

ALL SAINTS' DAY 2020 November 1, 2020

AS WE GATHER... There are different types of hope. The hope some people have is no more than wishful thinking. Others rely on their own plans and intellect to provide a measure of hope during times of difficulty. But for those of us who have been blessed with the gift of faith in our Lord Jesus, hope is sure. For His sake, our heavenly Father has forgiven all our sins and now calls us His own children, brothers and sisters of our Lord. We shall join those who have gone before us to sing God's eternal praises!

WELCOME

OPENING SONG: "For All the Saints"

(recorded on October 10)

For all the saints who from their labors rest All who by faith before the world confessed, Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest, Alleluia! Alleluia!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might; You, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; You, 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 within your great design. Alleluia! Alleluia!

But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: The saints triumphant rise in bright array; The King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

CALLING ON GOD

- L: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- L: Today we celebrate All Saints' Day, on which we give thanks "for all the saints who from their labors rest," those who have gone before us in faith. By definition, a saint is anyone looked on as holy by God, and we who have faith in Christ here on earth are already declared by God to be His saints. Indeed, He calls us His children. Knowing the eternal "end of the story" give us hope in our daily walk through life. That hope is summarized in today's short Epistle reading.

EPISTLE: I John 3:1-3

See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,^[a] we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

- L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.
- L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

~Silence for reflection~

- L: Most merciful God,
- C: We confess that we are in bondage 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 neighbors as ourselves. 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.

L: God, our heavenly Creator, hears the prayers of all people and answers those prayers. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the person and work of Jesus Christ, who died for our sin that we might have new life. By the command of Jesus, I forgive you all of your sins—in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You deigned to call all people who trust in Your Son for salvation Your own children. Strengthen our faith so that we pass through each day confident that the hope You have given us shall not fail, and we shall see You face-to-face in eternity; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

GOSPEL:

Matthew 5: 1-12

- Blessed are the poor in spirit. READER 1: Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. He said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
- READER 2: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- READER 1: Blessed are those who mourn,
- READER 2: for they will be comforted.
- READER 1: Blessed are the meek,
- READER 2: for they will inherit the earth.
- READER 1: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
- READER 2: for they will be filled.

READER 1: Blessed are the merciful,

READER 2: for they will be shown mercy.

READER 1: Blessed are the pure in heart,

READER 2: for they will see God.

- READER 1: Blessed are the peacemakers,
- READER 2: for they will be called children of God.
- READER 1: Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
- READER 2: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- READER 1: "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad,
- READER 2: because great is your reward in heaven,
- READER 1: for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

READER 1: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,

Born of the virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, The holy Christian Church, The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body, And the life + everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each portion of the prayers, these words are spoken:

L: Lord, in your mercy

C: hear our prayer

L: In joyful expectation of the resurrection to eternal life, we remember before our Lord our departed family and friends who have gone before us in faith and all who are in our hearts and minds this day.

Doris & Del Starr Jim & Lorraine Roosa Dennis Starr May Hood Joel Bond **Diane Liljestrand** Merle Woods Marvin Wigle Wayne Groves Ivan Hagen David Hagen Sabine Miner Harry Lukens Helen Madeline Lukens Ronald Lukens Mark Ferral Natalie Kay Tate

Frankie Reininger Alma Abele James & Laura Nave Laura Nave Allen Nave Sandy Jurkowski Ray Dusek Neoma (Naomi) Marshall Tenille Holroyd Grace & Alvin Ivers Larry Griffith Paul Maier IdaFay Curtis May Hood

- L: 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.
- C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

- L: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.
- L: 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.

C: Amen.

<u>CLOSING SONG: "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"</u> (recorded on June 12th, 2020)

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> All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed: Without our aid He did us make; We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore, From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.

