All Saints Weekend



Blessed Are . . .



2024 Saints of Faith Lutheran Church

We will remember...

Ann Bandelean Fred Bobberts Hilmi Butun Robert Claus Kim Cooley

Benjamin Cronin † Karen Doerr Susan Dunn † Jerry Edelman † Ralph Esposito George Fotis † Dave Hallberg † Karl John Harring Laurie Harvey † Marlene Hoffman † Paul Johnston

> Matthew Roger Maurer George "Jim" McKay

> > Linda Mullin

John Munro

Bill Musser

Bob Ortmann

Phil Parisi

Richard Pawlak

Dell Pooler

Paul Wendling

AS WE GATHER

Today is bittersweet. Bitter, because some of us will be remembering someone we love who died recently, and we are still grieving. Yet sweet, because that loved one was also loved by God, redeemed by Jesus, and lives in that place Jesus went ahead to prepare. We grieve, as Paul says, but not "as others do who have no hope" (1 Thessalonians 4:13). We also hear the words of Jesus in the Beatitudes, where Jesus blesses people not usually considered blessed: the poor in spirit, the mourning, the meek, peacemakers, the persecuted. The broken circumstances of your life do not define you entirely; Jesus defines you as blessed because He has taken hold of you in love and mercy and will never let you go. Blessed are you.

PRELUDE

"Improvisations on a Hymn"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY (The congregation stands at the ringing of the bell.)



INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins

unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

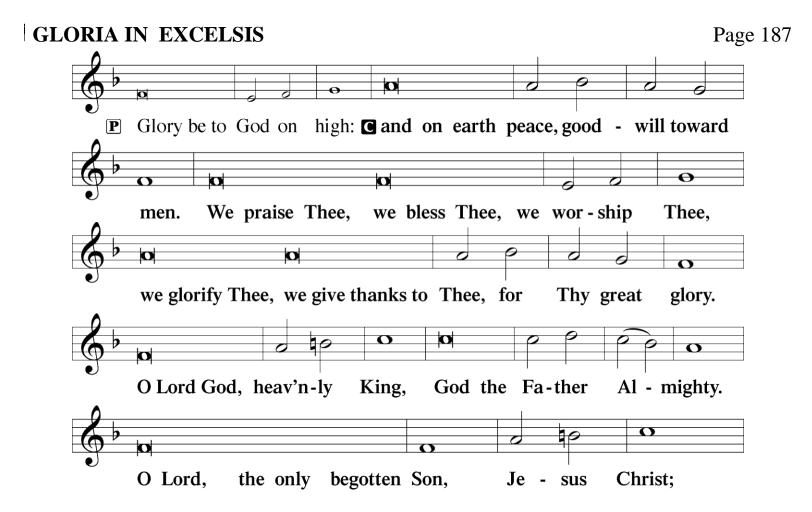
Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

The Service of the Word





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Pastor: Let us pray. Inspire us, God of the ages, by the lives of men and women of faith from times past. Help us to learn from their witness, to honor their contributions to our heritage, and to consider their examples as we follow Jesus Christ, our leader and our master, in our generation. In His abiding name, we pray.

People: Amen.

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, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 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, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" 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. 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. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For 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."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-3

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.





