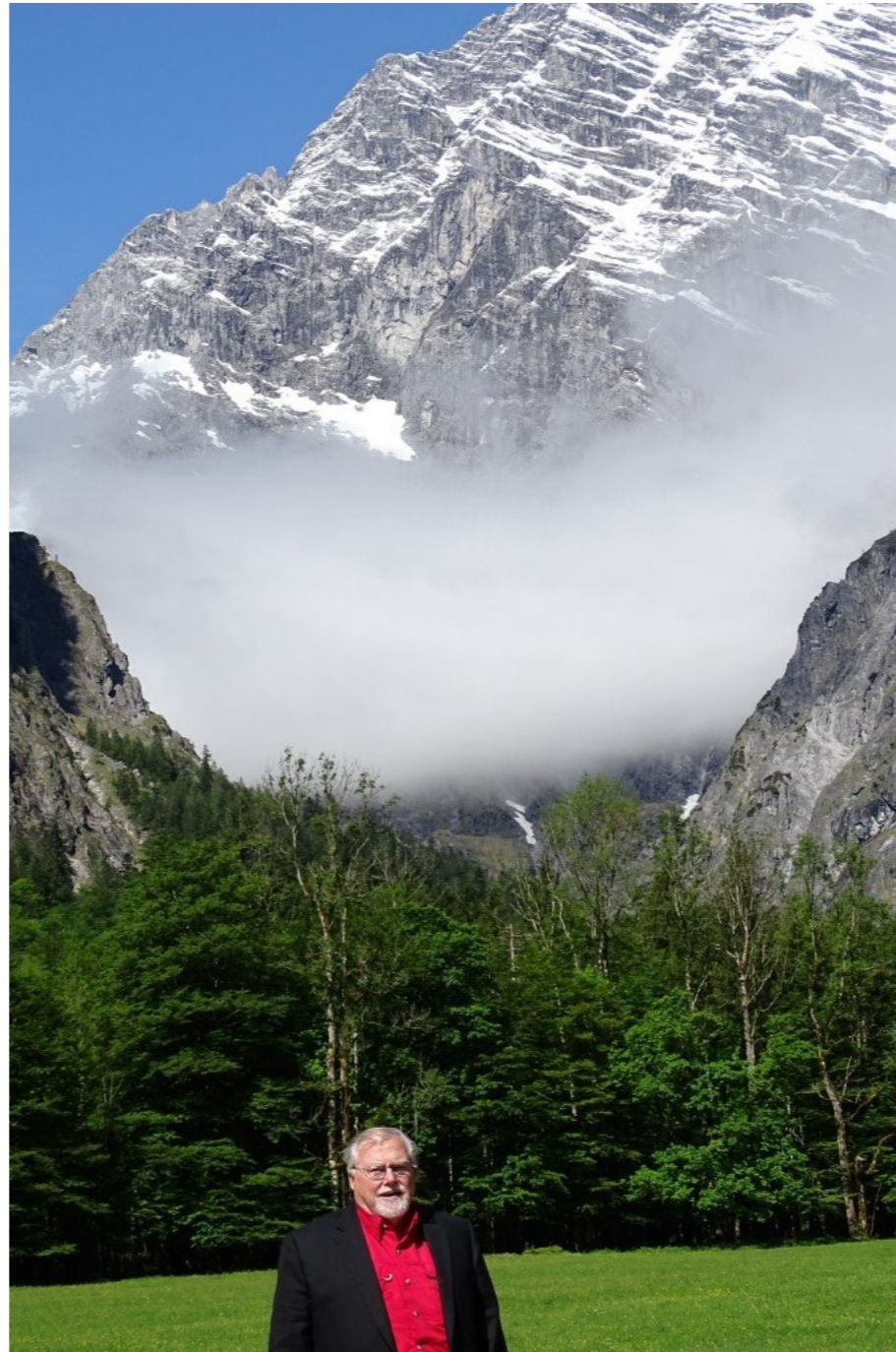


















Venice

Wow! Venice was everything and more including a lot of people. We took a gondola ride with a singing driver. We met many nice people and took a thousand more pictures or so it seemed. We took a water bus and we ended our day in the Hotel Marconi in Padua! What a great day!



