GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH November 1, 2020 - ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."

[Matthew 5:12]



WELCOME

We're glad you chose to worship with us. **Evangelical Lutheran Worship**

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

PRELUDE Resurrection Larry King

BELL

GATHERING PRAYER

With all the saints of Africa and Asia, Europe and the Americas, India, Australia, and the islands; we praise you, O God, for creating the world.

With all the baptized, the old and the young, the weak and the strong, the famous and the forgotten; we bless you, O God, for providing for us.

With all the faithful in tents and mansions, cities and farms, past and present; we worship you, O God, for sheltering the generations.

With all your holy people who minister in the church, who serve the poor, who walk the way of the cross; we glorify you, O God, for journeying with us in Jesus.

With Peter, Paul, and all Martyrs, we honor Christ's death, saying: **Amen!**

With Mary Magdalene and all Apostles, we proclaim his resurrection, shouting: **Amen!**

With John, the Theologians, and Mystics, we celebrate Christ present with us, exclaiming: Amen!

With the Virgin Mary and all who sang of your greatness, we pray for the power of the Spirit. Form us into a communion of service, and infuse your earth with wholeness.

With grandparents and godparents, with the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, and independents, lead us to a future we cannot yet see, and at the end draw all humanity to yourself.

Now with all of the family you saved by your love, we shout: Blessing, Glory, Wisdom, Thanksgiving, Honor, Power, and Might be to you, our God, forever and ever. Amen.



GREETING

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

SONG OF PRAISE Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones ELW 424



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit

READING Revelation 7:9-17

The multitudes of heaven worship the Lamb

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

READING 1 John 3:1-3

We are God's children

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able

ALLELUIA VERSE





Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Stand as you are able

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

- ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- 5"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- 6"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- 7"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- 8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of

evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

- A The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of God endures forever.
- C Thanks be to God.

Sit

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

SERMON

Stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY For All the Saints (v. 1-2, 6-7) ELW 422



PARISH NECROLOGY (Nov. 2019 to Nov. 2020)

Selbie Hull
Earl Clayton
Shirley Border
Art LaVere
Irene Wielt
Carolyn Pyle

Norinne Adair Patricia Swaney John Craig Michael Fewer Alexander Kropelnicki

Stand as you are able

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Lord of all the saints, we praise you for evangelists and martyrs whose sacrifices witness to your gospel across time and space. Inspire us by their courage to carry our faith to new people and places around us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every place, the universe proclaims your greatness from generation to generation. Bless the work of naturalists, conservationists, and park rangers who train our attention to the wonders of the world you have made. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every nation, guide this country—red states and blue states, rural voters and urban voters, young and old—as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good. Hear us. O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every blessing, your Son's blessing came to those living with poverty, grief, hunger, thirst, and persecution. Shape our vision of the saints to match his own. Awaken in us your call to serve all who suffer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every venture, anoint us with the missionary spirit of the early church. Bless all new missions of our synod. Empower testimony from new communities of faith to shape a diverse witness to your saving power. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort us as we grieve those who have died in the past year Selbie Hull, Earl Clayton, Shirley Border, Art LaVere, Irene Wielt, Carolyn Pyle, Norinne Adair, Patricia Swaney, John Craig, Michael Fewer. In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

PEACE MUSIC Better Is One Day in Your Courts

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty. For my soul longs and even faints for you. For here my heart is satisfied within your presence. I sing beneath the shadow of your wings. Better is one day in your courts Than a thousand elsewhere.

Stand as you are able INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, with thanksgiving and unending joy we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven as they praise your glory for ever:



THE 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 and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Stand as you are able

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR OUR NATIONAL ELECTION

Finally, Lord God, as this election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city, state, and country; and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.

We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as sisters and brothers, one and equal in dignity - especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty.

We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children and all who are abandoned, and men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will show us justice and love.

We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who live your love, and lead in the ways of truth. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

RITUAL OF REMEMBRANCE

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

Chorus:

I am the resurrection and the life;
Those who believe in me will never die.
I am the resurrection and the life;
Those who believe in me will live a new life.

Verses:

I have come to bring the truth; I have come to bring you life; If you believe, then you shall live. *Chorus*

In my word all you will come to know; It is love which makes the Spirit grow. If you believe, then you shall live. *Chorus*

Keep in mind the things that I have said; Remember me in the breaking of the bread. If you believe, then you shall live. *Chorus*

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DISMISSAL

Led by the Saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE New World Symphony (Largo) Antonin Dvorák