

**Church of the Divine Love**

**ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**

**NOVEMBER 6, 2002 10:15 AM**

**HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**

*Please observe silence*

THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer before Worship – on insert

Processional Hymn #

Opening Acclamation page 355

Collect for Purity page 355

Gloria page 356

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18**

Psalm 149

Second Lesson: **2 Ephesians 1:11-23**

Gradual Hymn #

Gospel: **Luke 6:20-31**

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze

Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form IV page 388

Prayer for Storms and Hurricanes – on insert

The Confession of Sin page 360

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn #	
Doxology (sung)	
The Great Thanksgiving:	
Eucharistic Prayer C	page 369
Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal)	page 362
The Lord's Prayer	page 364
The Breaking of the Bread, Anthem & Prayer	page 337
The Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn #	
Post Communion Prayer	page 365
Prayer for Peace – on insert	
Prayer of St. Francis	page 833
Dismissal Hymn –	

### **Sermon Sunday November 6, 2022**

Daniel 7:1-3,15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31.

#### **Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ,**

Blessed are the poor, the hungry, and the ones who are weeping. But woe to the rich, the full, and the ones who are laughing. Poverty over riches, hunger over fullness, and weeping over laughing. Are those the priorities you have in your life today? Is that what you want for yourself? Your spouse and children? Your grandchildren? Is that the kind of life you are living today?

Let me just start by saying I don't like those priorities. That's not what I grew up believing. That's not what I aspired to. That's not how I want to live my life. And I am pretty sure that's not the dream my parents had for me. It's sure not the dream I have for my daughters. And I want more than that for them. Jesus has a way of messing with our expectations of what really matters, our beliefs about how we should live, and our aspirations for the direction of our life. More often than not he reverses the usual expectations, beliefs, and aspirations. His view of what life, meaning, power, and success look like – what we might call the Kingdom of God – is mostly at odds with the world's view and sometimes our own. And if today's gospel (Luke 6:20-31) is a hard message to hear, it's an even harder life to live.

It asks us some hard questions. It asks us to look at our life in light of Jesus' blessings and woes. What do the reversals in today's gospel bring up for you? In what ways do they challenge or contradict Where you find meaning, your aspirations and how they are shaping your life; and how, not what, but how you want to be in the world and in relationship to others? It would be easy to hear the blessings and woes in today's gospel as rewards and punishments or a categorization of saints and sinners, but that would be a

mistake and a misunderstanding of the gospel. There is nothing inherently virtuous or holy about poverty, hunger, or grief. God knows the world doesn't need more pain or misery. And there is nothing inherently sinful or wrong about being rich, full, or laughing. I don't think Jesus is talking about what or how much we have or don't have. It's not about a bottom-line calculation of our bank balance, the number of meals or calories we get each day, or whether we spend more time crying than laughing. Jesus is talking about a quality not a quantity.

He is talking about how we are in the world, not what we are, but how we are. And I know from my own life that when I am poor, hungry, weeping, whether materially, emotionally, or spiritually, I am more open and receptive. I am looking for something new, a different way of being in the world. But when I am rich, full, and laughing, whether materially, emotionally, or spiritually, I mostly want more of the same. I am not looking for anything new or different. I work to defend and keep the status quo. The what of our life can too easily determine or corrupt the how of our life. Maybe the blessings and woes are descriptive of two different how of life. One in which our hearts, hopes, and aspirations are turned toward the coming of something new, something different. We are open to the future, to one another, to the possibility of what seems impossible. And where there is a future there is life, and more life. The other way of being in the world, the other how, is closed to the future, to each other, to something new or different. We are self-enclosed and self-sufficient. We are bound to the world as it is. It has become our treasure.

