



**8:30 Traditional Worship
Sunday, November 5, 2023
All Saints Sunday, Year A**

Please Enter in Silence

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.

As we sing the gathering hymn, you are invited to come forward to light candles in memory of your loved ones.

Gathering Hymn

ELW #422 For All the Saints

Remembrance of All Saints

In the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us remember all the saints before God, especially those who have entered into eternal life this past year: Wally Brown, Phyllis Cavalieri, Meribeth Cooper, David Greene, Ken Hyde, D.J. Murray, Claire Summers.

Let us remember all who have shared their lives and faith among us, especially those we name aloud or in our hearts:

We praise and bless you, O Holy Trinity. You have taught your Church that it is an ageless communion of saints. We thank you for gathering those who faithfully waited in hope for the redemption you promised, and now for adding us who celebrate the love of Christ for the redemption of the world. Prepare a place for us among those who are already with you. Help us remember them as an encouragement to saintly living, exciting us to love, in anticipation of an eternal reunion. With them we praise and bless you, O Holy Trinity.

Amen.

Jesus says, Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Apostolic Greeting

Beloved of God, called to be saints:
Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
And also with you.

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.

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

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!”

¹¹And 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, ¹²singing,

“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.”

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

- ¹I will bless the Lord¹ at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be ¹ in my mouth.
- ²**I will glory ¹ in the Lord;
let the lowly hear ¹ and rejoice.**
- ³Proclaim with me the greatness ¹ of the Lord;
let us exalt God's ¹ name together.
- ⁴**I sought the Lord, who ¹ answered me
and delivered me from ¹ all my terrors.**
- ⁵Look upon the Lord¹ and be radiant,
and let not your faces ¹ be ashamed.
- ⁶**I called in my affliction, and ¹ the Lord heard me
and saved me from ¹ all my troubles.**
- ⁷The angel of the Lord encamps around those who ¹ fear the Lord
and de- ¹ livers them.
- ⁸**Taste and see that the ¹ Lord is good;
happy are they who take ref- ¹ uge in God!**
- ⁹Fear the Lord, you saints ¹ of the Lord,
for those who fear the ¹ Lord lack nothing.
- ¹⁰**The lions are in want and ¹ suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing ¹ that is good.**
- ²²O Lord, you redeem the life ¹ of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will ¹ not be punished.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

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.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 151 *Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?*

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon: “Visions of Heaven” – Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Hymn of the Day

ELW #425 Behold the Host Arrayed in White

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the Church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, the Church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; give us unity through your presence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Creator, we marvel at your creation revealed in the cycle of seasons, changing landscapes, and the rise and fall of ocean tides. Turn us from selfish consumption and open us to gentle healing of the earth so all creation thrives. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Advocate, we lift grateful hearts for the ability to vote and elect leaders. Grant wisdom to those who will be elected and safety to poll workers. May civic leaders serve the whole community. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Healer, bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn, especially the family and friends of Ken Hyde. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you Daniel Evangelista, Woody King, Cindy Barrett, and those we name aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Comforter, we pray for the Call Committee, this congregation, and candidates for pastor, that the promise of your new life may be shared and experienced. We pray for the funeral

ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, for the saints who now rest in your mercy, we give you thanks. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love. Praise to you for the eternal life they have been given through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Offertory

Organ Prelude and Fugue in E minor, attr. J.S. Bach

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you,
gathered around your table,
and shared your abundant blessings.
Number us among them
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,
and give thanks for your rich blessings,
we may feast upon your very self
and care for all that you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.
Amen.

Dialogue

The Lord 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.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy

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Great Thanksgiving

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
surrounded by evil and bordered by death
we appeal to you,
our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.
We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace
and promised an end to injustice and harm.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
the sacrifice of his life and death
and the victory of his resurrection,
we await with all the saints
his loving redemption of our suffering world.
Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine
and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son:
teach us your mercy and justice,
and make all things new in Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.
Amen

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.

Invitation to Communion

There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

Lamb of God

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Communion Hymn

ELW #482 I Come with Joy

Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace unto life everlasting.
Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Announcements

Benediction

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn

ELW #441 Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand

Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Organ *Lobt Gott, ihr Christen, allzugleich* BWV 732, by J.S. Bach