

ORDER OF SERVICE

Holy Communion ELW Setting 7 (red) ~ All Saints Sunday

[* Indicates when the congregation is seated.

Please only stand as able]

[**Bolded** section of text is for congregation to recite]

Music Director: Lois Horst

Gathering

* Prelude

* Welcome & Announcements

* Call to Worship

On this All Saints Sunday, we gather to remember teachers and storytellers who made God's stories come alive for us.

We give thanks!

We remember choir members, organists, and all the musicians who sang and played your praises.

We give thanks!

We remember preachers and lay leaders who led our worship through the years.

We give thanks!

We remember parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings who showed us how to hold fast to the faith.

We give thanks!

We remember our church families – this one and others we have loved. We remember all those who have been a part of this faith family with whom we grew our faith and our love for God and neighbour.

We give thanks!

We remember our ancestors in the faith whose courage enables us to be here today.

We give thanks for the saints who came before us, are present here with us, and will continue after us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Children's Message

God of all faithfulness,

you created us

to be in community with each other.

Help us to remember

that we need each other.

We remember today those saints

who are not with us

but still live in love in our hearts.

Thank you

for weaving us together

in your love
now and forever.

Amen

Hymn (red) ELW 414 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

- 1 Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim,
all in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain,
everlasting is your reign.
- 2 Hark! The glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"
- 3 Lo, the apostolic train
join your sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain,
and the white-robed martyrs follow;
and from morn to set of sun
through the church the song goes on.
- 4 Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one;
undivided God we claim you
and, adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900

Apostolic Greeting (p. 175)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

Response: **And also with you.**

Canticle of Praise (p. 176)

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!
Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

Prayer of the Day

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 Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

* **First Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23**

The First Reading is from Ephesians, chapter 1:

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Response: Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

* **Psalm 149 (sung responsively)**

Psalm 149 is sung responsively:

¹ Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD | a new song,
God's praise in the assembly | of the faithful.

² **Let Israel rejoice | in their maker;**
let the children of Zion be joyful | in their ruler.

³ Let them praise their maker's | name with dancing;
let them sing praise with tambou- | rine and harp.

⁴ **For the LORD takes pleasure | in the people**
and adorns the | poor with victory.

⁵ Let the faithful re- | joice in triumph;
let them sing for joy | on their beds.

⁶ **Let the praises of God be | in their throat**
and a two-edged sword | in their hand,

⁷ to wreak vengeance | on the nations
and punishment | on the peoples,

**⁸ to bind their | kings in chains
and their nobles with | links of iron,**

**⁹ to inflict on them the judg- | ment decreed;
this is glory for all God's faithful ones. | Hallelujah!**

Gospel Acclamation (p. 179)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia,

alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:20-23.27-31

Response: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁰ Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. ²⁷ "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Response: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn (red) ELW 427 For All your Saints, O Lord

- 1 For all your saints, O Lord,
who strove in you to live,
who followed you, obeyed, adored,
our grateful hymn receive.
- 2 For all your saints, O Lord,
who strove in you to die,
who counted you their great reward,
accept our thankful cry.
- 3 They all in life and death,
with you, their Lord, in view,
learned from your Holy Spirit's breath
to suffer and to do.
- 4 For this, your name we bless
and humbly pray anew
that we like them in holiness

may live and die in you.

- 5 To God, the Father, Son,
and Spirit, ever blest,
the One in Three, the Three in One,
be endless praise addressed.

Text: Richard Mant, 1776-1848, alt.

*** Message**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Today, on this All Saints' Sunday, we gather with hearts full of memory and hope. We come with faces and names etched in our hearts — those beloved saints who have gone before us in faith. Some of them we knew so well — their laughter, their wisdom, their quiet strength, their faith that carried them through joy and sorrow alike. Others we know only through the stories told — stories of love, of service, of steadfast trust in God. Today, we remember them all.

And as we do, we hear Jesus' words from the Gospel of Luke: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." These are not easy words. They do not glorify suffering, but they speak a deep truth: that in the Kingdom of God, those who know loss, those who hunger for love, those who cry for what has been taken from them — they are the ones closest to God's heart.

When Jesus speaks these blessings, he's not describing some far-off heaven. He's describing a reality already breaking into this world through him — a world where grace turns everything upside down, where the poor are rich in faith, where those who mourn will be comforted, and where love conquers even death.

On this All Saints Sunday, we trust that our loved ones now dwell in that reality. They are gathered in the eternal communion of saints — not lost to us, but held in the eternal embrace of God. Their tears have been wiped away; there is no more pain, no more suffering, no more sorrow.

