**all saints- november 5, 2023- zion philipsburg**

**GATHERING**

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

**announcments**

Welcome to worship on this All Saint’s Sunday, November 5, 2023. I am getting back to normal, thank you to all who reached out this week.

Today we remember the saints who have gone before us. We acknowledge the grief that we share, we light a candle and pray.

We hold Pastor Rick and his family in our prayers, his dad George passed away on October 31.

Christmas Bazaar wrap up.

**all saint’s litany**

God, we remember those Saints who have gone before us;

**We lament their passing,**

And honor their legacy.

**We give thanks for all we have learned from them.**

Those who followed the Way of Christ faithfully,

**We follow their example.**

Those who made mistakes along the way,

**We learn from their experience.**

Those who made progress for peace,

**We continue their work.**

Those who lived simply and quietly,

**We are enlightened by them.**

Those who gained honor and distinction without pride,

**We are humbled by them.**

Those who were martyred for their faith,

**We commend them to your care.**

They have finished their work on earth,

**And it lives on,**

Reverberating into our lives now

**As the work of Christ lives on.**

We remember our Zion members who have died in the past year. (After each name is read the bell will be rung and family members are invited to light a candle of remembrance.)

Barbara Becker, Helen Ehrat, Esther Hoerle

We remember all the saints of Zion and those important to our lives who have died and entered into the eternal love of God.

(congregation may come forward and light candles of remembrance for family and friends)

As we remember and give thanks for this day,

**we rejoice that it is God’s remembrance which prompts and motivates our celebrations.**

God continues to name and keep all who have been claimed as God’s beloved children even to the end of time

**As we recall all who have lived and died in faith, and who are now in God’s eternal keeping.**

Let us look in hope to the One who sustains us on our journey

**And who, one day will gather us all into a new heaven and a new earth.**

May the peace of Christ continue to inspire us

**To good works, humility, simplicity and peacemaking,**

As those foremothers and forefathers were inspired by him

**To live in grace and love. Amen**

**GATHERING SONG*****Shall We Gather at the River* (ELW 423)**

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

**GREETING (ELW p. 203)**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE (ELW p. 203)**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 205)**

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.

*The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today’s reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: “Who is able to stand?” The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God’s protection and a vision of victory.*

9After 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. 10They cried out in a loud voice, saying,  
 “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”  
11And 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, 12singing,  
 “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, robed in white, and where have they come from?” 14I 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.  
 15For 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.  
 16They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them,  
  nor any scorching heat; 17for 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.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm** **34:1-10, 22**

1I will bless the Lord at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.  
 2**I will glory in the Lord;** **let the lowly hear and rejoice.**  
 3Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; let us exalt God’s name together.  
 4**I sought the Lord, who answered me** **and delivered me from all my terrors.**  
 5Look upon the Lord and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.  
 6**I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me** **and saved me from all my troubles.**  
 7The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord and delivers them.  
 8**Taste and see that the Lord is good;** **happy are they who take refuge in God!**  
 9Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord, for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.  
 10**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,** **but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**  
 22O 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.

*A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God’s purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.*

1See 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. 2Beloved, 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. 3And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**

**GOSPEL: Matthew** **5:1-12**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2Then he began to speak, 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 will be comforted.  
 5“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
 6“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.  
 7“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.  
 8“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
 9“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.  
 10“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
 11“Blessed are you when people 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 in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON (ELW p. 206)**

*The assembly is seated.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY*****For All the Saints* (ELW 422) vs 1,5,6,7**

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!  
  
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!

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.*A brief silence.*

Holy God, the church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; show us unity in your presence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy creator, we marvel at your creation revealed in the cycle of seasons, changing landscapes, and the rise and fall of ocean tides. Turn us from selfish consumption and open us to gentle healing of the earth so all creation thrives. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Holy advocate, we lift grateful hearts for leaders who serve with wisdom, compassion and authenticity. We pray for relief from wars and strife, justice for the oppressed, and love for our neighbours, no matter their religion, culture, denomination, or gender. We remember Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Palestine, Gaza, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, Somalia, and Libya. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy healer, bless the broken-hearted and all who mourn. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick or injured, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you *especially* Sarah, Chris, John, Vivian, Edna, Felix, Gary, John C, Erin, Elizabeth, Zoli, Donna, Beatty, Nick, Alea, the family of Sandra Good, the family of George Brown, our members in long term care Robert, Rob and Evelyn, and those we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy comforter, we pray for this congregation, that the promise of your new life may be shared and experienced. We pray for the funeral ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, for the saints who now rest in your mercy, we give you thanks. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love. We remember Barbara, Helen, Esther and Sandra. Praise to you for the eternal life they have been given through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 206)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**OFFERING- Doxology (#885)**

**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**

**DIALOGUE (ELW p. 206)**

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 (ELW p. 207)**

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 (ELW p. 207)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,** **God of power and might,** **heav’n 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,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 207)**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,

we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,

and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus’ table.

**COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**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 (ELW p. 209)** (based on Hebrews 12: 1)

Go on your way rejoicing; Surrounded as you are by such a great cloud of witnesses,

take courage as you face each new challenge, and comfort when you pick yourself from a fall, In whatever good you choose to do, precede it with hope, accompany it with prayer, and follow it with thanksgiving.

The blessing of God Most Wonderful, whom the saints have trusted as

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, will be with you now and ever more. **Amen!**

— Bruce Prewer, on Bruce Prewer’s Homepage.

**SENDING SONG*Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In* (ACS 950)**

1 Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
oh, when the saints go marching in,  
O Lord, I want to be in that number  
when the saints go marching in.  
  
2 Oh, when the Lord in glory comes,  
oh, when the Lord in glory comes,  
O Lord, I want to be in that number  
when the Lord in glory comes.  
  
3 Oh, when the new world is revealed,  
oh, when the new world is revealed,  
O Lord, I want to be in that number  
when the new world is revealed.  
  
4 Oh, when they gather round the throne,  
oh, when they gather round the throne,  
O Lord, I want to be in that number  
when they gather round the throne.  
  
5 And on that hallelujah day,  
and on that hallelujah day,  
O Lord, I want to be in that number  
on that hallelujah day.

**DISMISSAL**

Beloved of God,

go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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