



*When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."*

*~John 11:43-44*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**All Saints Day – November 1, 2015**

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Rev. Marcella 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 Day– November 1, 2015**

*Of all three years of the lectionary cycle, this year's All Saints readings have the most tears. Isaiah and Revelation look forward to the day when God will wipe away all tears; in John's gospel, Jesus weeps along with Mary and all the gathered mourners before he demonstrates his power over death. On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah's feast to come.*

**PRELUDE:** *Shall We Gather at the River* – Robert Hobby

#### **\*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***

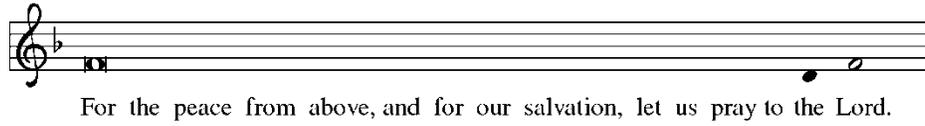
#### **\*GREETING**

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.**

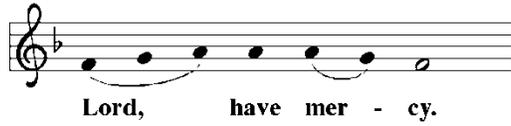
**\*KYRIE**



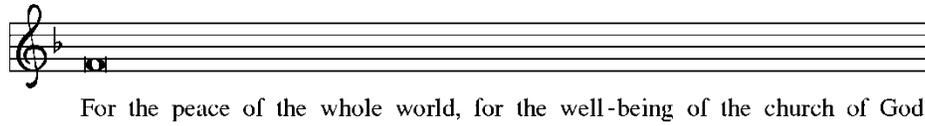
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



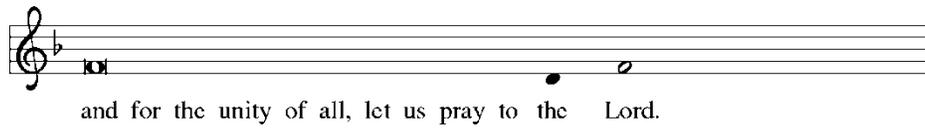
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



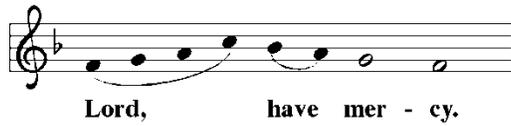
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



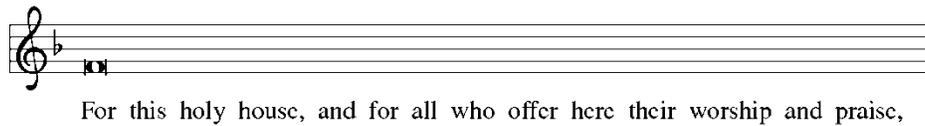
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



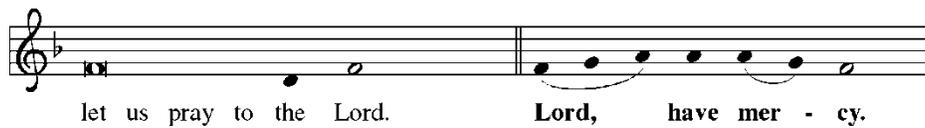
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



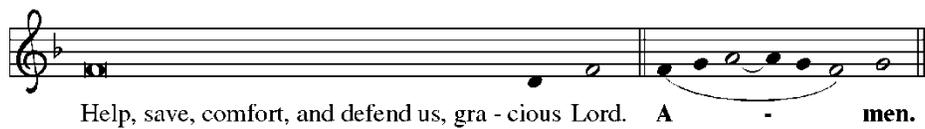
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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.**

**\*THIS IS THE FEAST**

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. | Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

**TEMPLE TALK:** *“The Saints Together”*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:6-9**

*Isaiah sees a vision of the end of days, when the Lord will gather all God’s people on God’s holy mountain and will prepare for them a rich feast. At this banquet the Lord will wipe the tears from all eyes. And there will be no more sorrow, for God will destroy death itself.*