When we look today at the pictures of our loved ones and into our hearts, we remember their life stories. The stories of overflowing joy, of the walks through the dark valleys of life, stories of healing and forgiveness, and love. As a pastor I'm thankful that I'm invited to dive into those life stories – they are like a movie in my head with life as the movie script. I see joyful Christmas celebrations with lovingly decorated living rooms and a house full of children's laughter. I can almost feel the wind in my hair, the sun in my face and the sand between my toes on those carefree summer days at the cottage. I listened to those who had been expelled from their Heimat, those who experienced the horror of war first hand, and had the courage to start a new life in Canada. I learned about their struggles and their

gratitude of finally finding freedom and peace. There is the joy of doing something with your hands, may it be the kneading of dough to form a bread or pastry, the digging in the dirt to plant something or the building of a house that will be your home, your refuge. I see mothers and grandmothers who created loving homes for their children and grandchildren, being their cheerleaders and having the candy dish always filled with plenty of treats. I felt the joy and love when stories have been told how spouses met for the first time may it be at a dance or through singing together in a choir. I'm forever thankful for those who gave their time and talents to their church. I was amazed by those who never gave up, although life had thrown lots of obstacles in their ways.

How wonderful and precious it is to have all those memories, and to see God's footprints in their lives, although life was often tough and not easy. All of them have seen the beautiful and the difficult. They had a thirst for life. Longing. Dreams. Hopes. They all had their own view of the world. And their own view of God. How they recognized God in their lives, how they were grateful and how they sometimes struggled.

They all left for us a legacy and it is not about how to live the most happy and perfect life. 'Do to others as you would have them do to you'. Jesus says at the end of today's gospel. Their legacy is: Love. As simple and difficult it is. The kind of love that reflects God's own heart. Like us those we remember today were not perfect. But they loved — in big ways and in small ways. They loved their families, their church, their neighbours. They forgave, they shared, they served, they prayed. In their living and in their dying, they showed us something of Christ's love.

And now, we are called to follow in their footsteps — to become, in our own time and place, saints for others. To keep on loving when it's hard. To show mercy when the world chooses anger. To trust that life is stronger than death, and that God's light still shines in the darkest night. As we name our beloved dead today, we do not only remember their passing — we proclaim their living. For in Christ, no one is ever truly gone. The communion of saints stretches across time and space. The boundary between earth and heaven becomes thin — so thin that, for a moment, we can almost feel the brush of eternity.

So today, we give thanks: For the saints of this congregation who worshipped, served, and loved among us. For the saints of our families, whose faith shaped our own. For the saints unknown to us, who bore witness to the Gospel across generations. We give thanks that, by God's grace, we too belong to that great communion — living and departed, one body in Christ. And as we continue our earthly journey, may we be strengthened by their example, encouraged by their faith, and comforted by the promise that one day, we will be welcomed in God's loving arms, too.

'Blessed are you who weep now,' Jesus says, 'for you will laugh.' Yes, the laughter will come — wherever we are in our journey of grieving, because those we lost, loved us with their whole hearts and their love will come to life in and through us again. Amen.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Hymn (blue) ACS 1030 Death Be Never Last

- 1 We walk in light of countless faces
bright as beams of rising sun,
certain as the morning chases
night in endless ages' run.

Refrain

Turning eyes now to their shining mem'ry,
to their faithful past,
saints be now the truth divining:
death be now but never last.

- 2 When sorrow's heavy hand has weighted
loss against the greater gain,
pinning down that grief sore fated
laden on the bed of pain. *Refrain*

- 3 When joy returns with laughter singing
thanks to God for life's sweet song,
let us follow after bringing
thanks to God for those now gone. *Refrain*

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943. Text © 1993 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Apostles' Creed (p. 217)

With the whole church we confess our Christian 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.

Litany of Remembrance

Introduction

Heike

Today we will hear once again the names of all people who passed away within the last year in our congregation. We will light a candle for them. The light of the candle is a symbol that Jesus Christ is the light in our lives and that he will shine into our darkest

moments. Into these moments of loss, grief and pain. Jesus is our light. Through him we know that there is eternal life and that God has a home for us. Our deceased loved ones are not forgotten. They still live in our hearts and with God.

Commemoration

Dave

Our thoughts go back to our loved ones who have passed away. They belonged to us. Their death has changed us and our lives. We think of our deceased.

Heike

We think of members of our congregation that passed away during the last year, we remember them, listen to their names, light a candle for them and lift them up in our prayers.

