

Church of the Divine Love
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 2, 2025 10:15 AM
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

A Morning Prayer – on insert

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn - (see hymn board for all hymns)

Opening Acclamation page 355

Gloria page 356

Collect for All Saints' Day page 245

First Lesson: **Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18** (*pages 768 & 769 in the Bible*)

Psalm 149 page 807

Second Lesson: **Ephesians 1:11-23** (*page 1017*)

Gradual Hymn

Gospel: **Luke 6:20-31** (*page 895*)

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze

The Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form VI page 392

The Confession page 393

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn

Doxology (sung)

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer B page 367

Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal)

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 for the Parish page 817

Prayer of St. Francis page 833

Dismissal Hymn

Sermon Sunday November 2, 2025

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

Sisters and brothers in Christ, blessings and woes. "Blessed are you." "Woe to you." What do you make of all that? I think it's easy to hear the blessings and woes in today's gospel (**Luke 6:20-31**) as rewards and punishments or as a categorization of saints and sinners, but I also think 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 of life not

a quantity of stuff. He is talking about how we are in the world, not what we have, but our way of being. When I'm poor, hungry, weeping – whether materially, emotionally, or spiritually – I am usually more open and receptive. I am looking for something new and a different way of being in the world. I don't want to keep doing life the same old way. I'm looking and working for change. Maybe that's true for you as well. But when I am rich, full, and laughing – whether materially, emotionally, or spiritually – I mostly want more of the same. I don't want change. I am not looking for anything new or different. I'm doing just fine. I work to defend and keep the status quo. Maybe that's also true for you.

What if blessings and woes are descriptive of two different ways of being in the world? One way is when 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 is when we are closed to the future, to others, to something new or different. We are self-enclosed and believe ourselves to be self-sufficient. We are bound to the world as it is, maybe even stuck. What if we were to think of blessings and woes as guides to making the kingdom present? The saints shall receive the Kingdom. We are those saints - not because we are flawless or famous, but because we have been marked and sealed as Christ's own forever. The Kingdom was given to us in baptism, and we will possess it forever. The Kingdom is the enormity of God's love dwelling within fragile vessels. Divine love contained in human vulnerability, but not constrained by it. Housed within us is the power to overcome. Even as we grieve losses and confront the cruelty of this world, we do not grieve as those without hope. The Kingdom of God is that joy the world cannot give, that peace the world cannot take away, that hope that endures even as the world perishes. It is the home where love outlasts every empire, where mercy mocks the thrones of greed, where righteousness flows like a river through the streets of injustice.

Daniel saw such beasts. They were the monstrous systems that crush the human spirit and defy God's justice. We see them too: the beast of greed that devours the earth, the beast of white supremacy that haunts our nation's soul, the beast of nationalism that dresses itself in religion and dares to call itself Christian. These beasts may rise, but they will fall. For the saints of the Highest shall receive the kingdom and possess it forever. The psalmist calls the people of God to sing a new song, to rejoice even when the world mocks them, to wield the double-edged sword of truth and love against the lies of the powermongers. "The Lord takes pleasure in his people," the psalmist writes, "and adorns the humble with victory." That's not triumphalism. It is resistance. It's the defiant joy of those who know that God's justice will have the last word.

Paul echoes that hope in Ephesians: "May the eyes of your heart be enlightened, that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and the immeasurable greatness of his power." The world tells us we are powerless. But Paul insists that the same power that raised Christ from the dead is at work in us. It is not the power of domination, but the power of love: the power to stand in truth, to lift the fallen, to refuse to bow before the idols of violence and greed. The Kingdom is ours to claim as our inheritance. If we seek, embrace, and embody it, then we are indeed the saints God has called us to be. But if we trade it for perishable junk, if we sell our souls to the peddlers of comfort, privilege, and fear, then we are fools to be pitied, no matter how impressed we may be with ourselves or our possessions.

In those saints with a capital "S," the Church honors men and women who made room for God's Kingdom until it overflowed: Teresa of Calcutta, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., Donna Edwards, Stella Andrew, Tony Diemont, Arlene Goodenough, Donald Croft, and Oscar Romero. They lived in our time; they breathed our air. If you think sainthood is impossible, think again. Blessed Nelson proclaimed, "Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity, but an act of justice." Blessed Martin thundered, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Blessed Oscar Romero, whose voice still echoes from the altar of his martyrdom, said, "A Church that does not provoke a crisis, a Gospel that does not unsettle, a word of God that does not touch the real sin of society - what Gospel is that?" These were saints who sang the new song of this morning's psalm, who stood unbowed before the beasts of their age. And they call us to do the same and to be a Church that unsettles, that provokes, that exposes lies with truth and fear with love. For the saints with a small "s", those known only to a few. we give thanks as well. The parents who kept faith alive in poverty. The teachers who awakened hope in broken neighborhoods. The nurses, the migrants, the peacemakers, the quiet ones who bear the weight of the world's cruelty and still whisper, "Blessed are you." For that is the Kingdom's song. Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Jesus' words are not sentimental. They are revolutionary. They overturn the world's value system. In God's economy, the last are first, the forgotten are honored, and the rich who hoard their wealth have already received their reward.

