

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, November 7, 2021

All Saint's Sunday

Introduction to the day

All Saints' Day celebration has a long history in the worship life of the Christian Church. It began as a commemoration of the martyrs who had died for the faith, and it has since become a day when we honor and remember those who, in death, have joined the Church Triumphant, as well as the faithful saints of the present who serve Jesus Christ. Martin Luther held that all Christians are simultaneously sinner and saint--a sinner because of our rebellious nature, but a saint because of salvation in Jesus.

Today, by reading their names and by ringing a bell and lighting a candle for each, we remember those of our congregation who have died during the past year. Afterward, there will be an opportunity for anyone in the congregation to come forward to light a candle in memory of someone dear to them. This will proceed spontaneously and at will; there will be no ushers directing you.

This year's All Saints readings have the most tears. Isaiah and Revelation look forward to the day when God will wipe away all tears; in John's gospel, Jesus weeps along with Mary and all the gathered mourners before he demonstrates his power over death. On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah's feast to come.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P. Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor.

We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger.

We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy.

Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice.

Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen

P: God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for ✠ Jesus' sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts.
Yours is the kingdom of God
Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* 873

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also, with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *This is the Feast* p. 140

LITANY FOR THE SAINTS:

P: Let us remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before us with the sign of faith. He gave them new life through Jesus Christ in Holy Baptism and nourished them in the company of all God's people in the Eucharist, and in God's great mercy has summoned them to His presence so that they may continue in joyful service forever. O Lord Most High, we give thanks for all your saints, especially the following saints who have departed from this earthly life this past year:

Helen Hoppie	December 14, 2020
Leonard Taylor	December 21, 2020
Sonja Taylor	December 21, 2020
Denise Taylor	December 29, 2020
Leona Maines	January 31, 2021
Grant William Long	February 14, 2021
Joann Rishel	May 20, 2021
Richard Hurd	June 7, 2021
Rev. Donald Nice	June 14, 2021
Rev. Dr. Roger Fischer	July 1, 2021
Virginia Ginny Moffitt	July 8, 2021
Conley T Myers	July 9, 2021
Meghan E Haltenhoff	July 16, 2021
Walter Gallagher	June 19, 2021
David Kuehl	September 30, 2021
Bernice Bierly	October 16, 2021
Thomas Willits	October 27, 2021

You are invited to come forward and light a candle in remembrance of the Saints Triumphant.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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: Isaiah 25:6-9

Isaiah sees a vision of the end of days, when God will gather all people on God's holy mountain and will prepare for them a rich feast. At this banquet God will wipe the tears from all eyes. And there will be no more sorrow, for God will destroy death itself.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 24

¹The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

²**For the LORD has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.**

³Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD,
and who may stand in God's holy place?

⁴**Those of innocent hands and purity of heart,
who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by what is false.**

⁵They shall receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of their salvation.

⁶**Such is the generation of those who seek you, O LORD,**

of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

⁸**Who is this King of glory?**

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

¹⁰**Who is this King of glory?**

Truly, the LORD of hosts is the King of glory.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6a

Here is a vision of the new heaven and new earth in which God resides fully with God's people so that mourning, despair, and pain have been eradicated. These renewing words from the God who spans all of time are trustworthy and true.

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ^{6a}Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 11:32-44

Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.

³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *It Is Well* 785

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

A brief silence.

A: Merciful God, we give thanks for all missionaries who have brought your message of hope to new communities and wiped tears away (*especially John Christian Frederick Heyer, Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, Ludwig Nommensen whom we commemorate today*). Continue to raise up courageous missionaries to share your gospel of hope. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Creating God, we praise you for abundant harvests and the goodness of creation. Create communities of care for your earth so that all land, water, and soil will be celebrated and cherished by future generations of saints. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of peace, we give you thanks for nations of peace that serve as a refuge for all whose homelands are afflicted with violence. Strengthen those who continue to work for peace and support all veterans who carry the scars of war. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of healing, we give you thanks for health care workers who labor around the clock to answer cries for help. Bring wholeness to all who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, addiction, and all who long for healing in any way (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of justice, we praise you for the feeding ministries and for all meals that bring people together for nourishment and fellowship. Bless chefs, bakers, servers, dishwashers, communion assistants, and meal ministry coordinators. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of the poor and downtrodden, we pray for all those who work tirelessly to uphold human rights and defend human value. We pray especially for the Lutheran World Federation as they partner with Lutherans around the globe to create a more trustworthy, just, and compassionate society. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints of this congregation who have inspired, challenged, loved, and taught us (*those who have died during the past year may be named*). Wipe away our tears and lead us by their example until we feast together on your holy mountain. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our protection and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM *The Heart Sings On*

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Offering Prayer

A: Holy God,
the earth is yours and everything in it,
yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures.
Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine,
and strengthen us to be your body for the world
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (sung p. 144)

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 by Pastor

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY p.144

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

**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

P: A feast of love is offered here
 for you and all the saints

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG *P.146*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Remember Me*

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Blessed Jesus,
at this table, you have been for us both host and meal.
Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts
until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.
Amen.

