

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**New Castle, IN**  
**November 1, 2020**  
**All Saints Day, Year A**

### **Introduction to the 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.

*Welcome in the name of Jesus! As we gather around word and sacrament as the people of God, we gather to bear communal witness to Jesus Christ, crucified and risen for the life of the world. As the world continues to be in the grip of the global COVID-19 pandemic, we remember in prayer those who are sick and those on the frontlines of the pandemic who care for the sick.*

*As part of our communal witness, the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church council has passed the following guidelines and code of conduct that will frame our gathering for worship as the people of God. As we gather for worship this day, our actions in relation to these guidelines and code of conduct are an important part of this communal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ—witness that is grounded in the love of God and love of our neighbor.*

*Please take time before worship to review these guidelines. In particular, please note that it is extremely important that we follow social distancing guidelines and that face coverings are worn over your nose and mouth at all times while in the building.*

*Thank you for your presence here today, and for bearing this important witness in our world at this time, for Jesus' sake.*

### **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Guidelines for In-person Worship**

**“Love your neighbor as yourself.”**

The following of these guidelines during our in-person gathering IS loving your neighbor.

- All individuals over the age of 65 or who have an underlying health risk, are encouraged to view worship online from home
- 6' of personal space will be expected in the entrance, the Narthex, the steps to the Sanctuary, on the pews, and in the restrooms.
- Masks will be worn by adults while in the church and during worship
- Bulletins will be placed directly on the pews
- Offering will be placed in the plates that will be set by the doors to the sanctuary

- Posters will be placed as reminders of personal hygiene practices
- Restroom doors will remain open, water fountain will be closed
- Children should remain with an adult at all times; materials for children need to be brought from home
- Dismissal will be directed by the Pastor

### **Code of Conduct**

**Do not attend church activities when you are feeling ill or running a fever.**

**Avoid close contact with non-family members:**

-Maintain 6 feet distance from non-family members.

-Do not shake hands or touch non-family members.

**Wash your hands:**

-Wash your hands often with soap and water. Wash for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

-If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

-Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.

**Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.**

**Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others:**

-Wear cloth face mask when indoors and other people are present.

### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

### **PRELUDE**

For All the Saints—SINE NOMINE by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Arranged by John Innes. © 1991 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

For All the Saints, verse 4. William W. How (1823-1897)

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## GATHERING RITE FOR ALL SAINTS

The festival of All Saints occurs just as the landscape in the Northern Hemisphere heralds the dying of plants and the quiet of winter rest. In like manner, the readings and liturgy of this day call us to rejoice in all the saints: those who have died and now rest in Christ, those who live now, and those yet to come.

As the church year draws to a close, we hear warnings about the end of time, stories of crisis and judgment, and parables of loss and death. The Christian community speaks honestly about human frailty and mortality. At the same time, we confess our faith in the risen Lord, in the communion of saints, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. While both life and death may bring us fear and uncertainty, the liturgy calls us to hear the Lord's promise that he is with us in life and in death. Christ has claimed us in baptism and nourishes us in the communion of his body and blood. Christ leads us to the new Jerusalem. There we shall join all the saints in praise of God, who has turned our graves into the doorway to eternal life.

*The assembly is invited to stand.*

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.  
**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The ushers will walk down the middle aisle, lighting the individual candles for those sitting on the aisle. Please then share the light with those seated next to you in your row. During this time, please observe silence.*

## **Remembrance of All Saints**

Let us remember all the saints before God.

*Those in the assembly are invited to name aloud those saints they remember on this day.*

We praise and bless you, O holy Trinity. You have taught your church that it is an ageless communion of saints. We thank you for gathering those who faithfully waited in hope for the redemption you promised, and now for adding us who celebrate the love of Christ for the redemption of the world. Prepare a place for us among those who are already with you. Help us remember them as an encouragement to saintly living, exciting us to love, in anticipation of an eternal reunion. With them we praise and bless you, O holy Trinity.

**Amen.**

Jesus says, Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;  
for I am gentle and humble in heart,

**and you will find rest for your souls.**

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

**And you will find rest for your souls.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

## **MUSIC MEDITATION**

In Memory—Jeanne Cotter. Copyright © 19990 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

This ethereal solo piano piece by Jeanne Cotter proclaims this moment of remembrance in musical form. The openness of the somber harmonies allows space for lament, while the sweeping middle section proclaims beauty and hope in the midst of this lament. As the people of God, as we remember the saints who have shaped our life, we grieve as people with hope—hope in the one who was crucified, died, and raised for the life of the world.

