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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

> ALL SAINTS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2020

NOVEMBER 1, 2020 ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through + Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones (ELW 424) Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones



Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858–1945 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623 Outside USA: Text from The English Hymnal, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE 99101033 and refrain

Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

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.

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

A reading from Revelation.

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

(Read responsively between men and women, beginning with the men)

¹I will bless the LORD at all times; the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth. ²I will glory | in the LORD; let the lowly hear | and rejoice. ³Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD; let us exalt God's | name together. ⁴I sought the LORD, who | answered me and delivered me from | all my terrors. ⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant, and let not your faces | be ashamed. ⁶I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me and saved me from | all my troubles. ⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD and de- | livers them. ⁸Taste and see that the | LORD is good; happy are they who take ref- | uge in God! ⁹Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD, for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing. ¹⁰The lions are in want and | suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good. ²²O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,

and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

A reading from 1 John.

¹See 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.

²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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



Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Pastor Bill

HYMN OF THE DAY Sing with All the Saints in Glory (ELW 426) Sing with All the Saints in Glory



in God's like - ness we a - wak - en, know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace. Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e-ter - nal gates. when, a - mid earth's clos-ing thun-ders, saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

Text: William J. Irons, 1812–1883, alt. Music: MISSISSIPPI, William Bradley Roberts, b. 1947 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again: he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (*Please respond.*) *P: Hear us, O God.* **C: Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 (______ and) all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

COMMUNION

Continuous – Please continue down center aisle at direction of the usher, maintaining your distance and keeping your mask on. Move your mask to eat the bread and drink the wine. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Return to your seat with your mask on.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! (MARION) (ELW 873) Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt. Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

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DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor – Rev. Bill Nienstedt Home Phone Number: 717-264-3757 Email Address: <u>Pastor@solomonslutheran.org</u> Church Office Email Address: <u>office@solomonslutheran.org</u>
Organist – Doug Mummert Head Usher – Kathy Bowen Acolyte – Sam Nienstedt Lector – Katy Nienstedt Lector – Katy Nienstedt
Communion Clean-up – Kathy Bowen, Carole Darr Attendance last Sunday – 65

Stewardship Thought – November 1, 2020 (All Saints Sunday)

"I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth." –**Psalm 34:1**

Today we begin our culture's month of thanksgiving by giving thanks for the lives of the saints now at rest. This week spend time thanking God for those who have helped form your faith and encouraged your discipleship walk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for Sally Gayman's 30 years of service as Solomon's Administrative Assistant. You have been a blessing to all of us! The Nienstedt Family.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Today is *All Saints Sunday:* We give thanks for those in generations past who have been examples for God's love at work in the world. In our prayers, we know that we are surrounded by this great cloud of witnesses. Today we especially remember *Helen Hess, Marvin McKenzie, Bob Shreiner, Ferd Bikle III, Jay Hunter,* and *Curt Shreiner,* disciples of Solomon's who died in this past year. Yet, even as we name these disciples, we thank God for others we never knew or have forgotten, who showed us the meaning of life in Christ. And we remember that we are living saints, called through our baptism to proclaim the gospel in our world today.

Prayer requests for the following persons: *the family and friends of Curt Shreiner, Joan and David Likeness, Nancy Marshall, Lee Locke, Barbara Socks, Darrell Veilleux, Denise Bowen, Jack Hess, Sylvia Wenger, Patsy Wagner, Anne English, Bill Sellers, Millie Kulkusky, Karen Sanders, Jackson, Bonnie Hudson. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire.* **Note:** At the beginning of each month, the Prayer Request List will start anew. If you would like to remain listed on the next month's list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.

Child Protection/Background Checks: You paperwork is due today! Please give to Sally Gayman or Zoe Mummert.

Power Packs: With school back in session, <u>the Power Packs program has now resumed</u>. Currently, eight families have been identified at New Franklin Elementary School in need of food assistance. You can donate vegetable or fruit cups like last year. Donations of cash are also welcome if you are unable to shop or attend church due to the pandemic.