DEDICATION OF PICTURE

The picture of the Rev. Martha McCracken, a daughter of this congregation who served the Evangelical Lutheran Church with integrity and compassion, will be hung in the hallway downstairs by the office.

BLESSING

P: God, the beginning and the end,
who has written your name in the book of life,
✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace

from this time forth and forevermore. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *When the Saints Go Marching In ACS 950* (insert)

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during the receiving of the offering. We practice “open Communion” here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the “real presence” of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ”.

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the
 2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
 3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
 4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they
 5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that



saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
 Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
 new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
 gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that
 hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that



num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.
 num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
 num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.
 num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.
 num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

P: Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Thomas Willits who died on October 27, 2021. His daughter is Sue Willits. The funeral was on November 1, 2021.

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Luke Antolick, Dave Barner, Darlene Bilby, Stan Breon, Agnes Cryder, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, Joanne Fisher, Joyce Hudson, Steve Keller and sister Janet Grazier, Bud Long, Mary Miller, David Mitchell, Bob and Phyllis

Moriarity, Kathy Neal, Ruth Nice, Penny Parks-Dean, Jean Ann Snyder, Shane Snyder, John Truax, and all of our shut-ins; the safety of our military troops around the world (Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Loudon Boring, Jake Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Jenna White); Family Promise. Bishop Eaton, our Presiding Bishop; and Bishop Collins, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. For our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and for the New Love Center as it seeks to build a new food hub.

Special Thanks to this week’s helpers: Lector—Kathy Brundick; Assisting Ministers – Deb Heydrich and Ron Brundick; Head Usher –Gina Johnson; Teller –Deb Heydrich; Children’s Church – Pam Wehler; Bulletin Sponsor –.

Next week’s helpers: Lector –Darlene Bilby; Assisting Ministers – Bill Ely, Jr. and Ken Dougherty; ; Head Usher – Gina Johnson; Teller –Deb Heydrich; Children’s Church--Cathy Eisner; Bulletin Sponsor - NEEDED; Flowers – Schaefer and Miller;

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored in memory of loved ones by Bob and Phyllis Moriarity.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our departed members by the JOY class.

Jim and Stella Barnard wish to thank the members of St. John for the anniversary cards they received and special thanks to Joyce Braucht for sharing their anniversary flowers with them. They were beautiful.

Fall Cash Sunday, November 7, 2021—Council voted to designate the monies to the repair of the pipe organ.

Let there be NO running, pushing, or shoving ☺ as you go to the bulletin board in the upstairs hallway to sign up for flower openings Nov. 28, Dec.5, Dec. 26 and ALL of next year! The 2022 Flower calendar has been posted. Also needed are Bulletin Sponsors for November and December. That list is in the downstairs hallway.

COURAGEOUS, Youth Quake 2022 Jan.21-22 in Harrisburg. Grades 6-12. Please let Cathy Eisner or Pastor know by Nov 7 if you are interested in attending.

The Lutheran Church Women’s Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran.

Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597

Sarah Davidson - 570-398-0659

Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

“DAVID” playing at Sight and Sound !! August 6, 2022 -- Children 10 and under \$125.00; Adults \$190.00. Fare includes bus, play, meal, tip for driver and fund raiser for Luke Antolick. Payments may be made during the course of the year! Thank You! Joyce Braucht.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, November 7, 2021

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
- 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service
- 12:00 p.m. Ringing of the Bells
- 7:00 p.m. NA meeting

All Saints Sunday
Fall Cash Sunday
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Monday, November 8, 2021

- 10:00a.m. Bible Study
- 7:30 p.m. N/A meeting

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. Worship at Trinity Episcopal Church
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. N/A meeting

Thursday, November 11, 2021

- 4:00 p.m. pack boxes
- 7:00 p.m. Veterans' Day Service at the Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 14, 2021

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
- 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service
- 7:00 p.m. NA meeting

Veterans Service and Harvest Home
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Other upcoming events!

November 7 is All Saints Sunday when we light candles to remember those who have joined the Saints Triumphant. In the past year, fifteen members of St. John Lutheran have died, a record in pastor's twenty-two years here at St. John. Wwe invite volunteers to join us at noon on November 7 for the ringing of the bells. We would like to join all the churches across the nation who will be remembering the 733,000 people who have died from coronavirus, including many in the Jersey Shore area.

November 14 we will celebrate Veterans Day with a special service and Harvest Home. Donations of food are appreciated and will be donated to the New Love Center Food Pantry.

November 15 is the deadline for the next EAGLE newsletter submissions.