What if we were to think of blessings and woes as guardrails on the road of life? What if they are like those bumpers kids sometimes use at the bowling alley? What if they are guides to making the kingdom present? You see the kingdom is not a what. It is a how. It is not a place or a time or a thing, but a way of being in this world. You and I give existence to the kingdom by the how of our being in the world. The kingdom is God's dream, hope, desire, and longing for the world. It is God's call to us. And it is up to us to respond and make it present. And sometimes we do. From time to time the kingdom actually happens through us how of being in the world. That's what we remember and celebrate today, the Feast of All Saints. We remember and give thanks for those people whose how of life gave existence to God's kingdom and life in this world in their time and place. They are witnesses that we too can give existence to the kingdom, to God's how of being, in our life, time, place, and circumstances. Some of those people are name brand saints, the ones who have a place on the calendar. Philip, Mary, Luke, Augustine, Theresa, Francis, and Paul. Others are local and particular to us, known only to us. They are not on the church's calendar and their only place is in our heart. Some have died. Others still live. All stand with and companion us as teachers, examples, and guides. They have cared for and nurtured us, loved, and guided us, taught, and mentored us. They showed us a how of being that was vibrant and alive, holy, and earthy.

The kingdom comes locally, temporarily, intermittently, episodically in our particular circumstances through us how of being in the world. It mostly happens on the margins of power, at the edges, and rarely at the center. It is the reversal of all reversals. The kingdom comes, is actually here, is really real, whenever we love our enemies, do good to those who hate us, pray for those who abuse us, turn the other cheek to those who strike us, welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, forgive our offender, give to the beggar. Every time we do to others as we would have them do to us; we give existence to the kingdom. Have you ever thought of yourself as having the privilege and responsibility of giving existence to the kingdom? Have you ever thought that God might need you as much as you need

God? Have you ever thought of yourself as a saint, as one whose how of life matters and makes a difference to others and to the world?

What if we were to step into the how of sainthood in our particular time and place, in the unique circumstances of our life, in our daily relationships? What would that look like in your life today? In what Blessings are promised to us who are empty, weak, and grieving not because there is any glory in poverty or misery but because we are open, receptive, and looking for a new world. We have nowhere else to turn so we look for something other than the values of this world to rule our lives, provide meaning, and establish identity. We need something different from things as they are. We may live in this world, but we look toward and hope for another world. Jesus is not describing a system of rewards and punishments. Jesus is not rewarding some with blessings and punishing others with woes. He is describing two ways of living and their consequences. We either live for this world or we live beyond this world. It is a choice we make every day of our lives. We choose our blessings and our woes. Truthfully, we are not one or the other, a people of blessings or a people of woes. We are both at the same time.

We could all name a time when the circumstances of life left us so empty and desolate, spiritually and/or materially, that we have to look in a new direction. We had to open ourselves to a new way of being. We were in that moment receptive to God's blessings and presence. Likewise, there have probably been times when success, accomplishments, or reputation, again either spiritual and/or material, left us feeling pretty rich and full of ourselves. Woe to us who attach ourselves to what is temporal, passing, and changing.

The saints we remember, and honor today are people of blessings and woes. They faced the very same choices we do. They are special, set apart, and different from others but not because they are God's little overachievers, because they prayed all the time, had perfect doctrine, were always good and did what was right. They are holy ones, blessed, not because of what they did or had but because of who they needed, who they allowed to rule their lives, who they lived for, and sometimes who they died for – Jesus the Christ. Their blessing arose from their need. Poverty, hunger, mourning, exclusion, and defamation, sometimes spiritual, sometimes material, freed them to live expectantly for the Kingdom of God.

If we, like the saints, can truly listen to the deep need within us, not be too quick to fill it up by our own doing, it will guide us into holy living. It detaches us from this world and opens us to an alternative reality, enabling us to live lives that reverse the values of this culture: loving our enemies; doing good to those who hate us; blessing those who curse us; praying for those who abuse us; turning the other cheek; withholding nothing as our own; and giving to those in need without judgment or ridicule. We do to others as we would have them to do to us.

We join the great company of saints who have gone before us, and the great company of saints who will come after us – all of us forgiven, all of us loved to our very core. We come together around this table to remember that God's love isn't limited by our standards. In his Son, Christ Jesus, God is setting a new standard: love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. Do to others as you would have them do to you. Do to others as God has already done for you. Not so you can become a saint, but because you already are. **Amen!**

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – Shoeboxes are at the back of the church. Please return by November 20<sup>th</sup>.**

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY – DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