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

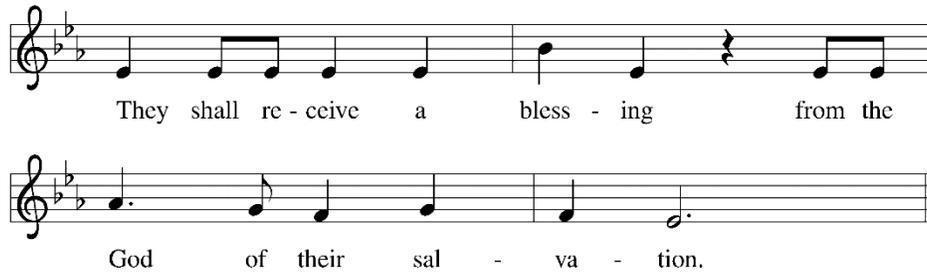
The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 24

*The cantor sings the refrain, and all repeat it.*



- <sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD's and all | that is in it,  
 the world and those who | dwell therein.
- <sup>2</sup>**For the LORD has founded it up- | on the seas  
 and established it up- | on the rivers.** R
- <sup>3</sup>Who may ascend the mountain | of the LORD,  
 and who may stand in God's | holy place?
- <sup>4</sup>**Those of innocent hands and puri- | ty of heart,  
 who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by | what is false.**
- <sup>5</sup>They shall receive blessing | from the LORD  
 and righteousness from the God of | their salvation.
- <sup>6</sup>**Such is the generation of those who seek | you, O LORD,  
 of those who seek your face, O | God of Jacob.** R
- <sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- | lasting doors,  
 that the King of glory | may come in.
- <sup>8</sup>**Who is this | King of glory?  
 The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, might- | y in battle!**
- <sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- | lasting doors,  
 that the King of glory | may come in.
- <sup>10</sup>**Who is this | King of glory?  
 Truly, the LORD of hosts is the | King of glory.** R

**SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6a**

*Here is a vision of the new heaven and new earth in which God resides fully with God's people so that mourning, despair, and pain have been eradicated. These renewing words from the God who spans all of time are trustworthy and true.*

- <sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,  
 "See, the home of God is among mortals.  
 He will dwell with them;  
 they will be his peoples,  
 and God himself will be with them;  
<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
 Death will be no more;  
 mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
 for the first things have passed away."  
<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6a</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The cantor sings the Alleluias, and all repeat them.*



*Verse (cantor):* They are before the throne of God,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. (Rev. 7:15)

## \*GOSPEL READING: John 11:32-44

*Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

### SERMON

#### **\*HYMN OF THE DAY #629: *Abide with Me***

#### **\*REMEMBERING THE SAINTS**

In joyful expectation of the resurrection to eternal life,  
we remember this day those who have gone before us in faith and who now rest from their labors.

O God, our help in ages past  
and our hope for years to come:

**We give you thanks for all your faithful people  
who have followed the light of your word  
throughout the centuries into our time and place.**

God of life, we remember and give thanks for: Bud & Peg Hager, Bert & Jane Ann Bishop, Leona & Loyal Ferguson, Helen & Leland Hager, Agnes & Francis McKeon, Bert & Hazel Bishop Sr., David Bishop, Elizabeth Zimmerman, Valorie Daw, Mary Perry, Harold & Ruth Stang, Clara Mae Knauff, Bill Rinehart, Helen & Wilbur Kramer, Joy & Laverna Schlag, Bertha & James George, Neil & Edna Hopson, Raymond & Ethel Tully, John & Myra Igersheim, Dennis Igersheim, Whitey & JoAnn Richards, George Senka, John J. Closshey, John & Virginia Closshey, Josephine & George

Senka, Dorothy, Cliff, and Jeffrey Foster, William & Laura Hespenheide, Helen G. Dishong, Delbert K. Dishong, Daniel K. Dishong, Chris & Margaret Gurtner, Francis & Margaret Ward, Leslie Page, Jane Leksell, Wayne & Elizabeth Bailey, Julia Wolfram, Deni Arnold, Anna Hackworth, Nancy Schnelle, Wally Strabel, George & Sara Kerr, Clarence & Edith Strabel, Edwin Kerr, Charles & Anne Olescyski, Arthur & Agnes Pallan, Hank Tumpa, Otha & Hazel Robertson, Wesley & Nannie Gordon, Eugene Siembieda, Ryan Baker.

