



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Greenville

All Saints' Sunday

November 1, 2020

Welcome in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ! If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. We count it a privilege and a blessing to have you with us in worship. If you are not presently a member of any congregation, please feel welcome to gather with us around Jesus in this community of his disciples at Holy Trinity. Come and worship with us again!

Invitation to Communion: Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus Christ by which our Lord is truly present to forgive sin and bring life and salvation. All baptized Christians who believe this promise are welcome to commune. Parents with children are encouraged to come to the altar together. Children who do not yet receive communion will receive the blessing of the Church from the Pastor.

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

Gluten-free wafers are available; let Pastor know when you come forward to receive.

Service of Holy Communion

Significance of the Day: 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.

Gathering

Prelude Hymn Preludes on *Hanson Place* and *Lasst uns erfreuen*
(Callahan et al)

(The assembly stands and turns to face the cross in procession.)

Confession

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.

(Follow the processional cross.)

Opening Hymn Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

(Please be seated. We will not be singing but these words are here for your reflection.)

Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
raise the glad strain: "Alleluia!"
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, pow'rs,
archangels, virtues, angel choirs:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises: "Alleluia!"
Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
ye patriarchs and prophets blest:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!"
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,
all saints triumphant, raise the song:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!"
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Apostolic 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.

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 sits.)

A reading from Revelation:

9 After 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. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

11 And 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, 12 singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” 14 I 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.

15 For 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.

16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

17 for 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

(The Psalm will be sung by the Cantor.)

- 1 I 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.
- 3 Proclaim 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.
- 5 Look upon the LORD | and be radiant,
and let not your fac- | es be downcast.
- 6 I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me
and saved me from | all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD
and de- | livers them.
- 8 Taste and see that the | LORD is good;
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!
- 9 Fear 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.
- 22 O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.

A reading from Philipians:

1 See 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. 2 Beloved, 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. 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (*The assembly stands.*)

Alleluia!

**They are before the throne of God,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.**

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then 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. 12 Rejoice 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 sits.)

The Sermon

Pastor Brenda Martin

(The assembly remains seated.)

(We will not be singing but these words are here for your reflection.)

Behold the host arrayed in white
 like thousand snow-clad mountains bright,
 that stands with palms and sings its psalms
 before the throne of light!
 These are the saints who kept God's word;
 they are the honored of the Lord.
 He is their prince who drowned their sins,
 so they were cleansed, restored.
 They now serve God both day and night;
 they sing their songs in endless light.
 Their anthems ring when they all sing
 with angels shining bright.

O blessed saints, now take your rest;
 a thousand times shall you be blest
 for keeping faith firm unto death
 and scorning worldly trust.
 For now you live at home with God
 and harvest seeds once cast abroad
 in tears and sighs. See with new eyes
 the pattern in the seed.
 The myriad angels raise their song.
 O saints, sing with that happy throng;
 lift up one voice; let heav'n rejoice
 in our redeemer's song!

On earth their work was not thought wise,
 but see them now in heaven's eyes;
 before God's throne of precious stone
 they shout their vict'ry cries.
 On earth they wept through bitter years;
 now God has wiped away their tears,
 transformed their strife to heav'nly life,
 and freed them from their fears.
 For now they have the best at last;
 they keep their sweet eternal feast.
 At God's right hand our Lord commands;
 he is both host and guest.

(The assembly stands.)

Nicene Creed

With the whole Church in Christ, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

A: 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, responding, "Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great."

(Brief silence)

A: 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. We pray for those who share the gospel today, our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; our pastors, musicians and teachers; all those in this gathering who share the good news with their neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

A: 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. Give us new eyes to see the beauty around us and new hearts to care for how we pass this creation on to the generations that follow us. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

A: 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. We pray for all candidates for every office; give them hearts to serve. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C. Your mercy is great.