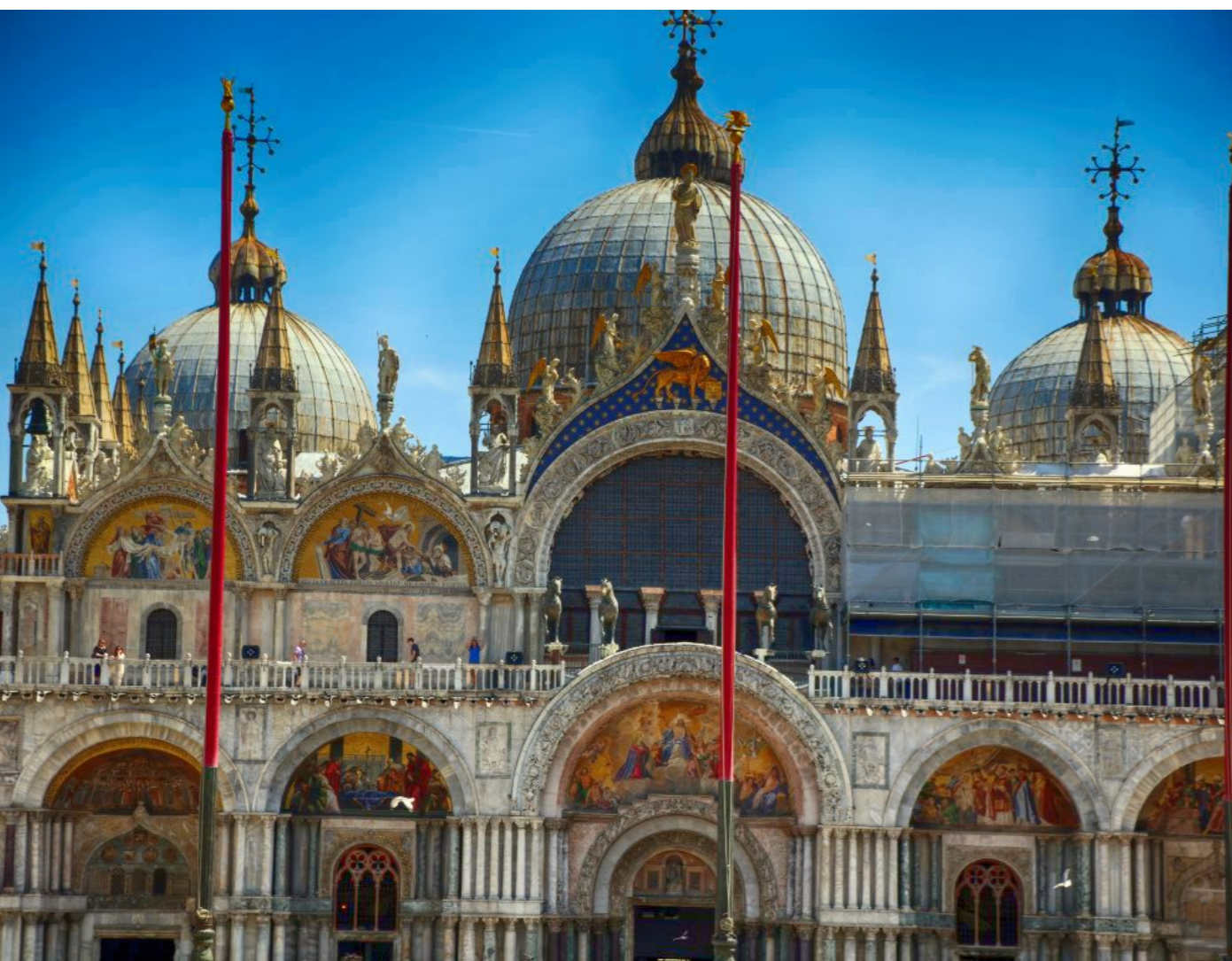
































Padua
Home of St. Anthony, Linda's favorite Saint, because he finds anything for her she has misplaced. A great steak house that also served fine Italian fare. A wonderful city square and home to Giotto's Scrovegni Chapel where we could have taken pictures but did not because we mistakenly thought no cameras allowed. It was beautiful however. We went to Communion at the Basilica of St. Anthony and took a few unauthorized photos. We also visited the "first" botanical garden. We listened to a concert at the Scrovegni Chapel.