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**

United into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray with all God's saints for healing, wholeness, and peace in all the earth.

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of wisdom on Christian educators. Give them strength and boldness to teach your eternal truth. Grant them courage and grace to share the gospel. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of healing on endangered rainforests. Enrich the soil to nourish new growth. Plant seeds for new habitats and food. Reshape our relationship with your good creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of justice on our government officials. Equip politicians to lead our communities and nation in the care of all people and creation. Guide them as they write and defend policies. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of compassion on all who suffer: for Christians persecuted because of their faith, for children who are bullied, and for all we name before you now, especially Pastor Bob, Frieda, Jim, Raymond, Wanda Jean, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, David & Ellen, and all those we remember aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of restlessness on all who feel stuck in their lives. Stir up within them a vision of the life you are calling them to live. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of mercy on all who mourn. Comfort and renew your church as we remember the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us, whether they be friend or stranger. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your care, Alpha and Omega, we entrust all for whom we pray. Be with us now and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY HYMN: In Our Day of Thanksgiving**

*(Please stand and join in singing the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward.)*



Choir: In our day of thanks - giv - ing one psalm let us of - fer  
Choir: In the morn - ing of life, and at noon, and at eve - ning,  
Choir: These stones that have ech - oed their prai - ses are ho - ly,  
All: Sing praise, then, and thanks that God's love here has found them



for the saints who be - fore us re - ceived the re - ward;  
they were gath - ered to heav'n from our wor - ship be - low;  
and dear is the ground where their feet once have trod;  
whose jour - ney is end - ed, whose per - ils are past;



when the sha - dow of death fell up - on them we sor - rowed,  
but not till God's love at the font and the al - tar,  
yet here they con - fessed they were strang - ers and pil - grims,  
they be - lieved in the light; and its glo - ry is round them



but now we re - joice that they rest in the Lord.  
had clothed them with grace for they way they should go.  
and still they were seek - ing the cit - y of God,  
where the clouds of earth's sor - rows are lift - ed at last.

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

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 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 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**

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

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.  
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

**\*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**

Goodness is stronger than evil.  
Life is stronger than death.  
Taste the goodness and life of God.

*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**

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

*Please bring your Time & Talent sheets forward as you come up for Holy Communion, and place them in the basket in the aisle.*

**COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God***

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.

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

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

**Amen.**

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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 OF TIME AND TALENTS**

Almighty God,  
your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts.  
Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ  
in lives that are built on faith and love.  
As we give of our time and talents,  
make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will,  
so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The love of God who created you,  
the mercy of + Jesus Christ who died for you,  
and the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you,  
keep you at one with all the faithful, living and departed,  
and remain with 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**

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**The flowers this week are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for all the saints, past and present.**

**8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Kelly Greb  
**Communion Assistant:**  
**Acolyte:**  
**Usher:** Matt Claus  
**Attendance Last Week:** 84  
**Weekly Budgeted Need:** \$ 2,755.44  
**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$115,728.58  
**YTD Actual Expense:** \$109,064.91

**10:30 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Martha Ward  
**Communion Assistant:** Jim Ward  
**Acolyte:**  
**Usher:** Jim Hager  
**Attendance Last Year:** 66  
**Last Week's Giving:** \$ 1,205.00  
**YTD Receipts:** \$114,509.80

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*In Our Day of Thanksgiving* – text by William Henry Draper, music by Richard Strutt.