



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA

"Encouraging faith and proclaiming God's love by Gathering, Growing and Giving."

All Saints Sunday

Holy Communion Sunday

November 5th, 2023

This worship is being livestreamed. Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreeing to be on our live broadcast.

*NOTE: Bold text indicates worshipers' response, and * means please stand as able.*

PRELUDE

Michelle Young

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

Pastor Ron Gerl

Reader: *Brandy Carothers* Acolyte: *Colton Plemon* Video: *Dave Young* Ushers: *Tim Jenson*

GATHERING

* GREETING The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

* GATHERING HYMN *For All the Saints* LBW#174- verses 1-4

For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
all who by faith before the world confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;
you, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
you, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one within your great design.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

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* CONFESSION Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ☩ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. Amen. Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

* FORGIVENESS Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ☩ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY Almighty God, **whose people are knit together in one holy Church, the body of 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen

P: Please be seated as we remember members who've died since last All Saint's Sunday.

*JoAnn Knutson *Loren Hanson *Diane DeMoe *Randal Grossbier *Fred Winger *Evie Silvernale

TIME FOR PERSONAL REMEMBERANCES *(All are welcome to come forward to light a candle in honor of a loved one who has passed away. Candles are located at the front of the sanctuary, by the wood candle holder and candles.)*

PEACEFUL MUSIC

Michelle Young

* HYMN OF PRAISE *Praise God from whom All Blessings Flow* LBW#564

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

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GROWING

Our Reading Today is from the 7th chapter of Revelations

Revelation 7:9-17 NIV

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.

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." ¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!" ¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ 'Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; 'he will lead them to springs of living water.' 'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'"

Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please join in reading Psalm 34 responsively.

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

¹ I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

² **I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.**

³ Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

⁴ **I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.**

⁵ Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.

⁶ **This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.**

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

⁸ **Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.**

⁹ Fear the LORD, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

¹⁰ **The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

²² The LORD will rescue his servants; no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 5th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them. He said: 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 be shown 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 because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O, Christ.

**Please stand as you are able.*

MESSAGE **"Mourning Reality"**

Pastor Ron Gerl

* HYMN OF THE DAY *Jerusalem, My Happy Home* LBW#331- verses 1-4

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

Jerusalem, my happy home, when shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?

O happy harbor of the saints, O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found, no grief, no care, no toil.

Thy gardens and thy gallant walks continually are green;
there grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs as nowhere else are seen.

There trees forevermore bear fruit and evermore do spring;
there evermore the angels sit and evermore do sing.

Text: F.B.P., 16th cent.

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*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*professed together*)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

**Or, He descended to the dead. ** universal*

* PRAYER 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 the ability to vote and elect leaders. Grant wisdom to those who will be elected and safety to poll workers. May civic leaders serve the whole community, especially all who are underrepresented or oppressed. **Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

Holy healer, bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you (*especially*). **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. (*Here the names of those who have died in the previous year may be read.*) 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.

The OFFERING PLATE is located at the entrance of the church sanctuary. Your generous giving supports God's ministry at Shepherd of the Hill.

*OFFERING HYMN *We are an Offering* ELW#692

We are an 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.

Text: Dwight Liles, b. 1957

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* OFFERING PRAYER God of power, **God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

* ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION 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.**
It is indeed right and salutary.....

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

* LORD'S PRAYER **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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

* INVITATION All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat and drink what is good.

HOLY COMMUNION – *All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and wine are welcome to commune with us. Gluten-free wafers available and give "thumbs up" for grape juice. Children who do not yet receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing. If you or a family member would like communion brought to them, please tell an usher.*

* POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

* ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

* SENDING HYMN *Shall We Gather at the River* WOV#690- all verses

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

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Shall We Gather at the River

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.*

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. *Refrain*

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. *Refrain*

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. *Refrain*

* DISMISSAL Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

* BELLS/POSTLUDE

Michelle Young



THIS WEEK AT CHURCH AND BEYOND OUR DOORS

TODAY 11/5 8:45 am - Sunday School
8:45 am - Adult Bible Study
10 am - All Saints Day worship with communion

MONDAY 11/6- 9:45-11:45 - Secretary in Office
7 pm - AA Meeting

TUESDAY 11/7- 11:30-12:30 - Pop-Up Pantry Village Hall
4-6 pm - Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY 11/8- 3:20 pm - Confirmation

FRIDAY: 11/10- 10-Noon - Food Pantry

SUNDAY: 11/12- 8:45 am - Sunday School
8:45 am - Adult Bible Study
10 am - 24th Sunday after Pentecost Worship
- Fellowship following Worship

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Effective 10/16 Secretary will be in office Mondays 9:45-11:45 am or occasional Wednesday 6-8 pm depending on her schedule.

SIGN UP TO HOST A SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP (do with your family or friends) Entails: Making/serving coffee, cut/serve summer sausage and cheese, and crackers (found in the church refrigerator/cabinets), and bring one treat (fruit or sweets or popcorn...you choose). Then just clean up after the event. *This is only sustainable if people volunteer 😊*

MAILING ADDRESSES for those folks who you may want to send words of care/concern/sympathy. ***Please let the secretary know if you would like to be added and/or know someone who might like to be.***

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