



“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

- Matthew 5:3

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

All Saints Day– November 2, 2014

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Rev. Marsella Esseck, Guest Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION
All Saints Sunday – November 2, 2014

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.

PRELUDE: *Blest Are They* – Thomas Keesecker
 Rejoice in God's Saints – David Cherwien

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG #422: For All the Saints**

***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.

***KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



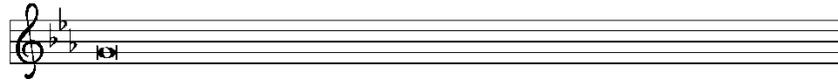
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

***SONG OF PRAISE**

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



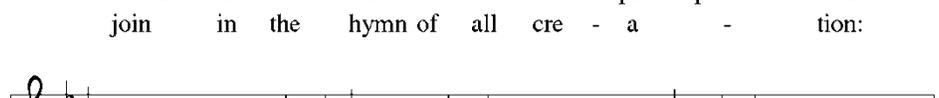
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



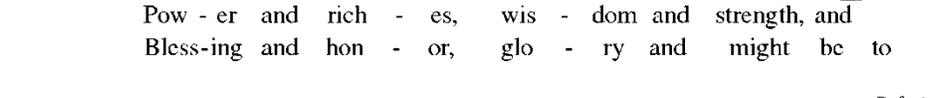
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

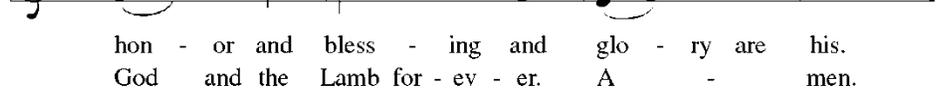


Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

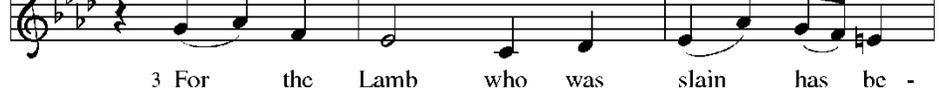


Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***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.

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9–17 (page 249 in New Testament)

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: Psalm 34: 1-10, 22



1. Lord, I bring my songs to you, ev - ery day de - clar - ing praise.
2. I sought God, he an - swered me; he de - liv - ered me from fear.
3. Taste and see that God is good, shel - tering all who love his name.
4. Though our trou - bles mul - ti - ply, God the Lord will save his own.



All the meek shall hear my words al - ways tell - ing of your ways.
Look to him: your face will shine, free from shame and from de - spair.
Fear the Lord and heed his word; those who fear him know no shame.
He will turn the wrong a - side, keep un - bro - ken ev - ery bone.



Join with me your heart and voice, praise the Lord, in him re - jice.
Lo, the an - gel of our God camps near those who fear the Lord.
Li - ons' young from hun - ger cry; God his own will sat - is - fy.
Wick - ed ones the Lord con - demns, but his ser - vants he de - fends.

Text: Psalm 34; vers. Marie J. Post, 1985

RATISBON

Music: Freylinghausen's *Geistreiches Gesangbuch* 1704; rev. Werner's *Choralbuch*, 1815

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SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3 (page 93 in New Testament)

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.

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. 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.

We remember those who have died since last All Saints Day, Paula Cole and Jim Hopson, Jr., and all those members of that great cloud of witnesses, whom we now name aloud or silently in our hearts.

**As we remember these your children,
strengthen us to follow Christ through this world
until we are carried into the harvest of eternal life,
where suffering and death will be no more.**

Hear our prayer in the name of the good and gracious shepherd,
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

***NICENE CREED**

**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**

Remembering the saints who have gone before us and giving thanks for God's blessings, we pray for the church, all in need, and God's good creation.

We pray for the whole church, gathered in word and sacrament, in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, to continue to bring care and blessing to all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for wisdom, courage, and commitment to help restore your good creation, that clean water, air, and the fruits of the earth are available for future generations. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for nations suffering from oppression, war, and economic uncertainty. Raise up leaders who will work for peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our sisters and brothers who are hungry and thirsty, who need peace, who are persecuted, and all who need your healing touch through our hands, especially John, Robert, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our congregation's ministries, that we continue reaching out to our neighborhood and community to share the goodness you offer through Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our search for a new pastor. Guide our call committee and bishop, and give them wisdom to find a new shepherd for this flock. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all our faithful departed and the witness we see in their faithful lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and hopes, Good Shepherd, and bring us safely into all joy and peace, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN #426: *Sing with All the Saints in Glory*

