



OUR CONFESSION APPROVES HONORING THE SAINTS IN THREE WAYS. THE FIRST IS **THANKSGIVING**. WE SHOULD THANK GOD BECAUSE HE HAS SHOWN EXAMPLES OF MERCY, BECAUSE HE WISHES TO SAVE PEOPLE, AND BECAUSE HE HAS GIVEN TEACHERS AND OTHER GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. THESE GIFTS, SINCE THEY ARE THE GREATEST, SHOULD BE AMPLIFIED. THE SAINTS THEMSELVES, WHO HAVE FAITHFULLY USED THESE GIFTS, SHOULD BE PRAISED JUST AS CHRIST PRAISES FAITHFUL BUSINESSMEN (MATTHEW 25:21, 23). THE SECOND SERVICE IS THE **STRENGTHENING OF OUR FAITH**. WHEN WE SEE PETER'S DENIAL FORGIVEN, WE ALSO ARE ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE ALL THE MORE THAT GRACE TRULY SUPERABOUNDS OVER SIN (ROMANS 5:20). THE THIRD HONOR IS THE **IMITATION**, FIRST OF FAITH, THEN OF THE OTHER VIRTUES. EVERYONE SHOULD IMITATE THE SAINTS ACCORDING TO HIS CALLING.

THE BOOK OF CONCORD, APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION, XXI, 4-7

ALL SAINTS

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 ✠ 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

ALL SAINTS DAY

In the first three centuries after Christ's resurrection, the lives of the martyrs (those who lost their lives for confessing their faith in Christ) of the Church were commemorated on the day and in the place where they were killed. There were so many who were killed because of their faith in Christ during those centuries, that throughout the Christian Church different days were set aside not only for each martyr, but a special day for all Saints. This has traditionally been celebrated on November 1st.

The earliest reference to a day being dedicated to the commemoration of All the Martyrs and All Saints of the Christian Church comes from the 2nd century. This day has a special history in the Lutheran Church because it was on the eve of All Saints' Day (Hallow's Eve) in 1517 that Martin Luther posted 95 Theses for debate on the door of the church at Wittenberg, Germany.

Today our focus is two-fold—we give thanks to God for the saints who now rest from their labors; who have fought the good fight; who have finished the race. We also ask that God would bless "The Holy Christian Church, The Communion of Saints" who still fight the good fight. We pray that God would help us imitate the example of those who have gone before (Hebrews 11-12) and so encourage and strengthen us on the way that leads to our heavenly home.

THE SAINTS HAVE NO NEED OF HONOR FROM US; NEITHER DOES OUR DEVOTION ADD THE SLIGHTEST THING TO WHAT IS THEIRS. CLEARLY, IF WE VENERATE THEIR MEMORY, IT SERVES US, NOT THEM. BUT I TELL YOU, WHEN I THINK OF THEM, I FEEL MYSELF INFLAMED BY TREMENDOUS YEARNING.

- BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX (ca. 1100 AD)

The Festival of ALL SAINTS

∞ The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD** type. ∞

Hymn 883 Behold a Host, Arrayed In White

Dialogue of Praise, Repentance and Forgiveness

Please stand.

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

Mt 28:18-20

Amen

Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto the One who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and ever.

Revelation 5:13

Jesus remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.

Luke 23:42-43

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by my sins and am deeply sorry for them.

Silence for reflection

Jesus' death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. He said to His people,
"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven."

John 20:23

Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. You are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life!

Amen!

In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God;

We trusted in Him and He saved us."

Isaiah 25:9

My flesh and my heart may fail,

But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalms 73:26

I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth.

And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh, I will see God.

Job 19

THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer of the Day

To all who are loved by God and called to be saints: grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

His grace and peace to you also.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have knit Your people together in one holy Church, the body of Christ our

Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of Your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

A glorious vision of the saints of God standing in paradise comforted John and is for our comfort too, to lift our hearts and draw us above ourselves and the struggles here below, up to the throne, to Christ, to rest, to our guaranteed future, our victory, our home.

