

Risen Christ Lutheran Church All Saints Day Observed Sunday Worship November 5, 2023

YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, READ THROUGH YOUR WORSHIP FOLDER, AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.



ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ's body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by takin g it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the "individual" and "common" cups of wine. (Note: White Non-Alcoholic Wine is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you "desire" a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby ("Narthex")

For Children - Children's Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – Every year on either November 1 or the first Sunday of November, we pause our busy lives to remember the saints. Lutherans teach that saints are sinners baptized into Christ, they are sinners redeemed by the cross of Jesus, and they are sinners who gave us examples of trusting not in their own heroic feats but in the grace and mercy of God in Jesus. Why remember saints? Our Augsburg Confession of 1530 says it clearly: "Our churches teach that the history of saints may be set before us so that we may follow the example of their faith and good works, according to our calling" (AC XXI 1). Why remember the saints? To thank God for their life and witness, to be encouraged in our walk of faith, and to remember and rejoice for God giving us examples of how grace and faith look in the real lives of people we knew.

Preservice and Postlude Music by Jennifer Kirk

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.
- P Lord, on this All Saints' Day, we gather in Your name to remember and rejoice.
- **@** We remember the ones we love—ones loved also by You.

- P We remember how You embraced them, showed them grace, and filled them with faith.
- **©** We remember with heavy hearts. We remember with thankful hearts.
- P We rejoice in the resurrection life promised in and through Jesus.
- **@** We rejoice that Jesus has overcome death forever.
- We rejoice that You are God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—who will never leave us nor forsake us.
- Amen.

"Sing with All the Saints in Glory" (Sung to the tune of "Ode to Joy")

- 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 the_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!

Confession and Absolution

1 John 3:1

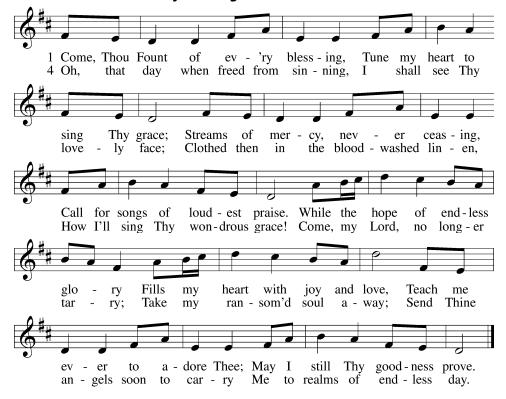
- In Baptism, God welcomes us into the family of Christ and embraces us with His love. Welcomed and embraced, we are free to confess our sins, trusting the power of Christ to lead us to newness of life.
- We confess, good Lord, that we have sinned against You and our neighbors in thought, word, and deed. We have hungered and thirsted for unworthy things. Our hearts are not right within us. Forgive us, O God, for the sake of Jesus, our Brother.

P Today we hear these beautiful words from John: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are."

As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Thanks be to God for our Baptism into Christ!

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Introit

Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

in your righteousness deliver me.

For you are my rock and my fortress;

and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

Into your hand I commit my spirit;

you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

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.

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

Lord God, You sustained those who have gone before us in faith, You showed them grace, and in their lives You have shown us examples of good works that are the fruit of faith in Christ. So sustain us in faith and grace, that we bear the fruit of faith with perseverance and joy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading Revelation 7:2–17

²Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, ³saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed.

12,000 from the tribe of Reuben.

12,000 from the tribe of Gad,

612,000 from the tribe of Asher,

12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,

12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,

⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,

12,000 from the tribe of Levi,

12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,

812,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,

12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,

12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "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, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 149

- **L** Praise the LORD!
- Sing to the LORD a new song, His praise in the assembly of the godly!
- Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
- let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!
- Let them praise His name with dancing,
- **@** making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!
- **L** For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;
- He adorns the humble with salvation.
- L Let the godly exult in glory;
- let them sing for joy on their beds.
- Let the high praises of God be in their throats
- and two-edged swords in their hands, to execute vengeance on the nations and punishments on the peoples,
- to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron, to execute on them the judgment written!
- This is honor for all His godly ones.
- **L** Praise the LORD!

