



**GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN**

November 3/4, 2018

ALL SAINTS

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us at God's house today. Please fill out the friendship folder located at one of the ends of your pew.

Restrooms are located in the fellowship hall which is located in the lower level of the building. Follow the signs or an usher can direct you.

Parent's Rooms are located off the gathering area right before you enter the sanctuary and also on the lower level of the building where there is a television broadcasting the service.

Children's Activity Bags intended for children ages 3-6 can be found in the Parent's Room hanging under the window.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

All Saints

The Festival of All Saints is November 1 and is generally overshadowed by the observance of Reformation Day on October 31. As we approach the end of all things and the great Day of Judgment, we want to make sure we have it all straight; the readings for this Sunday help us prepare by their careful description of what is to come, so that we will not fear as we look and long for the day of his appearing. Rather, clinging to his grace in Word and sacraments, we strive to live as those who know what to expect at the end of it all.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Jason C. Hacker
Presiding Minister

Mrs. Kathy Smith
Organ
Jubilate Handbells

Mrs. Beth Schroeder
Flute

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Readings -- The Holy Bible: The Evangelical Heritage Version

The readings are from a newly published translation of the Bible, called the Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV). For more information on the EHV, please visit www.wartburgproject.org.

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In consideration of those who are meditating prior to the service, please remain as silent as possible upon entering the Lord's house.

+ + +

HANDBELLS — How Can I Keep From Singing

Words and Music by Robert Lowry

Arr. By Sandra Eithum

Alfred Publishing, Inc. 2008

*My life flows in endless song, Above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far off hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm; While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, How can I keep from singing?*

*Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing; It sounds and echoes in my soul;
How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm; While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, How can I keep from singing?*

HYMN/RESPONSORY — #551 For All the Saints

Verses from Revelation 7

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit

Congregation: Amen.

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: **Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.**

Congregation sings after organ introduction:

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

- 2 You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;
 You, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight
 And in the darkness drear their one true light.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 3 Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold
 Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
 And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures.
 They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying:

**Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God
 forever and ever. Amen!**

Congregation sings without introduction:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
 We feebly struggle; they in glory shine,
 Yet all are one within your grand design.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> | <p>5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
 Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
 And hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> |
| <p>6 The golden evening brightens in the west;
 Soon, soon, to faithful warriors comes their rest.
 Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest,
 Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> | |

Stand

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8-9, John 20:19-23

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all un-
 righteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Almighty God, merciful Father,

I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.

In what I have done and left undone,

I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.

I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself.

For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.

I am truly sorry for my sins.

I repent of them.

I beg for your mercy, O Lord.

Brief silence

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

Cleanse me from my sins.

Release me from my guilt.

Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light.

Therefore, as a called servant in 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.

Amen.

Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes — who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come 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.

Never again will they hunger;

Never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat upon them,

Nor any scorching heat.

For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd;
He will lead them to springs of living water.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Congregation sings without introduction

- 7 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!**
- 8 From earth’s wide bounds to ocean’s farthest coast
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING — Daniel 12:1-3

Then at that time, Michael, the great prince who stands over your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress that has not happened from the first time that there was a nation until that time.

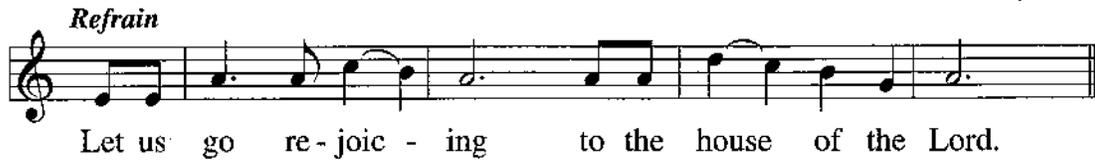
At that time your people will be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many who are sleeping in the dusty ground will awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame, to everlasting contempt. ³Those who have insight will shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who bring many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 84

Sing verses responsively



M: How lovely is your dwelling place,*
C: O LORD Almighty!

M: My soul yearns, éven faints,*
C: for the courts óf the LORD.

M: Blessed are those who dwell in your house; *
C: they are ever práising you.

Refrain

M: Better is one day in your courts*
C: than a thousand élsewhere;

M: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house óf my God*
C: than dwell in the tents of the wícked.

M: O LORD Almighty,*
C: blessed are they who trúst in you.