⁹After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

¹¹All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying:

“Amen! Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!”

¹³Then one of the elders asked me, “These

in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

¹⁴I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’
‘And God will wipe away every tear from
their eyes.’”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn 885 There Is A Higher Throne

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

Right now we are called the children of God! So we are saints already, set apart by God for God. Everything that it means to be a child of God will be clear soon - when Christ appears and we shall be like Him.

¹See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. ²Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that

when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please stand.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

What looks to the world like curse, Jesus calls blessed. We're poor in spirit with a hunger in our souls for God, we mourn so many days and are rejected on account of faith in Jesus. And you know what Jesus says? He says we're blessed in that, and so we are, even if it is hidden for now.

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. He said:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness,
for they will be filled.
Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted
because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people insult you,
persecute you and falsely say all kinds of
evil against you because of me. Rejoice and
be glad, because great is your reward in
heaven, for in the same way they persecuted
the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though He dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," Martha told Him, "I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God."

John 11:25-27

St. John recorded: "then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are they who die in the Lord from now on."

"Yes," says the Spirit, they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.

Rev 14:13

As we look forward to the eternal joys in store for us, let us today remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before us in the Faith and received their true rest. They were created by God to offer Him praise and thanksgiving forever, and He gave them new life through His Son in Holy Baptism, and nourished them in the company of His people in His Holy Supper.

Now in His mercy has summoned them to His nearer presence so that they may continue in joyful service of Him forever.

In joyful expectation of the resurrection to life, we remember before You, O Lord, all our departed family and friends, and especially on this feast of all saints,

+Gary Cain+ +Susan Jones+

whom You have called from our congregation to heavenly rest since we last celebrated this festival.

For all those who stand now in glory, for their lives shared with us, for their example of faith, for their new life in eternity and that Your grace has found us too,

Thanks be to God!

For the martyrs of our holy faith; for the faithful witnesses to Christ of whom the world was not worthy; and for all who have resisted falsehood and wrong unto suffering or death:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For all who have labored and suffered for freedom, good government, just laws, and the sanctity of the home; and for all who have given their lives for their country:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For all who have sought to bless the world by their service and to lighten the dark places of the earth; for all who have dared to push back the horizons of knowledge in order to bless the world in which we live:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For those who have been tender and true and brave in all of the lesser callings of life, serving faithfully where You have placed them:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For the teachers and companions of our childhood and youth; for fathers and mothers who nurtured us; for faithful pastors who ministered to us; and for the members of our household of faith who worship You now in heaven:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For the grace given to all of them, and for the trust and hope in which they lived and died:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

That we may hold them in remembrance always and that we may prepare ourselves to follow them in their upward way:

We ask You to hear us, O God.

And finally, we pray for the faithful gathered in this place: for those who rejoice, for those who suffer, and for those who mourn, that in the communion of the Holy Spirit, with the faithful and the saintly in heaven, with the redeemed of all ages, with our beloved who dwell in Your presence and peace, we, who still fight the good fight of faith on earth, unite in giving: Thanksgiving, glory, honor, and power unto You, O Lord, our God.

Amen.

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.

Hymn of Praise - For All the Saints (Hymn #880, st. 1,2,4,6,7,8)

ALL sing: For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

MEN sing: Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL sing: Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

WOMEN sings: The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon, to faithful warriors cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please stand.

ALL sing: But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL sing: From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon Revelation 7 Can you imagine?

After the sermon, please stand.

Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**
**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there 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.**

Be seated.

Offering *Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.*



There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give a gift in that way.

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to (833) 693-7056. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

THE SACRAMENT

Stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at

all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who in blessing His saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

The Words of Our Lord Jesus

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Be seated.

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS

Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

*Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!***

Hymn 660 Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

Hymn 576 Amazing Grace

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.
Your ☩ sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn | 890 Jerusalem the Golden

Thank you to our accompanist, Suzanne Bawden for adorning this festival with music!