HOLY GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

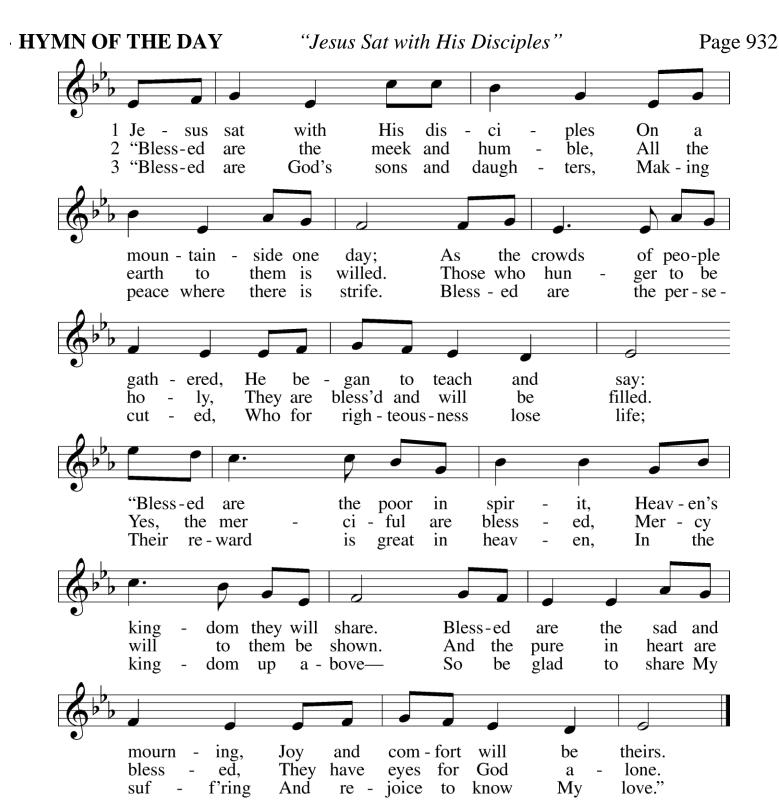


Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, He went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him. And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others 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 so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."







SERMON

"Who Is Your Neighbor?"
Pastor Bradford Hildebrandt

Text: *Mark 12:28-37*

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

Prayer Requests: Please print prayer requests on the blue "Prayer" card and hand it to an usher during this time.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Bound for Glory"

Alex Gartner

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

The Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

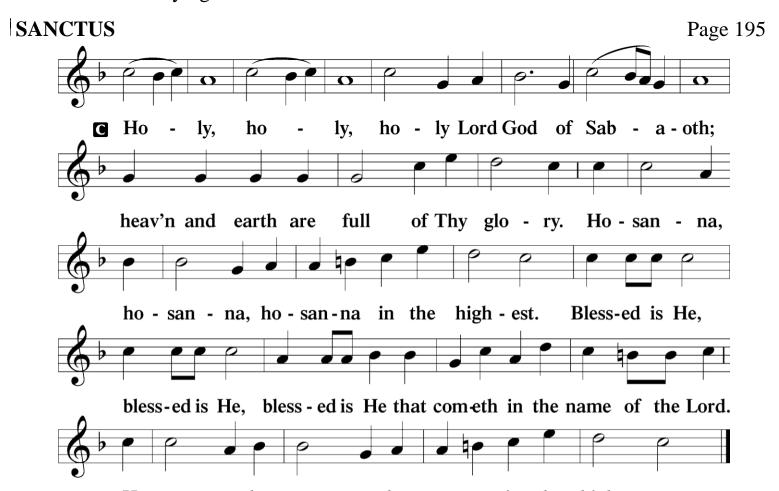
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor:

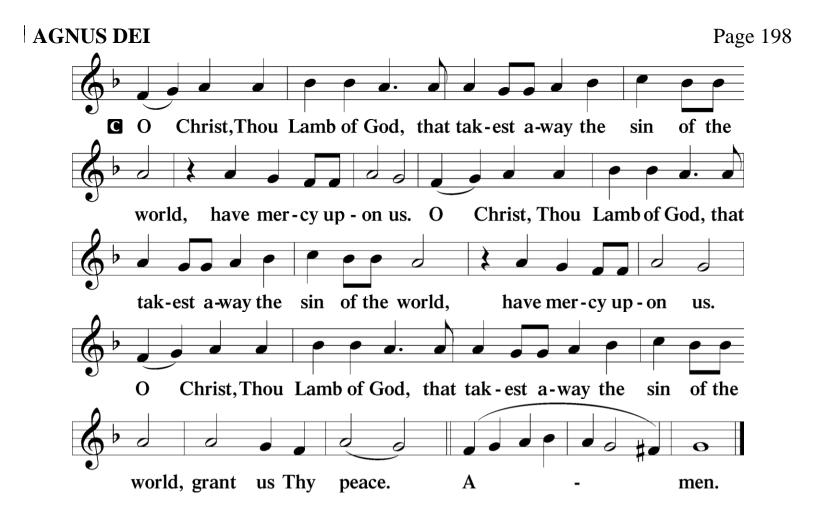
It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.



DISTRIBUTION

(Please review our statement of faith inserted into the front of the hymnal.)

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless You and keep you; the LORD make His face shine

on you and be gracious to you; the LORD look on you in favor and +

give you peace.

People: Amen.



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POSTLUDE

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