22 PENTECOST/ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY	10:15 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II	(also on zoom)
		COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS	
MONDAY	8:00 AM	AA MEETING	
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	AL-ANON MEETING	
THURSDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP	
	8:00 PM	AA MEETING	
SATURDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP	
23 PENTECOST	10:15 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II	(also on zoom)
		COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS	
	11:15 AM	VESTRY MEETING	

### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Give to all who suffer the refreshing waters of your compassion and healing. Make them dwell in the safety of your care even in the midst of all that troubles them. Especially we remember before you:

Grace Schinella	Harriet Capers	Bob Curley
John Mulligan	Arlene Goodenough	Celeste
Chris Dickson	Kate Jones	Deb P.
Michael Echevarria	John Rocco	Gabriel
Barbara Stinson	Michael & Family	Warren
Charlotte H.	Bernie Walther	Anthony
Mo (Rachael)	Bill Conklin Sr.	Carolyn
Anthony Paribello	Barbara Curran	Del
Ciara	Robert Sweat	Aidan
Elodie	Sophia	Carol K.
People of Haiti	Christopher & Family	Julia
Maggie & Family	People of Ukraine	Tim
Nathan Treadwell	Bob Lazevnick	Art
Margaret	Victims of Hurricanes	
Richard & Family	Lianna Lopez	

Help us speak words of encouragement and offer deeds of kindness to them.  
Bring us with them, into the unending joy of your kingdom. Amen

	This Week	Next Week
Eucharistic Minister	Roe Prosser	Jess Berbeck
Coffee Hour	Prossers	Janet Croft

## **ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY 2022**

### **CLERGY OF THIS PARISH**

**The Rev. Gouverneur Cruger**

**The Rev. Isaac Sturges**

**The Rev. Frank Leeming**

**The Rev. Harold Hertzler**

**The Rev. Edwin Packard**

**The Rev. Charles Picket**

**The Rev. Prescott Beach**

**The Rev. Alonzo Stewart**

**The Rev. Annsley Young**

**The Rev. Marshall Wilson**

**The Rev. Warren Densmore**

**The Rev. Arthur Brown**

**The Rev. Ralph Fogg**

Margaret & Peter Nolan

Jack & Josephine Mulligan

Jean Breining

Jane McClung

Daniel McClung

Agnes & Stanton Reynolds

Rose & Rocco Annichiarico

Joseph & Madeline Giordano

Richard & Josephine Hiller

Gertrude & Richard Lush

Phyllis Hiller

Stella Andrews

Lemane Quatorze

Clairmanta Point DuJour

Mary & Andrew Harbolic

Blanch & Calvert Johnson

John Johnson

Donald Croft

Shirley Rose

Roger Croft

Bea Amundsen

Donald & Mavis Corrodus

Skye Whonder

Ken Golden

Golden Family

Hilda & Eldorus Gilbert

Gilbert Family

Alfred Donohue

Valmont Quatorze	Edward Carter
Jesius Damis	Edward Carter, Jr.
Romaine Nicolas	Franseska Diemont
Sevigne Milhaud	Ilse Diemont
Michael Stinson	Robert Diemond
Bobby Hosey	Edward John Kenn
Erica Conklin	Alison Bartlett Lenz
Alliene & Harold Pullen	Joan Bartlett Middleton
Ilione & Wallace Tufts	David Middleton
Beatrice & Edwin Noel	Fred & Kathy Gillen
Edwin Noel	Angela Kelly

### Prayer before Worship

Almighty God, who pours out on all who desire it, the spirit of grace. Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Storms and Hurricanes

O God, you rule over all creation, which you have set free to act according to its nature. We know and love your world, which is also a world of randomness and chance. You are Lord of chaos as well as order. We pray to you for people caught in storms and hurricanes. We remember particularly



those whose work is dangerous, police and firefighters,  
rescue workers of all kinds. You are known in storm and in  
calm, you are Lord of thunders, you moved across the hills  
of Judea. You are also a presence in stillness, a voice from  
silence. You spoke to Job in the whirlwind and quieted the  
Sea of Galilee. Wherever we are, in storm or calm, we know your presence. Call us  
sometimes to storm, sometimes to calm, sometimes to wilderness, sometimes to  
silence. Call  
us always to yourself, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### Prayer for Peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn  
but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So  
mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that  
all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince  
of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominions  
and glory, now and for ever. Amen







