

All Saints Sunday

November 5, 2023

10:15 am

Prelude

Introduction

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.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✚ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn ELW #423 "Shall We Gather at the River"

- 1. Shall we gather at the river, where bright angels feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?**

Refrain: **Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.**

- 2. On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day.** Refrain
- 3. Ere we reach the shing river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.** Refrain
- 4. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.** Refrain

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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.

Readings and Psalm

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

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: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²**I will glory in the LORD;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God's name together.

**⁴I sought the LORD, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.**

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

**⁶I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.

**⁸Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

**¹⁰The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

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

Alleluia. They are before the throne of God, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. *Alleluia.* (Rev. 7:15)

The Holy Gospel according to the book of Matthew, beginning with the Fifth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

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.

¹¹Blessed 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 our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

A RITE OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE SAINTS

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation.

C: He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we have received from God.

P: When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death.

C: We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in a new life.

P: 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.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, those who die in the Lord shall live with you in joy and blessedness.

C: We give you heartfelt thanks for the grace you have bestowed upon your servants who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors.

P: We remember on this day also all our beloved faithful departed, our family, our neighbors, we now name them in our hearts.....

P: Into your hands we commend them, O merciful Savior, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming.

C: Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

Hymn of the Day ELW #422 "For All the Saints"

- 1. For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.**

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia!

- 2. 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. Refrain**

3. **Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. *Refrain***
4. **And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong. *Refrain***
5. **The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. *Refrain***
6. **But then there breaks a yet more glorious day; the saints triumphant rise in bright array; the King of glory passes on his way. *Refrain***
7. **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: *Refrain***

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Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Peace

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

Offering

Offering Hymn ELW #686 "We Give Thee I Own" 1st verse

1. **We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

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Prayers of Intercession

P Hear us, O God. **C** Your mercy is great.

The Great Thanksgiving

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

Thanksgiving at the Table

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 ~ All are invited

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

Communion Distribution

Distribution Hymn ELW #491 "Come, Let Us Eat"

- 1. Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread, come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread. Our Lord's body let us take together, our Lord's body let us take together.**
- 2. Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured. Jesus' blood poured let us drink together, Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.**
- 3. In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest. in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest. In the presence of our Lord we gather, in the presence of our Lord we gather.**
- 4. Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word, rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word. Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom, Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.**

Post-communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

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.**

Sending Hymn ELW #414 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

- 1. Holy God, we praise your name; lord of all, we bow before you. All on earth your scepter claim, all in heav'n above adore you. Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.**
- 2. Hark! The glad celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising; cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising, fill the heav'ns with sweet accord; "Holy, holy, holy Lord!"**
- 3. Lo, the apostolic train join your sacred name to hallow; prophets swell the glad refrain, and the white robed martyrs follow; and from morn to set of sun, through the church the son goes on.**
- 4. Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you, though in essence only one; undivided God we claim you, and adoring, bend the knee while we own the mystery.**

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Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Remembrance of the Saints

Today, we remember the names of family and friends of Calvary Lutheran Church, in whose memory we light our candles. We remember them in our prayers, and we give thanks for their lives. We remember and find strength in their faith and the faith of all the saints both known to us and known only to God. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Announcements:

~ Daylight Savings Time has ended.

~ Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at Calvary 9:00 am. Come and See.

~ Bake Sale Fundraiser for Historical Society Nov. 18, 2023 from 8:30 to 3:00. Looking for donations of bake goods. Chili will also be served. Reminder RHS is open on the first and third Saturdays of each month serving coffee and goodies from 9 am to noon.

~ Thanksgiving Eve service on Nov. 22, 2023 at 6:30 pm with Holden Evening prayer and communion. After worship, a Pie/Ice Cream social will be held in the fellowship hall. A sign up sheet for bringing pies will be on the kitchen counter.

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