

ALL SAINTS' DAY

Comfort and Joy

The Hope of the Children of God

November 1, 2020



AS WE GATHER

At Christmas is sung “God rest you merry, gentlemen,” with “tidings of comfort and joy.”

Those tidings were made because our Lord had entered human history. We will finally realize those tidings for ourselves when we join the saints in eternal glory, they who are seen in the vision we will read from Revelation. In the meantime, in these mean times, we rely on hope to get us through each day, as St. Paul writes in the Epistle. That hope is based on our being God’s adopted children, brothers and sisters of our risen Lord Jesus. It is both comforting and joyful, no matter our circumstances. As Jesus proclaims in the Gospel’s Beatitudes, people with such hope are blessed indeed! There are different types of hope. The hope some people have is no more than wishful thinking. Others rely on their own plans and intellect to provide a measure of hope during times of difficulty. But for those of us who have been blessed with the gift of faith in our Lord Jesus, hope is sure. For His sake, our heavenly Father has forgiven all our sins and now calls us His own children, brothers and sisters of our Lord. We shall join those who have gone before us to sing God’s eternal praises, even as we join “angels and archangels and all the company of heaven” in the Sanctus before receiving His body and blood.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION:

We seek and find you in Creation, O God, in the world you have made and the people you have called. Your vulnerable, powerful Lamb is our shepherd and guide, leading us to share the shelter of your abundant life. Let us recognize you here in the beauty of this afternoon and in its challenge; may the Risen One, your Shepherd-Lamb, lead us to act for your justice and peace: so that all may drink from your springs of the waters of life, and find their tears of sorrow and pain wiped away. Almighty God, we

thank you for those who have gone on before us, pioneers in faith and ministry, thought, word and deed. We thank you for their example of living a Christ like life. We know that they were not perfect, but we all are your children. Help us to remember when we are running the race of life, that all these people stand by us, cheering us on, praying for us, and loving us. Also, Lord in your compassion, comfort those who are grieving the loss of their saint(s). Comfort the churches. Comfort the Pastors. Comfort your people. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED:

Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. If you confess the same belief, we invite you to our fellowship of the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME:

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE... Good afternoon and a warm word of welcome to everyone who has been able to join us this on this All Saint's Day. What an amazing day and what a fantastic opportunity for us all to come together to share in fellowship and praise. Today, we celebrate with all the saints who are with Christ Jesus in heaven and all who receive the many blessings God has promised through His word. We welcome you one and all ... with open arms, a smile and fellowship - just as we welcome every morning with a smile. Thank you for sharing today with us.

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

WELCOME

Pastor: Today we are celebrating All Saints' Day, on which we give thanks "for all the saints who from their labors rest," those who have gone before us in faith. By definition, a saint is anyone looked on as holy by God, and we who have faith in Christ here on earth are already declared by God to be His saints. Indeed, He calls us His children. Knowing the eternal "end of

the story” gives us hope in our daily walk through life. That hope is summarized in today’s short Epistle.

EPISTLE *1 John 3:1–3* (We are already God’s children.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Confident of salvation, let us confess our sins to our loving, heavenly Father.

People: **We confess that we have not lived as Your children, Father in heaven. In our thinking, speaking, and acting, we have not demonstrated to the people around us the kind of love You have shown us. Forgive us for these our sins. Open our eyes of faith that we may anticipate seeing You in the eternity that awaits us. Then move us toward purity of living that will give You the glory each day until You return.**

Pastor: Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, we are God’s children now because of the hope God has poured into us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For heaven-sent peace and the hope of salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: For global peace and the Church’s growth in faith and hope, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who here return thanks to God for the hope within them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Christ, have mercy, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "For All The Saints" TLH 463 St. 1

1. For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who Thee by faith before the world confest, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical Body of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

People: Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING *Revelation 7:(2-8) 9-17* (Saints around God's throne know eternal salvation after having endured persecution.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

VERSE

Leader: God takes pleasure in His people, clothes the humble with salvation. Alleluia, praise the Lord!

All: 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.

HOLY GOSPEL*Matthew 5:1–12*

(Jesus' followers are blessed now because of His sure promises.)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

SELECTION**Minister Terry Dale****SERMON****SELECTION****Minister Terry Dale****(We Bring Our Tithes and Offering To The Lord)****CREED***Nicene Creed*

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and as incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For ourselves and all who with hope are realizing new beginnings—with new schools to attend, new loves to celebrate, new job opportunities to

explore, and new positions in government to assume—that our Lord Jesus would give them joy in their endeavors, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE “Lord Have Mercy”

Leader: For ourselves and all those who are eagerly returning to their daily circumstances—raising crops and tending herds, transporting goods and offering services, designing products and expanding understanding, defending borders and securing justice, teaching and learning—that the Holy Spirit would give them strength and guidance to serve their neighbors in love and to do God’s will, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE “Lord Have Mercy”

Leader: For ourselves and all who in kindness care for one another—offering hospitality to the homeless, healing to the sick, counsel to the sorrowful, and support for the forgotten—that God would increase their love to provide home, health, consolation, and community; and for those near and dear to us who call to Him in hopeful prayer, [*including . . .*], that our gracious Lord would meet their needs of body, soul, and spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE “Lord Have Mercy”

Leader: For ourselves and all who find they need gentle relief—vacations from demanding agendas and constructive criticism, retirement from career goals and job expectations, and personal time to listen to God’s gracious Word and to be aware of His constant presence—that our heavenly Father would grant them peace and renew their hope until faith gives way to sight, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE “Lord Have Mercy”

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

[Colossians 3:1]

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

[Psalm 136]

SANCTUS Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty (TLH 246 Sts. 1)

1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's
death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*
People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *Revelation 22:20*

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

Families will come to the Lord's table, The Pastor will instruct them to "Take and eat, the Body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins.

Take and drink, the Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace, comfort and joy in this Sacrament,

People: and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION *Romans 15:13*

Pastor: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: Amen.

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

All Saints Day



They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from the God
of their salvation. Psalm 24.5