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND READING — Hebrews 10:11-18

¹¹In the one case, every priest stood ministering day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which are never able to remove sin. ¹²In the other case, this priest, after he offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God. ¹³Since then he has been waiting until his enemies are made a footstool under his feet. ¹⁴By only one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵The Holy Spirit also testifies in Scripture to us, for first he said:

¹⁶This is the covenant I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord.
I will put my laws on their hearts
and I will write them on their mind.

¹⁷Then he adds:

And I will not remember their sins and their lawlessness any longer.

¹⁸Now where these sins are forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Stand

VERSE OF THE DAY

Hebrews 12:1-2

Alleluia! Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses
Let us look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Alleluia!

GOSPEL -- John 5:25-29

The Gospel according to St. John, chapter 5.

Glory be to you, O Lord!

²⁵“Amen, Amen, I tell you: A time is coming and is here now when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who listen will live. ²⁶For just as the Father has life in himself, so also he has granted the Son to have life in himself. ²⁷And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.

²⁸“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice ²⁹and will come out. Those who have done good will rise to live, but those who have practiced evil will rise to be condemned.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN — #212 Jerusalem, Thou City Fair and High

SERMON

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Apostles' Creed as early as the second century as the "baptismal" creed; the basics of the Christian faith.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

**The original text here reads "catholic," a word meaning "universal." The Church consists of all believers in heaven and on earth, of every time in history*

Be seated

OFFERING

Sunday only

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Visitors should not feel obligated to participate, but be comfortable in simply passing the plate.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, You have knit Your chosen people together into one communion in the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to Your whole Church in heaven and on earth Your light and Your peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with Him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in Your loving care, that casting all their sorrow on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to Your people who pass through difficult and trying times [*especially commending to Your care this day _____*]. Give them relief according to Your will and strength to meet the challenges ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and final healing at the resurrection of the dead. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Remember in Your kindness all entrusted with civil authority among us, and give them wisdom, courage and integrity. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Raise up ever new servants of the Word, and strengthen and sustain those whom You have sent, that the good news of sin's forgiveness and death's defeat may bring everlasting joy to Your elect. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE SAINTS TRIUMPHANT

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 the faith and all those who are in our hearts and minds this day.

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.
And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God. (Job 19:25-26)

+ *Morris Johnson — December 12, 2017* +

I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes in him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned;
He has crossed over from death to life. (John 5:24)

+ *George Beck — December 14, 2017* +

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom..
I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise. (Luke 23:42-43)

+ *Betty Edwards — February 7, 2018* +

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;
And whoever lives and believes in me will never die. (John 11:25-26)

+ *Bonnie Siedlewski — February 23, 2018* +

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness. (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

+ *Kathleen Mouradian — April 5, 2018* +

Be faithful, even to the point of death.

And I will give you the crown of life. (Revelation 2:10)

+ *Jean Woyahn* — *July 28, 2018* +

For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord.

So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. (Romans 14:7-8)

+ *Elaine Waldo* — *August 23, 2018* +

Brief silence to remember others who have died in the Lord.

Almighty God, we remember with thanksgiving those who have 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.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

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 with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

HYMN — Sing with All the Saints In Glory

- 1 Sing with all the saints in glory
Sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,
To the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking.
Soon the storms of time shall cease.
In God's likeness we awaken,
Knowing everlasting peace.**
- 2 Oh, what glory far exceeding
All that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts for ages pleading
Never that full joy conceived.
God has promised, Christ prepares it,
There on high our welcome waits.
Ev'ry humble spirit shares it.
Christ has passed th' eternal gates.**
- 3 Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices:
Jesus lives who once was dead.
Shout with joy, O deathless voices!
Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh what wonders
Crowd on faith, what joy unknown.
When amid earth's closing thunders,
Saints shall stand before the throne!**



MEDITATION XLVIII

THE BLESSED COMPANIONSHIP OF ANGELS IN HEAVEN

Heaven is our Home!