*Following the music meditation, please extinguish your candles.*

## **GREETING**

Beloved of God, called to be saints:  
Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **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.**

## **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### **FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17**

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>9</sup>After 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. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

<sup>11</sup>And 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, <sup>12</sup>singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup>I 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.

<sup>15</sup>For 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.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

<sup>17</sup>for 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.”

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22**

*The Psalm will be read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>I will bless the Lord| at all times;  
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>**I will glory | in the Lord;**  
**let the lowly hear | and rejoice.**

<sup>3</sup>Proclaim with me the greatness | of the Lord;  
let us exalt God’s | name together.

<sup>4</sup>**I sought the Lord, who | answered me**  
**and delivered me from | all my terrors.**

<sup>5</sup>Look upon the Lord| and be radiant,  
and let not your faces | be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup>**I called in my affliction, and | the Lord heard me**  
**and saved me from | all my troubles.**

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the Lord encamps around those who | fear the Lord  
and de- | livers them.

<sup>8</sup>**Taste and see that the | Lord is good;**  
**happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!**

<sup>9</sup>Fear the Lord, you saints | of the Lord,  
for those who fear the | Lord lack nothing.

<sup>10</sup>**The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**  
**but those who seek the Lord lack nothing | that is good.**

<sup>22</sup>O 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 reading from 1 John.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice 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**

## **MUSIC MEDITATION**

Blest Are They—David Haas. Arranged by Jeanne Cotter. Copyright © 1990 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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.

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. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every place, the universe proclaims your greatness from generation to generation. Bless the work of naturalists, conservationists, and park rangers who train our attention to the wonders of the world you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every nation, guide this country—red states and blue states, rural voters and urban voters, young and old—as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every venture, anoint us with the missionary spirit of the early church. Bless all new missions of our synod. Empower testimony from new communities of faith to shape a diverse witness to your saving power. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort us as we grieve those who have died. In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.**

## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **OFFERTORY**

*You are invited into a time of prayer and contemplation as we prayerfully consider how the gifts of our very selves, our time, and our financial resources can be given for sake of the mission of this congregation and the larger Church. Your offering of financial gifts may be placed in the trays just outside the entrance of the sanctuary. You may also give online by going to [www.holytrinitync.org](http://www.holytrinitync.org) and clicking on the button labeled "GIVE."*

*During this time, communion kits will be distributed.*

When Peace Like a River—Philip P. Bliss. Arranged by Jan Sanborn. © Copyright 2003 by Fred Bock Music Company. All rights reserved.

When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well  
with my soul  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Horatio G. Spafford (1828-1888)

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of all goodness,  
generations have turned to you,  
gathered around your table,  
and shared your abundant blessings.  
Number us among them  
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,  
and give thanks for your rich blessings,  
we may feast upon your very self  
and care for all that you have made,  
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.  
**Amen.**

## **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.**

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

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

With all the saints of Africa and Asia, India and the islands, Europe and the Americas,  
we praise you, O God, for you create the worlds.

With all the baptized, the old and the young, the weak and the strong, the famous and  
the forgotten,

we bless you, O God, for you provide us with water and food.

With all the faithful in cities and on farms, in mansions and huts, past and present,  
we worship you, O God, for you shelter the generations.

With all your holy people, those who ministered in the church, those who served the  
poor,

and all who walked the way of the cross,

we glorify you, O God, for in Jesus you journeyed with us on earth.

With Paul and the evangelists, we remember the meal of your Son:

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took break, and gave thank 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.

With Peter and all the martyrs, we honor Christ's death, saying Amen. **Amen!**

With Mary Magdalene and all the apostles, we proclaim his resurrection, shouting  
Amen. **Amen!**

With John and all the theologians and mystics, we look for his returning, pleading  
Amen. **Amen!**

With the Virgin Mary and all who sang of your greatness,

we pray for the power of the Spirit.

Visit this gathering, this bread and this cup,

with the presence of the body and blood of Christ.

Form us into a communion of service,

and infuse your earth with the wholeness we seek.

With grandparents and godparents, with the church universal,  
lead us to a future we cannot yet see,  
and at the end draw all humanity to yourself.  
Now with all of the family you saved by your love,  
blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might, be to you, our God  
forever and ever  
**Amen!**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## **COMMUNION**

*Please carefully open your communion kits.*

*The presiding minister says:*

"The body of Christ, given for you."  
*(The communicant eats the bread.)*

"The blood of Christ, shed for you."  
*(The communicant drinks the wine.)*

## **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.**

## **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## **BLESSING**

May the God of all creation,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved,  
who strengthens us for service,  
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!  
The blessing of God,  
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,  
be with you today and always.  
**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

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

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