Of all three years of the lectionary cycle, 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.

## **GATHERING**

Congregational Responses in Bold Print

PRELUDE Elegy on Thaxed Fruhauf

## **CONFESSION**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who calls us into an everlasting hope, who guides us to springs of the water of life, who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom. **Amen.** 

One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

O God, our merciful redeemer, we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor's face. We turn our ears from voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for + his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God. **Amen.** 

**HYMN** #422 For All the Saints SINE NOMINE

[10:45 only: Congregation sings stanzas 1,2,6,7; Choir sings stanzas 3,4,5]

#### **GREETING**

Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all. And also with you.

**HYMN OF PRAISE #847** Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs (stz. 1 and 4 only)



- 1 Come, let us ioin our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne:
- 4 Let all cre a tion join in one to bless the sa cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.

of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. 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**

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 25: 6-9

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

<sup>6</sup>On 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. <sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; <sup>8</sup>he 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. <sup>9</sup>It 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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SENIOR CHOIR: Gates of Heaven COURTNEY Allie Jagoda - cellist

## **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.

<sup>1</sup>I 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. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And 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: <sup>4</sup>he 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." And 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." <sup>6a</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John the 11th chapter. 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.

<sup>32</sup>When 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." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus 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." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I 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." <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>The 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON** *Rev. Christian Dittmar*

HYMN OF THE DAY #628 Jerusalem My Happy Home LAND OF REST

#### APOSTLES' CREED

With voices united, let us confess our faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS

With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need. (A brief silence.)

... Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# **MEAL**

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you. Share the Peace with the saints of God!

OFFERING Shall We Gather at the River Hobby

**OFFERTORY** # 692 We Are an Offering OFFERING

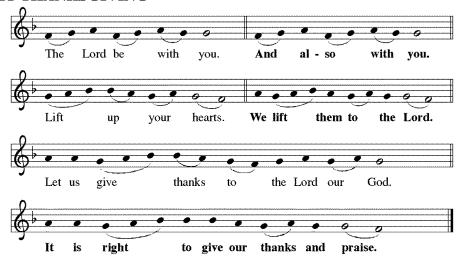
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering. Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands, Lord use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering, we are an offering.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

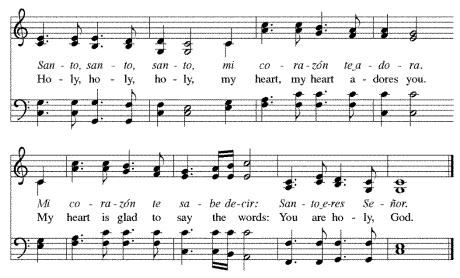
Let us pray. Creator God, you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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

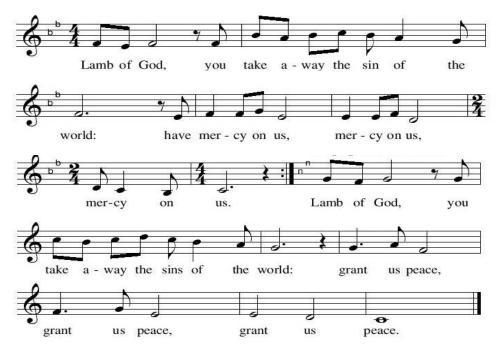
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.

## LAMB OF GOD



The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

**SENDING SONG** #538 **The Lord Now Sends Us Forth** (Note: repeat first section; then repeat second section)



## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Sovereign God, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

# **SENDING**

## **BLESSING**

The love of God surround you; the grace of + Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore. **Amen.** 

## SENDING HYMN #423 Shall We Gather at the River HANSON PLACE

#### DISMISSAL

Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Trumpet Voluntary YOUNG

Moving One Step Closer to God.

www.1stLutheranChurch.org

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