

“BLESSED ARE THE *poor in spirit*,
FOR THEIRS IS THE
kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:3, NRSV



St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 1, 2020

All Saints Sunday

Holy Communion

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

ELW Setting 8

Pastor: The Reverend Faron H. Johnson

Guest Pastor: Bishop Emeritus Gregory Pile

Minister of Music: Michael Busija

Church: 479-4110; Fax: 479-2994

www.stdavidslutheran.org

Welcome to St. David's Lutheran Church!

We are blessed by your presence and honored that you have chosen to worship with us today.

For your safety please maintain social distancing from anyone who does not reside with you. Singing is discouraged due to the nature of breathing to do so during the pandemic. Please refrain from shaking hands or touching anyone while greetings are shared. Also, please wear your mask to show your love for your neighbor's health that all may be well.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Children are also welcomed to receive the elements at the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians. During this time of pandemic, we will practice the teaching of concomitance recognizing that the presence of Christ is in both elements as we will be receiving the host. Persons, who may not wish to receive the bread and wine of the communion, are still welcome to come to the table to receive a blessing. To do so please fold your hands and bow your head. Distribution of the elements will take place at the conclusion of the service at the door as you exit to go in peace.

Prayer Requests will be spoken or held within our hearts during a time in the prayers of the congregation. Listen for the pastor to bid for you to share the names of those you wish to pray for.

For your comfort there is a restroom, equipped with a changing table located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock.

Devotional – The worship folder you are holding is also a weekly devotional booklet. The prayers and Scripture readings are appropriate for use at any time during the week. The liturgy itself is a Scripturally based order for daily prayer and devotion with Scriptural references noted where they apply. Even the hymns are appropriate tools for prayer and praise. Finally, there is a daily lectionary of Scripture readings for the rest of the week on the last printed page.

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.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

The assembly stands.

GATHERING HYMN “*For All the Saints*”

You may hum instead of sing.

(Instrumental)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. . . .

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation the 7th chapter.

{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.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:1-10, 22 (read responsively)

Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD; for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)

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.

⁴**I 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.

⁶**I 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.

⁸**Taste 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.

¹⁰**The 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.

All: Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD; for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

A reading from 1 John the 3rd chapter

{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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Spoken)*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

{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.

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.

The assembly is seated.

HOMILY

Silence for reflection may follow.

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Sing with All the Saints in Glory”*

You may hum instead of sing.

(Instrumental)

You are invited to read the text while the hymn is being played.

1 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.

2 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.

3 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!

Together we confess our faith:

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Lord of all the saints, we praise you for evangelists and martyrs whose sacrifices witness to your gospel across time and space. Inspire us by their courage to carry our faith to new people and places around us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every place, the universe proclaims your greatness from generation to generation. Bless the work of naturalists, conservationists, and park rangers who train our attention to the wonders of the world you have made. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every nation, guide this country—red states and blue states, rural voters and urban voters, young and old—as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every blessing, your Son's blessing came to those living with poverty, grief, hunger, thirst, and persecution. Shape our vision of the saints to match his own. Awaken in us your call to serve all who suffer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every venture, anoint us with the missionary spirit of the early church. Bless all new missions of our synod (*especially*). Empower testimony from new communities of faith to shape a diverse witness to your saving power. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort us as we grieve those who have died in the past year (*here the names of those who have died in the previous year may be read*). In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

PEACE (PEACE IS OFFERED WITHOUT TOUCHING OUR NEIGHBORS)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you.

Peace be with you.

Please remain standing after the Peace is shared.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

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.

By the witness of your saints
you show us the hope of our calling,
and strengthen us to run the race set before us,
that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.
And so, with (_____ *and*) all the saints,
with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Spoken)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

LAMB OF GOD (Spoken)

**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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

BLESSING

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.

Amen.

QUIET MEDITATION

SENDING HYMN *“Shall We Gather at the River”*

You may hum instead of sing.

(Instrumental)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

GOSPEL MESSAGE
November 1, 2020
ALL SAINTS DAY
Blessed Are You

When Jesus sits on the mountain and begins his long sermon in Matthew's gospel, he begins with these statements of blessing. Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, and so on. Jesus speaks of the positive outcomes of these conditions: they will be comforted, they will inherit the earth, they will be filled. "Blessed are you now," Jesus is saying, as well as "Blessed you will be."

God's promises are for today as much as they are for after we die. We trust that baptized into a death like Jesus' death, we are also baptized into a resurrection like Jesus' resurrection. In baptism we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, sealed with the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Proclaimed on a mountain or in the valleys that can come in daily life, our identity as blessed, baptized saints moves us to live in ways that give thanks to God for God's many gifts and blessings.

All Saints Day isn't just about remembering those who have died and whose names may be read during worship today. All Saints Day is about all the saints, the ones who have gone before, those living now, and those still to come. Today we remember with thanksgiving our brothers and sisters in Christ who have died within the past year, and we also give thanks for the saints who labor and worship on this side of heaven's gate.

Today we recall and celebrate with those who have gone before us as we gather at the font and the table, where in water and word, wine and bread, God reminds us, "Blessed are you." We are blessed, and so we live in ways that manifest this blessing for and toward others.

Daily Readings for the Week
November 1-7

Sunday:	Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10,22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12
Monday:	Psalm 5 Jeremiah 5:18-31 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
Tuesday:	Psalm 5 Lamentations 2:13-17 Acts 13:1-12
Wednesday:	Psalm 5 Proverbs 16:21-33 Matthew 15:1-9
Thursday:	Thursday Psalm 70 Amos 1:1—2:5 Revelation 8:6—9:12
Friday:	Psalm 70 Amos 3:1-12 Revelation 9:13-21
Saturday:	Psalm 70 Amos 4:6-13 Matthew 24:1-14

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