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☞ All Saints Sunday ☞

ORDER OF WORSHIP • NOVEMBER 5, 2023 • 9:00 AM

✠ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

✠ OPENING HYMN

FOR ALL THE SAINTS  
LBW #174, verses 1, 2, 6, 7, 8

✠ INVOCATION

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

All: **Amen.**

✠ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Let us confess our sins to God, who loves us with an unending love, whose presence calms our fears, and whose word brings life.

*a time of silence for reflection*

WL: Holy God, Source of all life,

All: **we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.**

**We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we do not fully believe it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us and free us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

WL: Siblings in Christ, God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to turn us and renew us. In ✠ Christ, your sins are forgiven. In Christ, **our** sins are forgiven. On this very morning we are called, raised up, and empowered to follow Christ, our Savior. We will share his death, and, with him, be reborn to life eternal. Go now and serve our risen Savior with joy!

All: **Amen!**

WL: People of God, our sins have been forgiven! I invite you to sit and smile as the Parish Choir shares with us a joyous song of praise to our great God.

PARISH CHOIR

PRAISE GOD WITH CYMBALS  
John Holysz, tympani

## FIRST LESSON

REVELATION 7:2-17

R: Our First Lesson for this All Saints Sunday is from the seventh chapter of Revelation.

Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: "Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed,  
from the tribe of Reuben 12,000,  
from the tribe of Gad 12,000,  
from the tribe of Asher 12,000,  
from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000,  
from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000,  
from the tribe of Simeon 12,000,  
from the tribe of Levi 12,000,  
from the tribe of Issachar 12,000,  
from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000,  
from the tribe of Joseph 12,000,  
from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.

After 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. And they cried out in a loud voice:

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

All 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, saying:

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

Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?"

I 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. Therefore,

"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.

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

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

For 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.'"

WL: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON

1 JOHN 3:1-3

R: Our Second Lesson is from the third chapter of First John.

See 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. Dear 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. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

WL: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## ✠ ALLELUIA VERSE

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

## ✠ HOLY GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 5:1-12

WL: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

All: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

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.

WL: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You O Christ!**

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

### ✠ MESSAGE HYMN      LOOK WHO GATHERS AT CHRIS'S TABLE

Look who gathers at Christ's table! Hear the stories that they bring.  
Some are weeping; some are laughing; some have songs they want to sing.  
Others ask why they're invited, burdened by the wrong they've done.  
Christ insists they all are welcome. There is room for ev'ryone.

Clouds of light surround the table; ancient followers appear,  
saints confessing how they wrestled with their guilt, their doubt and fear.  
Peter tells of his denying Christ was ever in his sight;  
Paul relates his fruitless efforts to obliterate the light.

Their sad stories are repeated in a thousand diff'rent ways,  
but they share one thing in common: they all end in thanks and praise  
for the host who has invited north and south and east and west  
to converge around this table, where all life is fed and blest.

Bring your joy and bring your sadness, and prepare to be surprised  
by the host whose hands are wounded, who will open wide your eyes  
when he blesses bread and breaks it— truth and manna from above!—  
and then passes wine that wakens in your heart the taste of love.

### ✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

WL:      With the church throughout the ages, let us boldly confess our faith, using  
the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All:      **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

WL:      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*

WL: 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; show us unity in your presence. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

WL: 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.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

WL: 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, especially all who are underrepresented or oppressed. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

WL: Holy healer, inspire and empower us to work as peacemakers and healers throughout your world – in Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, and our own community. Bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn. 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 (*especially those we name before you now . . .*). Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

WL: Holy comforter, we pray for this congregation, that the promise of your new life may be experienced and shared. We pray for the funeral ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

WL: Holy One, for the saints who now rest in your mercy, those known and loved by us, and those known and loved only by you, we give you thanks. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love. Today we remember especially:

*A bell tolls after the name of each saint*

Heather James Byars

R.C Maxine Carrillo

Eleanor Hansen Eaton

Carolyn Colleen Eldredge

Janet Annmarie Fry

Ruth Ellen Hoglin

Joan Lynn Krumpholtz

John Alfred Weatherwax

Gloria Anne White

John Wells

Keep us in loving communion with them until we are gathered together with them into the company of all the saints around your throne. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

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

**All: Amen.**

# GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS AND EXPLANATION OF COMMITMENT CARDS

*Completed cards may be brought forward and placed  
in a basket in the chancel during Holy Communion.*

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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### ✠ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

WL: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

WL: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. In the communion of all your saints gathered into the one body of your Son, you have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, encouraged by their faith and strengthened by their fellowship, may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

### ✠ SANCTUS

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY  
LBW #165, verse 2

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.**

### ✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### ✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: **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.**

### ✠ PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **Amen.**

# DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## COMMUNION HYMN

## SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

**Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel 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.**

**On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,  
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. *REFRAIN***

**Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;  
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. *REFRAIN***

**Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. *REFRAIN***

## ✠ DISMISSAL

**WL:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in  
body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

**All:** **Amen.**

## ✠ CLOSING PRAYER

**WL:** Let us pray. We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us  
with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to  
be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**

## ✠ BLESSING

**WL:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and  
be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you  
peace.

**All:** **Amen.**

## ✠ SENDING HYMN

## WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN

**Oh, when the saints go marching in, when the saints go marching in.  
Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.**

## ✠ SENDING

**WL:** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

# TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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Liturgy from Lutheran Service Book.

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### **BE NOT AFRAID**

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

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**LOOK WHO GATHERS AT CHRIST'S TABLE**, Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

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