



November 1, 2020

ALL SAINTS' DAY

AS WE GATHER: On the Feast Day of All Saints', we pray that we would be numbered among those who rejoice in the blessings of the fuller presence of God in His eternal kingdom. With thankfulness, we recall those who have completed their earthly journeys in faith and who now rest from their labors. On this special day, we remember the blessed saints of times long past and those of recent times as well. As we think of their blessed state, we also rejoice that we, too, are among the blessed, living out our daily lives as the baptized children of God in this time and place. By God's grace in Christ, we have a promised place among the saints and can joyfully claim this day as ours!

In a world filled with death, war, and evil, how are we to face what feels like an unknowable future? What do we do with our anxiety regarding the days ahead? This 4-week series guide is based on the books of 1 and 2 Thessalonians and provides comfort and reassurance to those living in uncertain times. These letters discuss the future of Christ's Second Coming, and what believers should do while awaiting His return. Paul encourages believers to be prepared, to cling to the truth of what they have been taught, and to live responsibly in light of the future. How can we take these words to heart, and face the future without fear? We'll hear more about this through Paul's letter to believers in a similar circumstance.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #677, vs. 1,2,4,7,8 *"For All the Saints"*

(Please stand and face the processional cross as it enters the sanctuary.)

- 1 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!

- 2 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!
- 4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of Glory passes on His way.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of
 the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Revelation 14:13

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.
People: **Blessed indeed, that they may rest from their
labors.**

Pastor: They have washed their robes
People: **And made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

Pastor: The Lord takes pleasure in His people;
People: **He adorns the humble with salvation.**

Pastor: See what kind of love the Father has given to us,
People: **That we should be called children of God.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- Pastor: As we celebrate God's salvation and remember the cloud of witnesses who have gone before us, we are reminded that all saints, both living and dead, have led sinful lives. Even though we are God's children, what we will be has not yet appeared. We remain contaminated by sin and evil until Jesus returns. As we come before God, let us consider our sinfulness and ask God for His forgiveness. Heavenly Father,
- People: **We are all guilty and ashamed of our sinful thoughts, words, and actions. We have not always lived as Your children. We have often failed to seek peace. We have not been pure of heart. Forgive us, renew us, and bless us, so that we may rejoice and be glad to be counted as Your children.**
- Pastor: God has lavished His love upon us by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise again for us all. Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, will be our shepherd, and He will guide us to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from our eyes. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- People: **Amen. We are God's children, and ours is the kingdom of heaven. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE #676 vs. 1 *"Behold a Host Arrayed in White"*

- 1 Behold a host, arrayed in white,
Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright!
With palms they stand;
Who is this band
Before the throne of light?
These are the saints of glorious fame,
Who from the great affliction came
And in the flood
Of Jesus' blood
Are cleansed from guilt and shame.
They now serve God both day and night;
They sing their songs in endless light.
Their anthems ring
As they all sing
With angels shining bright.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical Body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

HANDBELL ANTHEM

“When the Saints Go Marching In”
(arr. Gregory Thomas)
Divine Ringers

FIRST READING

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹ And all the angels were standing 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 saying, “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, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ “Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

*¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE “For All the Saints” Miss Heidi

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord,^[a] that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THIRD READING

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

*⁵⁵“O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?”*

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Faithful in Uncertain Times...Faithful unto Death”
Pastor Jeff Schubert

HYMN OF THE DAY (Please stand)

#672

“Jerusalem the Golden”

- 1 Jerusalem the golden,
With milk and honey blest—
The promise of salvation,
The place of peace and rest—
We know not, oh, we know not
What joys await us there:
The radiancy of glory,
The bliss beyond compare!
- 2 Within those walls of Zion
Sounds forth the joyful song,
As saints join with the angels
And all the martyr throng.
The Prince is ever with them;
The daylight is serene;
The city of the blessed
Shines bright with glorious sheen.
- 3 Around the throne of David,
The saints, from care released,
Raise loud their songs of triumph
To celebrate the feast.
They sing to Christ their leader,
Who conquered in the fight,
Who won for them forever
Their gleaming robes of white.
- 4 O sweet and blessed country,
The home of God’s elect!
O sweet and blessed country
That faithful hearts expect!
In mercy, Jesus, bring us
To that eternal rest
With You and God the Father
And Spirit, ever blest.

CREEDAL STATEMENT

Pastor: But we do not want you to be uninformed,
brothers, about those who are asleep, that you
may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

People: For since we believe that Jesus died and rose
again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring
with him those who have fallen asleep.
(1 Thess. 4:13-14)

REMEMBRANCE OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Pastor: In joyful expectation of the resurrection to life eternal, we remember before the Lord our departed family and friends who have gone before us in faith.

Theodore Batterman

Carol Brueser

Courtney DeValk

Ruth Gresley

Lois Kagerah

Gloria Nelson

Mills Perry

Michael Peters

LeRoy Schuman

Russell Witt

Pastor: Almighty God, we remember with thanksgiving those who loved and served You in Your Church on earth and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joy of Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, in this world we are often overwhelmed by the difficulties of life, yet You have promised that in Your heavenly kingdom there will be no more hunger or thirst, no more scorching heat, and no more tears. Strengthen us to keep turning to You in the midst of struggle. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, death remains a curse until Christ comes again. On this All Saints' Day, we remember all who have died in the faith. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, this world is filled with power-hungry, prideful people who seek to rule the earth without any thought of You or care for Your creation. Keep us faithful to Your kingdom so that we do not run after the false gods of power and prestige. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, send healing to all who are sick, injured, and recovering. Also, Lord, encourage those who struggle to belong in our society. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, as our nation approaches Election Day on November 3rd, may Your people cast their vote for the candidate that is most closely aligned with Your Holy Word. Guide our election process so that Your Holy Will may be accomplished. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, protect those who cannot protect themselves, including the unborn, all children, the elderly, and those with disabilities. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, break and hinder the plans of Satan, for he always seeks division, war, and conflict in this world. Raise up those who will work for reconciliation and harmony. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Amen! Blessing
People: and glory

Pastor: and wisdom
People: and thanksgiving

Pastor: and honor
People: and power

Pastor: and might
People: be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

Pastor: 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.
People: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

#670, vs. 1,4

"Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"

- 1 Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
Raise the glad strain: "Alleluia!"
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, pow'rs,
Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs:
"Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"
- 4 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!"

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Lay Readers:

8:00AM: Nancy Niedziela

10:30AM: Brad Baker

Acolytes:

8:00AM: Nolan Walsh & Sam Schneider

10:30AM: Preston Manthei & Jackson Menzel

Crucifers:

8:00AM: Jacob Plopper

10:30AM: Grant Manthei

Sound:

8:00AM: Emily Sternemann

10:30AM: Amelia Sitzberger