“IN the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven” (Matt. 22:30). Where is the man who can fittingly set forth this blessed state of the redeemed in heaven? What human heart hath ever conceived of the things that God hath prepared for them that love Him (1 Cor. 2:9)? The elect of God, with bodies glorified at the resurrection, and with no more fear of death, and without a single stain or spot of corruption clinging to them, enjoy the beatific vision of God in heaven. “I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved” (Gen. 32:30), exclaimed the godly patriarch Jacob. And if only a momentary vision of God could produce such transports of joy, oh, what will be the eternal vision of God? If only a brief glimpse of God, as He appeared in human form, brought life and salvation to Jacob’s soul, surely when we see God face to face in heaven it will bring eternal life and unending blessedness to our souls. What more could be added to fill up the cup of blessedness in heaven? What more than this beatific vision of God could the redeemed ask or desire? And yet, in addition to all this, they will enjoy the sweet and blessed companionship of the angels of God; and more than this, they themselves shall be like the angels, in the activity of their celestial bodies, in their splendor, and in their immortality. We shall put on with them the same garments of holiness, and standing before the throne of the Lamb, clothed in white robes, we shall sing eternal anthems of praise to the Lord our God (Rev. 7:9). Crowns of glory like theirs shall adorn our brows, and in the same blessings of that immortal state we too shall rejoice. “We shall surely die, because we have seen God,” exclaimed Manoah (Judges 13:22). But there we shall see “thousand thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand” (Dan. 7:10) angels, and we shall live forever and ever.

And if we are to be like the angels in heaven, then we need no longer fear that in that holy place we shall ever by sin make ourselves unlike them. We shall put off the filthy rags of our sinful natures, and be clothed with the garments of salvation, with the white robe of holy innocence (Is. 61:10). In that blest abode troubles shall no longer oppress us, *angry* passions no more distress us, envy and hate no more distract us, foolish desires no more disturb us, and hurtful ambition no more inflame us. This load of sin shall there burden us no more, nor shall we be obliged there to lament the stains of sin with penitential tears, nor live in constant fear of its deadly wounds to our souls. For “the Lion of the tribe of Judah” (Rev. 5:5) hath conquered sin and Satan, and in His might shall we all prevail.

And if we shall be like the angels, then indeed shall we neither hunger nor thirst any more. God shall be the food of our souls, and in Him we shall be abundantly satisfied, nor shall He ever fail to refresh us with supplies of love and grace. Of the redeemed it is written: “They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters (Rev. 7:16, 17), and from them shall flow rivers of living water (John 7:38); and there shall be prepared a feast of fat things, a feast of wine on the lees (Is. 25:6). As we shall partake of that heavenly repast we shall shout aloud for very joy of heart. O blessed Lord Jesus, may all these joys that Thou hast promised us be fulfilled in us in spirit and in truth. Of the fruit of the vine shall we drink in Thy Father’s kingdom (Matt. 26:29,) but in spirit and in truth. The words which Thou hast spoken unto us they are spirit and they are life (John 6:63), and so in the language of this world Thou dost set forth the joys that await us in the future world.

And if we are to be like the angels, then surely we shall no longer fear death; “death will be swallowed up in victory” (1 Cor. 15:54); death shall be forever destroyed, and “the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces” (Is. 25:8). There, there, will be joy without sorrow, health without pain, life without toil, light without darkness; there our love will never grow cold, our joy never diminish, a groan of pain never be heard, grief never be experienced, no sadness ever be seen, and eternal gladness shall be our un-failing possession; there we shall have certain security, secure tranquillity, tranquil delight, delightful happiness, a happy eternity, an eternal blessedness, the blessed Trinity, the Triune unity, the unity of Deity, and the beatific vision of God. Be of good comfort, O my soul, and rise to a higher and higher appreciation of the honor that Christ hath conferred upon thee! We shall join the glorious company of angels and archangels, and be associated with rank on rank of heavenly intelligences, thrones and dominions, principalities and powers (Col. 1:16), and not only so, but we shall be like them also. There we shall come to know our guardian angel of this life, nor shall we be without its holy ministry there, but we shall be made glad by its blessed companionship; we shall no longer need its protecting care, but its society shall be a source of constant joy, and upon its heavenly splendor we shall gaze with clarified vision.

And if we shall be like the angels, then these frail, feeble and mortal bodies of ours shall be changed, and become spiritual bodies, active as the angels, and immortal. They shall shine with the very effulgence of the divine glory, because of their nearness to God, who dwells in a “light which no man can approach unto” (1 Tim. 6:16), and “who covereth Himself with light as a garment” (Ps. 104:2); and they shall be incorruptible, because they are like the angels, nay rather, because they shall be changed into the likeness of the glorified body of Christ (Phil. 3:21); they are sown here in corruption, they shall be raised in incorruption; they are sown in dishonor, they shall be raised in glory; they are sown in weakness, they shall be raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it shall be raised a spiritual body (1 Cor. 15:42–44); it shall shine as the brightness of the firmament forever (Dan. 12:3).

Come, O blessed Lord Jesus, O come and make us partakers of Thy heavenly glory.

Johann Gerhard — 1606



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