(All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

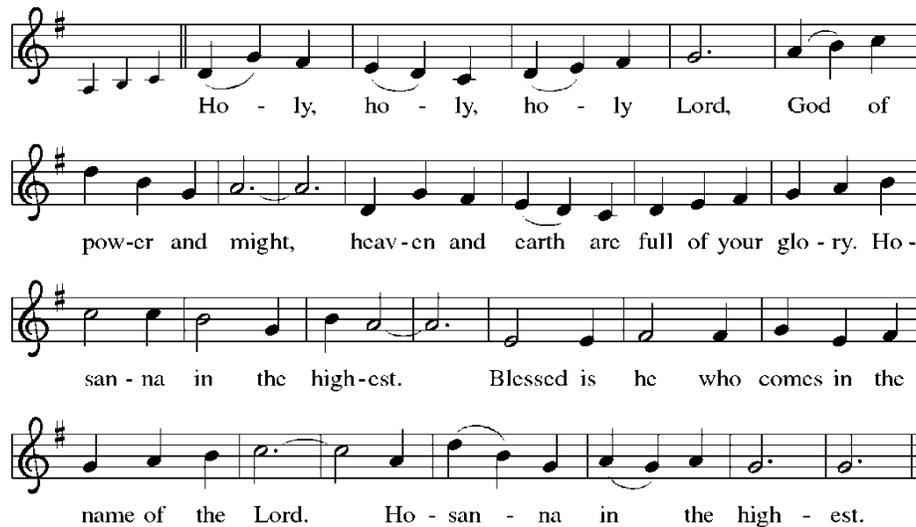
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 the 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 all the saints, with the choirs of angels and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
surrounded by evil and bordered by death
we appeal to you,
our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace
and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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,
the sacrifice of his life and death
and the victory of his resurrection,
we await with all the saints
his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine
and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son:
teach us your mercy and justice,
and make all things new in Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

***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

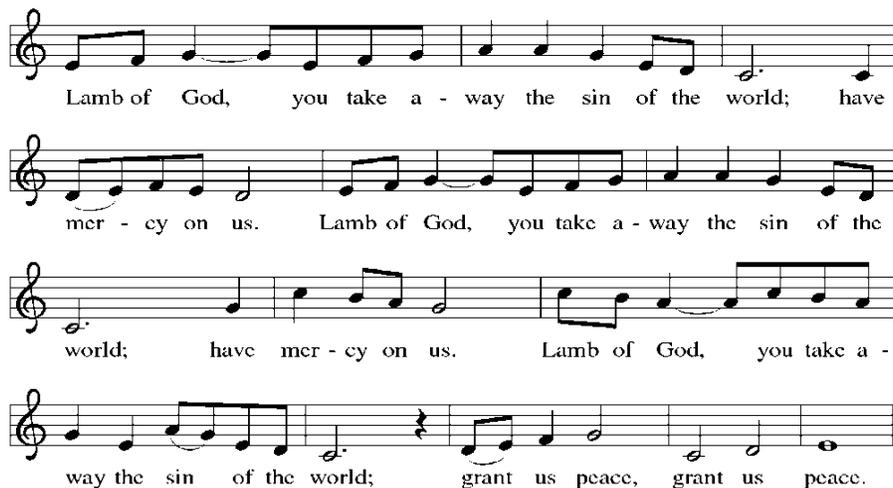
The reign of God is at hand.
Come, taste the joy prepared for you.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.

***COMMUNION SONG**



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

***COMMUNION HYMN #423: Shall We Gather at the River**

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

May you be strengthened by this meal of grace until all are one in the kingdom of heaven. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O God, the host at every meal, at this table you spread out a feast for all peoples, the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Send us from this banquet to invite others into these good things, to let justice roll down like waters, and to care for the least of our sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and our Savior.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #418: *Rejoice in God's Saints

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *For All the Saints* – Arthur Hutchings

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Dave Knauff
Communion Assistant:
Acolyte:
Lector:
Usher:
Attendance Last Week: 55
Weekly Budgeted Need: \$ 2,640.27
YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$110,891.31
YTD Actual Expense: \$105,091.85

10:30 am

Assisting Minister: Carolyn Jarrett
Communion Assistant:
Acolyte: Gio Sunseri
Lector: Cindy Knauff
Usher:
Attendance last year: 76
Last Week's Giving: \$ 1,714.00
Year to Date Receipts: \$115,893.50

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