

Feast of All Saints  
Sunday, November 1, 2020  
Living Faith Lutheran Church, Davis Bay, BC

Preservice Music/Welcome/Announcements

**GATHERING**

Gathering Song #422 'For All the Saints", vv. 1-4

- 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 3 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 4 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!

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

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 faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**WORD**

*The response to "Word of God. Word of Life" is "Thanks be to God"*

First Lesson Revelation 7:4, 9-17

<sup>4</sup>And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred forty-four thousand, sealed out of every tribe of the people of Israel.

<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 honour 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 God day and night within the 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.*

## Second Lesson      1 John 3:1-2

<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 God. <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 God is revealed, we will be like God, for we will see God as God is. *Word of God. Word of Life*

## Holy Gospel      Matthew 5:1-12

*The response to announcement of the Gospel is "Glory to you, O Lord"  
The response at the end of the reading is "Praise to you, O Christ"*

<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.*

Hymn #422 "For All the Saints" vv. 5-7

- 5 The golden evening brightens in the west;  
soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest;  
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 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!
- 7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #429 "Give Thanks for Saints"

- 1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all around seems bleak:  
on God's good promise they rely, so while they live and when they die  
how forcefully they speak—the strong, who once were weak!
- 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, beyond mere mortal sight:  
who seek the city God has planned, the true, eternal promised land,  
and steer on toward that light, a beacon ever bright.
- 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a sparkling precious stone:  
they show by what they say and do an inward beauty, warm and true,  
for God's concerns they own—God's love through them is known.
- 4 Give thanks for saints of ages past and saints alive today:  
though often by this world despised, their hearts by God are richly prized.  
Give thanks that we may say we share their pilgrim way.

Let us affirm our faith together.

**We believe in God, Creator of the universe,  
dwelling forever beyond time and space.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ who came to live  
amongst us and let us see what God is like.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit sent from God  
through Jesus, to be our guide and comforter.**

**Therefore we believe in love, in hope, compassion,  
joy and faith, and forgiveness beyond eternal life.**

## Thanksgiving for Saints

*Individual candles will be lit, the light taken and passed on from the Paschal Candle, symbol of the new life given to Christ and promised to us. When all the candles are burning, the presider prays:*

O God of the pilgrim's way, we give thanks for those in generations past who have been examples for us of God's love at work in the world. As we pray, we know that we are surrounded by this great, rejoicing cloud of witnesses. Yet even as we name these holy ancestors, we thank you for those others whose names we never knew or have forgotten, who showed us the meaning of life in Christ.

*A recitation of the names of saints from the past and present will be read by the Presider (see list below). After each name is spoken, all are asked to respond aloud with the word "**Present.**" When that list of names is completed, the presider will say "For these, we give thanks." Then members of the community, whether in the worship space in the church building or at homes are invited to speak the names of their loved ones who have died recently or long ago. After the last name is spoken, the Presider will say "For these who are the blessed, we give thank for they are. . . (and all will say together). . . **Present.***

\*Paul of Tarsus, 65

Mary Magdalene

Maggie Edwards

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, 430

John Miles Lewis, Civil Rights Leader

Patrick, Bishop, Missionary to Ireland, 464

All who have died during the pandemic from the virus, from hunger or from war

David, Son of Jesse

Chadwick Boseman, Actor

Martin Luther, 1546

Francis of Assisi, 1226

Ernesto Cardenal, priest and poet from Nicaragua

Mary, Mother of Jesus

Gale Sayers, Football star

\*Oscar Romero, Archbishop of El Salvador

Elizabeth Brown

Sarah and Abraham

Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Supreme Court Justice

Ignatius of Antioch, 177

Johann Sebastian Bach, 1750

Simon Peter, 65

John Milton, poet

Kobe and Gianna Bryant, Basketball player and his daughter

\*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1945

John Donne, poet and priest

Black, Indigenous and people of colour who have been killed or died at the hands of the law or the lawless in 2020

Teresa of Avila, 1582

*For these we give thanks.*

And now, we remember all of those saints known to us and loved by us who have died--whose names we speak aloud or silently in our hearts.

*The Rite of Remembrance will then conclude with the presider saying, "For these who are the blessed, we give thanks for they are. . .PRESENT! After the candles are extinguished, we will share the peace.*

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, **as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

*All those offering their worship at home, whether on zoom or reading through this liturgy, are invited to have bread and wine near at hand. All may raise their bread when the presider does and likewise raise the cup as a way of participating in the consecration of the gifts of field and vine*

## MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you.       **And also with you.**  
Lift your hearts to heaven.   **We lift them up to God.**  
Let us give thanks to our gracious God.  
      **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving over the blessings received from the creation*

O God before time, O God at the end, we delight in the splendour of your universe.  
Daily we praise and give thanks for your continuing creation. We glorify you, now and forever.

O God of the covenant, O God of the church, we hear you speaking to centuries of your people.  
We come as your children to this table, and we give thanks for your presence among  
and with our sisters and brothers who have called you "Lord" in times past and present  
and in places near and far. We praise you, now and forever.

You came as Jesus, our wisdom, our guide, embodying forgiveness,  
granting us grace, setting us free, dying for sin, and alive for the life of the world.  
We worship you, now and forever.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks to you;  
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  
for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out "Amen". **Amen.**  
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout "Amen". **Amen.**  
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we whisper "Amen". **Amen.**

Come, Holy Spirit, and make of us here the body of Christ.  
Breathe onto this food, that it will bring us your life.  
Empower your saints throughout the world, to preach and teach,  
baptize and feed, pray and sing, comfort and heal.  
By your Spirit, preserve what is faithful; reform what we treasure;  
create in us what is vital and new. We honour you, now and forever.

O God before time, O God at the end: Glory and praise, blessing and worship,  
honour and power and might be to you, forever and ever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer *With saints of every age and time and place, we pray together as Jesus taught us*

**Our Father (Mother) in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Fraction (Breaking of the bread)  
The gifts of God for the saints of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Invitation to the meal  
Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food for the journey.

Song during distribution #518 "We Eat the Bread of Teaching"

*Refrain*

We eat the bread of teaching, drink wine of wisdom, are given here a taste of the kingdom.  
Together joined, the greatest and the least, we all are one at Wisdom's holy feast.

- 1 Wisdom calls throughout the city, knows our hunger, and in pity  
gives her loving invitation to the banquet of salvation. *Refrain*
- 2 Simple ones whose hearts are yearning, come and gain from Wisdom's learning;  
bread and wine she is preparing, know her loving in the sharing. *Refrain*
- 3 Enter with delight and singing, for her richness now is bringing  
us this joyful celebration; eat and drink in jubilation. *Refrain*

*All are invited to this table and this meal. Wafers (only) are placed into the upraised palms of the communicants. Those who prefer to receive a blessing rather than a wafer are asked to cross their arms in front of them so the presider may speak a blessing upon them. Please come and go from the table respecting the need for appropriate distance between people seated and/or standing.*

Prayer after the Meal

O God, our life, our strength, our food, **we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, the Perfector of the Saints. Amen.**

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! And the blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Saviour, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: #423 "Shall We Gather at the River"**

- 1 Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,  
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

*Refrain*

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

- 2 On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,  
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. *Refrain*
- 3 Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;  
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. *Refrain*
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. *Refrain*

Dismissal

God has made us saints and called us to live as saints. Let us rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Hallelujah!**

Postlude