A: Lord of every venture, anoint us with the missionary spirit of the early church. Bless all new missions of our synod. Empower testimony from new communities of faith to shape a diverse witness to your saving power. We pray for this congregation as it begins talking about its own reformation to best serve this community and share the gospel in this place. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

A: 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 who were members of this household of faith or who were ministered to at the end of life by this congregation: Ken Black, Don Carpenter, Charlie Eaves, Alice Ferguson, Jan Gebert, Jan Harris, the Rev. Bob Harris, Ron Knapp, Ezra Martin, and Andy Moreland.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored whose remains surround us here. Iva Jean Schell Adema, Vera Anderson, Kenneth Black, Rob Broadbent, Linda Childs, Sherry (Burt) Costello, Anna Coxson, Barbara Currie, Arlene Dorfled, Charles Eaves, Neil Eckstrom, Frank Ferguson, Evelyn Ferguson, Herbert G. Gebert, Jr, Janet Gebert, Clifford P. Gilmore, Harold Gruber, Harriett Haines, Malcolm Haines, Cynthia A. Heim, Roseanne Hinkson, Adelaide Horner, William Horner, Marlowe Johnson, Margretta Judy, Pastor James Judy, Robert Kirkner, Irene Kirkner, Lenne Logan, Dale Rowland Miller, Laszlo Mozes, Margaret Olson, Ethel Pearson, Clara Schell, Arlene Shultz, Jenny Sorrrwar, Ray Stubert, Donald Stull, Benjamin Toomey, LaRoux Toomey, David Truax, Janet Truax, Robert S. Ullstrom, Willis VanKanegan, Jordan M. Watson, and Gerald Wickerham.

(After all names are spoken, a bell is rung.)

We also remember those most dear to us and whose names we now speak before you: *(The assembly may speak aloud the names of additional loved ones who have died. After all names are spoken, a bell is rung.)*

In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

- P. 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.
- C: **Amen.**

Meal

Music as the meal is prepared Interlude on *Land of Rest* (Near)

(The assembly stands. The deacon, on behalf of the people, prays.)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, mighty Lord,
gracious Father: endless
is your mercy
and eternal your reign.

You are the God of creation and all its beginnings,
God of Abraham and Sarah,
God of Miriam and Moses,
God of Joshua and Deborah,
God of Ruth and David,
God of the priests and prophets,
God of Mary and Joseph,
God of the apostles and the martyrs,
God of our mothers and fathers,
God of our children to all generations;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Holy are you,
and blessed is your son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism
of his suffering, death and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

And so, in remembrance
of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves
in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's once for all
offering for us, as we, in this meal
proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father,
with this bread and cup
we remember the life
our Lord offered for us.

And believing the witness
of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us
the great and promised feast.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,
gathered here, and on these gifts
of bread and wine.

Make them be for us
the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world
the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renew our communion with all your saints,
especially those whom we have named before you.

Since we are surrounded
by so great a cloud of witnesses,
strengthen us to run with perseverance,
the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus,
the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we receive our inheritance with
all your saints in light.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers
with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them
with the ceaseless petitions
of our great high priest
until he comes
as victorious Lord of all.
Through him, with him, in him,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours,
almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

Breaking of Bread

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

(The assembly sits.)

Communion of the Faithful

Procedure for Communing: *We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.*

(Following the Communion the assembly stands for the blessing.)

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

Sending

Our Prayer for These Times

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you today and always.

Amen.

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Finale on *Sine Nomine*

(Hutchings)

(Once the pastor is at the back of the church, ushers will dismiss by row.)

Serving Today

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brenda Martin
Organist	Maidene Hackett
Cantor	Sue Achenbach
Liturgical Deacon	Sheryl Lanning
Communion Assistant	Alyssa Martin
Lector	Mike Balas
Acolyte	Sidney Richardson
Head Usher	Jim Martin
Altar Guild	The Richardson family

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes

The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor

The Rev. Martin Roth, retired pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College