- **L** These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
- They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- **L** Blessed are those whose strength is in You,
- in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Epistle 1 John 3:1–3

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Apostles' Creed

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence 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 \pm everlasting. Amen.

Verse Hebrews 12:1a, 2a

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

Holy Gospel Matthew 5:1–12

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
- G Glory to You, O Lord.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon – "The Focus of the Beatitudes and All Saints' Day"

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth 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 shall be comforted.

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

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

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

^{8&}quot;Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

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

¹¹"Blessed are you when others 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 so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Find Us Faithful

We're pilgrims on the journey
Of the narrow road
And those who've gone before us
Line the way
Cheering on the faithful
Encouraging the weary
Their lives a stirring testament
To God's sustaining grace CHORUS

Surrounded by so great
A cloud of witnesses
Let us run the race
Not only for the prize
But as those who've gone before us
Let us leave to those behind us
The heritage of faithfulness
Passed on through godly lives **CHORUS**

CHORUS: Oh may all
who come behind us
Find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion
Light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live
Inspire them to obey
Oh may all who come behind us
Find us faithful

After all our hopes and dreams
Have come and gone
And our children sift through all
We've left behind
May the clues that they discover
And the mem'ries they uncover
Become the light that leads them
To the road we each must find **CHORUS**

Jon Mohr
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Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at **www.RisenChrist.info** – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a **Worship Card** so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Prayer of the Church

P As loved and redeemed children of God and in communion with all the saints, let the incense of our prayer ascend to God.

A time of silence.

- That the Church, called from death to life by our Lord Jesus, would follow in the footsteps of all the saints who by God's grace were agents of Christ's life-giving service in the world, and for pastors, church workers, and all people of the Church, that they proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel of our salvation with boldness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- <u>MEN -</u> For the leaders of the world and of this nation; for all citizens and for those elected, that they will respect the truth of the God-given dignity of every man, woman, and child; for all who serve in the armed forces; for victims of violence and war; and for our enemies, Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- For all those in any kind of need, those whom we have named and whom we name silently before You. [Time of silence]. Bring peace to the dying and comfort the bereaved. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- <u>WOMEN –</u> For all the households of this congregation, that they be havens of peace and lively places of faith in Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- <u>ALL –</u> For this holy assembly, that, setting our hope on Christ, we live to the praise of His glory. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- In remembrance of all those who have died in the communion of Your Church. With thanks and praise, along with heavy hearts, we remember these loved ones. Having hope in Christ, we await the day we shall sing our praise reunited with the faithful, gathered before the throne of God. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- P Hear us when we call upon You, most merciful Father, and grant us grace to entrust our lives and our world to Your unfailing love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

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.

Closing Sentences

- P Blessed are you
- when we are poor in spirit.
- P Blessed are you
- when we mourn.
- P Blessed are you
- When we are meek.
- **P** Blessed are you
- **@** when we hunger and thirst for righteousness.
- P Blessed are you
- when we are merciful.
- **P** Blessed are you
- when our hearts are right within us.
- P Blessed are you
- when we struggle to make peace.
- **P** Blessed are you
- when we are reviled for trusting in Christ.
- Blessed are you.
 Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the kingdom of God!
- C Amen.

He Reigns

1. It's the song of the redeemed
Rising from the African plain
It's the song of the forgiven
Drowning out the Amazon rain
The song of Asian believers
Filled with God's holy fire
It's every tribe every tongue every nation
A love song born of a grateful choir

<u>CHORUS</u>: It's all God's children singing Glory glory hallelujah He reigns He reigns It's all God's children singing Glory glory hallelujah He reigns (He reigns) 2. Let it rise above the four winds
Caught up in the heavenly sound
Let praises echo from the towers of cathedrals
To the faithful gathered underground
Of all the songs sung from the dawn of creation
Some were meant to persist
Of all the bells rung from a thousand steeples
None rings truer than this CHORUS

<u>CHORUS</u>: It's all God's children singing Glory glory hallelujah He reigns He reigns It's all God's children singing Glory glory hallelujah He reigns (He reigns)

BRIDGE: And all the powers of darkness
Tremble at what they've just heard
'Cause all the powers of darkness
Can't drown out a single word **CHORUS**

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Benediction

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and

 → give you peace.
- Amen.

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