

ALL SAINTS' DAY

The Hope of the Children of God
October 31 & November 1, 2020

AS WE GATHER

There are different types of hope. The hope some people have is no more than wishful thinking. Others rely on their own plans and intellect to provide a measure of hope during times of difficulty. But for those of us who have been blessed with the gift of faith in our Lord Jesus, hope is sure. For His sake, our heavenly Father has forgiven all our sins and now calls us His own children, brothers and sisters of our Lord. We shall join those who have gone before us to sing God's eternal praises, even as we join "angels and archangels and all the company of heaven" in the Sanctus before receiving His body and blood.

WELCOME

STEWARDSHIP STORY

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge Him,
and He will make straight your paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #66g "Come, We That Love the Lord"

Come, we that love the Lord, And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord, Join in a song with sweet accord
And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

**Refrain: We're marching to Zion, Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion, The beautiful city of God.**

Let those refuse to sing Who never knew our God;
but children of the heav'nly King, but children of the heav'nly King
May speak their joys abroad, May speak their joys abroad. **Refrain**

1 continued

The hill of Zion yields A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heav'nly fields, Before we reach the heav'nly fields,
Or walk the golden streets, Or walk the golden streets. **Refrain**

Then let our songs abound, And ev'ry tear be dry;
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground To fairer worlds on high,
To fairer worlds on high. **Refrain**

(Rise)

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Confident of salvation, let us confess our sins to our loving, heavenly Father.

People: Father in heaven, we have not demonstrated to the people around us the kind of love you have shown us. Forgive us for these our sins. Open our eyes of faith that we may anticipate seeing you in the eternity that awaits us. Then move us toward purity of living that will give you the glory each day until you return.

Pastor: Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, we are God's children now because of the hope God has poured into us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #677 "For All the Saints"

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!

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!

2 continued

✘ WORD ✘

Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
And win with them the victor's crown of gold! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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!

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!

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you deigned to call all people who trust in your Son for salvation your own children.

People: Strengthen our faith so that we pass through each day confident that the hope you have given us shall not fail, and we shall see you face-to-face in eternity;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

FIRST READING *Revelation 7:2–17* (Saints around God's throne know eternal salvation after having endured persecution.) ²Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, ³saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: ⁵12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad, ⁶12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh, ⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar, ⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed. ⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "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, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." ¹⁵"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. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SOLO

"Alabare"

Anna Carson

EPISTLE *1 John 3:1–3* (We are already God's children.) See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

CHILDREN'S SONG "Blest the Children of Our God" AGPS 75

Blest the children of our God, they are bought with Christ's own blood;
They are ransomed from the grave, life eternal they will have;

Refrain: With them numbered may we be here and in eternity

They are justified by grace, they enjoy the Savior's peace;
All their sins are washed away, they will stand in God's great day: REFRAIN

They are lights upon the earth, children of a heav'nly birth;
One with God, with Jesus one; Glory is in them begun: REFRAIN

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 5:1–12* (Jesus' followers are blessed now because of His sure promises.)

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.² And he opened his mouth 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 shall be comforted."⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."¹¹ "Blessed are you when others 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 so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

SERMON HYMN #671 "Sing With All the Saints in Glory"

Sing with all the saints in glory, Sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story, To the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking; Soon the storms of time shall cease;
In God's likeness we awaken, Knowing everlasting peace.

Oh, what glory, far exceeding All that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts for ages pleading Never that full joy conceived.
God, has promised, Christ prepares it; There on high our welcome waits.
Ev'ry humble spirit shares it, Christ has passed the eternal gates.

Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices: Jesus lives who once was dead.
Shout with joy, O deathless voices! Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders Crowd on faith; what joy unknown,
When, amid earth's closing thunders, Saints shall stand before the throne!

SERMON

SOLO

"Be Still My Soul"

Anna Carson

(Rise)

ALL SAINTS' REFLECTION

Pastor: The Church throughout history has celebrated "All Saints Day," which commemorates all people who have died in faith and have gone to be with the Lord until His second coming. All Saints Day is significant because we remember how God worked in and through the lives of His people. Through this remembrance, our faith in Jesus Christ is strengthened because we have seen how God extends mercy to His children. When we honor the past lives of saints, we are able to imitate their lives of devotion in our callings and ask for God's grace for our lives today.

Pastor: Alleluia! Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Alleluia.

People: Let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. Alleluia.

Pastor: Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

People: And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.