How do we play it out? Will it be "Blessed are you," or "Woe to you"? Woe to those who build their fortunes on the backs of the poor. Woe to those who use faith as a flag and crucify compassion on the altar of power. Woe to those who praise Jesus with their lips while deporting his children at the border, cutting aid to the hungry, and mocking the meek. The Beatitudes are not optional poetry. They are the constitution of the Kingdom of God. From time to time the

kingdom actually happens through our way of being in the world. That's what we remember and celebrate today on the Feast of All Saints. We remember our calling to give existence to the kingdom. Sometimes we're warm and sometimes we're cold. 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.

The world is in chaos. The beasts are roaring. The powerful plot in secret, and the poor cry out in the streets. Yet we do not lose heart. For "the saints of the Highest shall receive the kingdom and possess it forever." And the power that raised Jesus from the dead is still at work, raising us from apathy to action, from fear to faith, from despair to hope. So, sing a new song to the Lord. Rejoice with the humble. March with the oppressed. Speak truth to the beasts. Claim your inheritance. And let your life, like those saints who went before, become a living testimony to the God whose love is stronger than death and whose Kingdom has no end. **Amen.**

All baptized Christians, regardless of age, are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church.

21 PENTECOST - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY	10:15 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
		COFFEE HOUR FOLLOW
MONDAY	8:00 PM	AA MEETING
TUESDAY	6:00 PM	BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	AL-ANON MEETING
THURSDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP
SATURDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP
22 PENTECOST - PROPER 27	10:15 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
		COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS

	Today	Next Week
Eucharistic Minister	Roe Prosser	Dana Kenn
Coffee Hour	Janet Croft	Jess Berbeck

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY - DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

Christmas shoe boxes should be brought in by November twenty-third.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Loving God, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Especially we remember before you:

Barbara Curran	Betty Curley	Martin
Bob Curley	Steve Curley	Joseph
Chris Dickson	John Roccoo	Deb P.
John Mulligan	Marjorie Guerrier	Bobby
Scottie Credendino	Michael	Ryan
Sister Eddie	Bernie Walther	Celeste
Beverly Noel	Phil Ryder	Warren

Anthony Paribello	Jonathan	Del
Donna Amundsen	Kate Jones	Jan
Shannon & Family	Vincent & Barbara	Sandy
Mary & Family	Wendy	James
Nathan Treadwell	Gladys Hadija	Sophia
Michael & Family	Brooke & Kylee	Mo
Michelle & Family	Christopher	Annie
Timothy Treasure	Donna A.	Aika
Moises Parra	Misael Varas	KristeN

Jay

All people and countries suffering from violence, hatred and natural disaster.

The homeless and food insecure.

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.

To add or make changes to the prayer list during the week,

email Janet Croft at jmc220@optonline.net.

A Morning Prayer

Father in heaven, I stand ready to receive Your wisdom and guidance. In each decision, big or small, lead me to discern your will and to act accordingly. Help me to

understand the depth of Your wisdom, finding guidance
in Your word and through prayer. Teach me to be patient
as I wait for Your direction, trusting that Your timing is
perfect. May I navigate this day with the assurance that
Your wisdom is a treasure far greater than any earthly
knowledge. Guide my thoughts and actions, that they may
be a reflection of Your discernment and love. In Your
guidance, I find the path to a life of purpose and peace.
Amen

Hymn to be sung during the consecration:

Father I adore you,

Lay my life before you,

How I love you.

(Repeat twice with second verse starting with Jesus

And third verse starting with Spirit.)

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

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

2025

CLERGY OF THIS PARISH

The Rev. Gouverneur Cruger

The Rev. Alonzo Stewart

The Rev. Isaac Sturges

The Rev. Annsley Young

The Rev. Frank Leeming

The Rev. Marshall Wilson

The Rev. Harold Hertzler

The Rev. Warren Densmore

The Rev. Edwin Packard

The Rev. Arthur Brown

The Rev. Charles Picket

The Rev. Ralph Fogg

The Rev. Prescott Beach

Hazel Allen Kelley

MaryAnn Murphy

Jean Estinvil Quatorze

Donna Edwards

Lomonde Qaartoze

John Mulligan

Valmont Quatorze

Josephine Mulligan

Clairmantha Point DuJoun

Donald & Mavis Corrodus

Romene Nicolan

Wallace & Lione Tufts

Sevigne Michaud

Edwin & Beatrice Noel

Anne Treasure

Edwin Noel

Christopher Treasure

Mary & Andrew Harbolic

Barbara Treasure

Blanch & Calvert Johnson

Anthony Treasure

Kathleen Treasure

Anne Marie Treasure

Matthew Treasure

Betty & Don Slaight

Ken Golden & Family

Hilda Gilbert & Family

Ed & Eddie Carter

Alfred Donohue

Joseph & Madeline Giordano

Alfred & Rosamond Waters

Arlene & Bill Goodenough

Marge Repoe

John Johnson

Gary Johnson

Donald Croft

Shirley & Richard Rose

Roger & Nancy Croft

Stella Andrews

Gert & Richard Lush

Phyliss Hiller

Richard & Jody Hiller

Jerry Bishop

Tony Diemont

Peter Nolan

Margaret Nolan