Candy Making: It's the return of candy making at Solomon's! We will be working on Monday, Nov. 9th, Tuesday, Nov. 10th and Wednesday, Nov. 11th. We will set-up on Sunday Nov. 8th. Please sign-up to help make candy! At 6:30 a.m. we need people to stir chocolate during the melting process. At 8:00 a.m. we need volunteers to dip chocolate into paper cups. Call Sally Gayman at the Church (717-267-2266) or her cell (717-360-2223) or Zoe Mummert (717-267-1777). Please leave a message with dates and times you can help. You can also email Zoe at zoem@kenshadle.com. We will have stations spaced throughout the gym in small groups. You will need to wear a mask, gloves and hat/hairnet. (Gloves and hairnets will be provided. Bring your own mask and hat.) Pick-up dates will be Saturday Nov. 14th between 10 am and 12:00 pm and Sunday Nov. 15th after Church. **Please note:** If Pennsylvania shuts down again because of Covid-19, we will have to cancel this event and all orders. We will send out a notice to everyone. Thank you for your help and support.

Thanksgiving Worship Service

Sunday, November 22nd at 9:30 a.m.

We will celebrate Thanksgiving and give thanks to God for all our blessings in Sunday worship on this day. We will bring them forward with the offering and the communion elements as a visible sign of God's abundant gifts.

Annual Fall Congregational Meeting—There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, November 22nd, immediately following the morning worship service. The congregation will elect members to the church council as well as vote on a 2021 operational budget recommended by the church council.

NOVEMBER 1, 2020 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

God promises glory and peace forevermore.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The beatitudes
Monday	Revelation 7:9-17	God will wipe away tears
Tuesday	1 John 3:1-3	Our hope in God
Wednesday	Joshua 3:7-17	Crossing over the Jordan River
Thursday	Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Friday	John 11:17-27	The resurrection and life
Saturday	Psalm 34:1-10, 22	Honor the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 25:1-13	A parable of the ten bridesmaids

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"[F]or the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." Revelation 7:17 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, we thank you for joining us to the saints throughout the ages through our shepherd, Jesus Christ the Lamb of God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food as we taste and see that you are good. Amen. (Psalm 34:8)

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord of glory and honor and power and might bless you now and forever more. (Revelation 7:12)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell or think about someone who has died and who was a loving gift to you.
- Describe or think about what being a saint means to you.
- What is your vision of heaven and how is that important to your daily life?

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Behold the Host Arrayed in White



DEVOTIONS

Read: Revelation 7:9-17.

The seer of this heavenly vision allows us to imagine the future of loved ones who have died, especially those who have shaped our own lives of faith with their living witness. Most likely they did not experience the kind of persecution envisioned in Revelation, but all lives know the pain and turmoil of daily struggles. In the end, what remains of their—and our—sufferings and disappointments are swept up in a larger reality, one that sees the Lamb at the center. This is Christ, our shepherd, who suffered and died and through whose blood our lives are purified that we all may stand before the throne of God. The truth of the reign of God through the Good Shepherd is that all our sorrows will be wiped away. We look to a future where there are no more tears, no more sadness to overcome. Yes, there is a great victory in life, it is the victory of the Lamb who was slain and now begins his reign of "[b]lessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and power and might . . . to our God forever and ever! Amen" (v. 12). How does this text give you comfort for loved ones who have died? How does it bring comfort for your own life?

Pray: Almighty and living God, we thank you for the promise of life and love and peace for all the saints—past, present, and future—through Christ our shepherd. Amen.

SERVICE

In the Bible, we learn about the disciples, the first followers of Jesus. They are set apart by God to witness to Christ and are called saints. All Christians are saints. In what ways do you witness to Christ through acts of service to others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

All Saints Day is a time to remember all the saints in our lives, both the living and the dead. Take a white, plastic tablecloth, cover the table with it, and write on the tablecloth the names of those who have blessed your life. Place a candle in the center. Light the candle and pray: **Dear God, thank you for the witnesses who have touched my life with faith, love, and hope. I thank you for (read the names) through Christ, the Lamb of God. Amen.**