Pastor: We honor the life and give thanks to God for these His saints:

Joyce Dolly Muecke	12/7/2019
Jonathan David Baars	1/20/2020
Dennis J. Sweeney	2/9/2020
Judith Ann Stilley	3/2/2020
Sharon Gayle Potzner	4/3/2020
Barbara Lee Ruth Wood	4/18/2020
William Earl Hemberger	5/1/2020
Carol Ann Ferry	5/4/2020
John Oscar Kurer	5/19/2020
Margaret Pauline Becker	6/4/2020
Sandra Rose Krueger	6/8/2020
Russell H. Graf	6/24/2020
Roger Arthur DuFour	6/30/2020
Herbert Kenneth Hafemann	7/3/2020
Linda Lee Schoner	7/16/2020
Eleanor Marie Weil	7/28/2020
Bette Belle Henrics	8/15/2020
Virginia Lorena Ziolecki	8/26/2020
Steven Lester Grawert	9/7/2020
Marion Geraldine "Jerry" Peich	9/8/2020
Judith Ruth Lien	10/4/2020

Pastor: . . . and all the saints of God dear to our hearts who have entered into everlasting rest with the Lord Jesus.

People: Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

OFFERING *Offering plates will be placed in the narthex and elevator room for gathering at the end of the service.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and our sinful condition

Pastor: Let us pray for the Church here and around the world. Strengthen us, gracious heavenly Father, to boldly proclaim the light of your Word in this dark world. Increase in us the confidence they need to confront injustice and immorality wherever they are found. Protect and defend the Church especially where it is persecuted, so that the Gospel is heard clearly above the din of all that would silence or distort your saving Word. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Let us pray for those who are called to organize and lead the kingdoms of this world. Raise up people of faith, Lord, to make, administer, and judge our laws in our local communities and throughout this great country. Guide them and the leaders of other nations so that justice might be tempered with mercy, long-standing ill will might be covered with mutual respect and concord, and peace might break forth across political borders. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Let us pray for those who are in difficult circumstances. As fits your gracious will for them, eternal God, visit and relieve your sons and daughters who call out to you in their distress, especially Margie, Rolland, Don, Jan, Louis, Dawn, Charles, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Dennis, Diane, Arlene, June, Jerry, Cindy, Shirley, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah. Keep them strong in faith through long-term diseases of body and mind as well as sudden calamities of person and property. Guide doctors and nurses, medical technicians and first responders, relief workers and counselors to make wise decisions. Use them to bring healing, relief, comfort, and hope for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Let us pray for those who influence individuals and society. Open doors of opportunity, gracious Lord, for people of faith in the media and in our schools. Move them to rebuke those who model immoral living, to encourage discipline and uprightness in each family, and to instill a love for your will among those they teach. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For ourselves and all who with hope are realizing new beginnings—with new schools to attend, new loves to celebrate, new job opportunities to explore, and new positions in government to assume—that our Lord Jesus would give them joy in their endeavors. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For ourselves and all who find they need gentle relief—vacations from demanding agendas and constructive criticism, retirement from career goals and job expectations, and personal time to listen to God's gracious Word and to be aware of His constant presence—that our heavenly Father would grant them peace and renew their hope until faith gives way to sight. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves as we remember those who have gone before us in the faith. In every remembrance of our brothers and sisters in the faith who are with you in eternity, heavenly Father, move us to give thanks for their witness and courage. Move us now to look forward to that day when faith will be turned to sight and darkness to light. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: These and any other things you would have us ask, O God, grant to us in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION *Wait for the usher to direct you to come forward. Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or elder first.*

HYMN #725

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

"Blest Are They"

Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
Theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow;
They shall be consoled.

*Refrain: Rejoice, and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!*

Blest are they, the lowly ones;
They shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst;
They shall have their fill. *Refrain*

Blest are they, who show mercy;
Mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart;
They....shall see God! *Refrain*

Blest are they, who seek peace;
They are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith;
The glory of God is theirs. *Refrain*

Blest are you, who suffer hate,
all because of Me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom
Shine for all to see. *Refrain*

HYMN #575 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne!
Refrain

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness,
who in loving-kindness sent your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we
thank you that for His sake you have given us pardon and peace,
comfort and joy in this Sacrament,

**People: and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our
hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled
constantly to serve you;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that
by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN #685 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share your woe; Help me there your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with you I die, There to live with you on high.

Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, you are now our head.
We are your own living members; Where you live, there we shall be
In your presence constantly, Living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, Life eternal grant to me.

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Director of Parish Music

Pastor Noah Kegley
Pastor Harold Bender
Marc Stefanic, Bob Reynolds, Debra Nier
Michelle Prince

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The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the plans of His heart to all generations. Psalm 33:11