

AUGUSTANA
where Lutherans and Anglicans worship together

All Saints Sunday November 1, 2020

Welcome to worship. ...

Thanks to worship assistant Tannis Sharp, musicians Deb Buck and choir members, tech people Bryan and Greg.

GATHERING SONG "For All the Saints" # 422 verses 1-3

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!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

GREETING

As we begin our time of worship we ask that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us.

GLORY TO GOD

Cantor: Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father. We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated on the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.]

CHILDREN'S TIME

- My fortune teller
- I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands. Isaiah 49
- God says, "I know you by name and my presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." Exodus 33

- I am convinced that nothing shall separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
Romans 8
- God's love was revealed by sending Jesus. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us. 1 John 4

PRAYER OF THE DAY God of all holiness, in your realm of glory, those who are poor now will receive the kingdom those who are hungry now will be filled, and those who weep now will laugh and leap in joy. Strengthen us by this vision, so that, with the saints before us, we may bring near your justice and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

O God of pilgrim journeys, we remember those who have accompanied us on our way ...

... **we give you thanks**

For the blessing they brought to our lives ...

... **we give you thanks**

May both our joy and sorrow be shared so that we may know your comfort

... **comfort all who mourn**

Hold all your saints – in life and in death – in your care. We remember our family members who, in death, are now in your care

In the connections of family and friends and shared laughter we remember

Georgina Krenn

In the wonder and curiosity of the world around him we remember

Paul Freitag

In the completion of work done well and the warmth of a mitten we remember

Lyle Kreiter

In the comfort of music and worship and counsel we remember

Caron Parke

In the sound and comfort of joyous laughter and love we remember

Mary Burrows

In the love of family, sport and furry family we remember

Craig Ulmer

In the joy of family, friends, and neighbours we remember

Jennie Sukut

In the beauty of the world around us and the love of family we remember

Larry Kaminski

In the amazing love and wisdom celebrated and condensed in life we remember

Shane Johnson

In friendships and faith remembered we remember

Doris Listoe

We also light a candle to remember also those who have died in this past year and we were not able to gather at their funeral or memorial service

And finally we light a candle for all those who have gone on ahead of us.

We will take a brief time to remember ... to give thanks to forgive ... to seek forgiveness ... to acknowledge the significance of their impact on our lives.

READINGS

A reading from First John Chapter 3:1-3

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. 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. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Word of God Word of life. Thanks be to God

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew chapter 5:1-12. Glory to you O Lord

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

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

`Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

`Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

`Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

`Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

`Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

`Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

`Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

`Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Praise to you, O Christ

MEDITATION

Music – I love music, not just listening to it but I love being part of it ... in the choir. I have been a member of choirs my whole. Singing a part in the choir, accompanying the choir, ringing bells in the choir. Music, for me, has been about being part of a community

All saints is about being children of God ...a community of faith ... you could say it is like being in the choir ... not sitting on the sideline watching others but actively being

part of the community. And in this choir that is a community of faith there are a multitude members. Some of the choir members are still beside me, but some are missing. Their voices missing, but not really – they are still with me, part of me, the blessing they brought to life is still very real to me.

Who are the blessed members of the choir? There are the big names: Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Rebekah, Jacob & Leah & Rachel; Joseph; Moses & Aaron & Miriam, Joshua & Rahab; Samuel & David, the prophets, the 12 disciples of Jesus, Mary & Joseph.

But there are also all the other members of the choir ... the Sunday school teachers, the parents, the encouragers, all of you

John: ¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. ...²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. Children of God – members of the choir

And Jesus talks about being members of the choir in a different way: The blessed choir! And this is not a choir of headliners.

Poor in spirit; the mourners, the meek, those who try desperately to do the right thing. The ones who are either overlooked or seen as soft: the ones who forgive, who always look for the good in others, the ones who try to get along with others.

Not the "A" team. Maybe not even the "B" team. More the kind of people who get bullied in the wide world.

That's the choir ... that's our choir. And this is not an exclusive auditioned choir. No . We are the choir of the blessed that Jesus spoke about ... We are the children of God that John talked about

HYMN "Shall We Gather at the River" #423 v. 1, 3, 4

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angels feet have trod, with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God

REFRAIN: Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river, gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down; grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown, /refrain

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease; soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. .../refrain

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. *[pause]*

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us join hearts and voices together in prayer. Each short prayer will end with the words "Lord in your mercy" and you can make the prayer your own by responding "**hear our prayer.**"

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. We pray for Bishop Leslie Wheeler-Dame, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Yukon and the president, faculty, students, and staff of Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of every place, the universe proclaims your greatness from generation to generation. Bless the work of naturalists, conservationists, and ecologists who train our attention to the wonders of the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of every nation, guide all in leadership roles. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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. Be with the Iqbal and Wahid Alhamad families as they live in exile. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of every venture, grant us a caring spirit in the ministry of this congregation. Hold in your care all those in need of healing especially: Hannah, Marguerite, Bruce, Gloria, Logan, William, Marcus, Bishop Gomez, Brodie, Karin, Anthony, Robert, Curtis, Linda, Marci, Gayle, Evelyn, Lisa, Danielle, Inger, Anne Jane, Deanna, Ron, Marlene, Martha, for those who feel alone, and all those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts

(a pause to offer time to name others). May they know what love the Father has for them.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort all who grieve. In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

SENDING SONG "Doxology" # 885

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.