Dave

We include today in our commemoration those who aren't members of our church, but connected to us and close to us. We think as well of those who passed away a while ago, but are with us each and every day in our hearts. We will hear their names as well and light a candle for them.

Heike

We think of all the people, which have died because of war, hunger, violence and natural disasters.

Dave

We trust that they have eternal names given to them by God and that their names will be written in God's book of life.

Heike

We trust that God's eternal light will shine for them, that they are sheltered under God's wide wings of mercy.

Dave

May God be with us this morning and bless our commemoration.

We light a candle in remembrance of Ed Neff who was called into eternal life at the age of 88.

May God bless him and keep him now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Barbara Pole who was called into eternal life at the age of 80.

May God bless her and keep her now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Kurt Chmielewski who was called into eternal life at the age of 86.

May God bless her and keep her now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Ursula Tutzke who was called into eternal life at the age of 85.

May God bless her and keep her now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Tony and Brigitte Bergmeier who were called into eternal life at the age of 91 and 89.

May God bless them and keep them now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Laurie Brocklebank who was called into eternal life at the age of 91.

May God bless her and keep her now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Sieglinde Ambos who was called into eternal life at the age of 87.

May God bless her and keep her now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Donna Wiese who was called into eternal life at the age of 93.

May God bless her and keep her now and always.

We light a candle in remembrance of Audrey Parker who was called into eternal life at the age of 90.

May God bless her and keep her now and always.

Maybe your hearts and your thoughts are at the moment with other loved ones who passed away recently or longer ago. Those names have been submitted to us and we will commemorate those as well. We remember:

Jessica Brydges

Dan Colquhoun Senior and Dan Colquhoun Junior

Ginny Dietrich

Rev. Dale Finch

Debbie Frodley

Heidi Fruere

Mary Jane Hundt

Rev. Val Hennig

Carl Hoffman

John and Jon Janelle

Peter Karwowski

Saundra Kinnear

Keith Langill, Gene Langill and Douglas Langill

Bruce Owers

Sylvia Redwood

Dr. Ken Smith

Aaron Ziegler

We will now light a candle for all we haven't mentioned by name today, but who are close to our hearts. We remember those especially today who had been victims of violence, war and natural disasters.

Lighting of the big candle

Let us pause for a moment. Let us take this moment to share all our sorrows with God. May we trust in God's never-ending love.

Choir 'On Eagle's Wings' (Joncas/Wagner)

Prayers of Intercession

Response: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Each prayer petition ends with the response: 'Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great'.

A brief silence.

God of all that is, delight in the praises of your people and revive the spirit of your church. Move through us with boldness so that we proclaim the gospel of Christ throughout the world. Renew and revive pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of the beginning, give us the courage to advocate for environmental policy that will ensure a viable future for generations to come. Restore desolate places to health and

flourishing. We lift before you the people of Jamaica, whose lives have been shaken by the force of the hurricane. Shelter those who have lost their homes, comfort those who mourn, and strengthen those who offer aid and rebuild communities.

Let your Spirit of hope move among them, bringing courage in the face of fear, and solidarity among all your children. May your healing presence calm the storm within and around them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all our days, guide the leaders of governments, nations, municipalities, and all those seeking office. Accompany election officials and volunteers. Dismantle injustice and oppression wherever it is found. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of comfort in troubled times, we pray for those in need of protection and care, especially those on our prayer list and those we name in our hearts Trusting that you are constant in mercy, protect those who seek safety and solace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of what is yet to come, encourage and inspire those who give their time, talent, and treasure in service to your church. By their commitment, further the work of ministry in this place and uplift your gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of joyful hearts, we give you thanks for the gift of music that lifts our spirits and draws us closer to you. Today we rejoice in welcoming our new music director, Lois, into our church community. Bless her with inspiration, patience, and joy as she shares her talents and leads us in song. May her ministry nurture harmony among us, encourage new voices to join in praise, and help our hearts to sing your love anew. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of time and space, we give thanks for the faithful departed, especially for those we named today in our Litany of Remembrance. Sustain us in hope of our eternal unity in Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Peace (p. 180)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

Response: **And also with you.**

Meal

*** Offering**

Hymn (red) ELW 423 Shall We Gather at the River

1 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.

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

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

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

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

Offering Prayer

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Saviour, now and forever. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving (p. 180)

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 thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. By the witness of your saints, you show us the hope of your calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.

And so with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending Hymn:

Response (p. 181)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power;
holy is the Lord.
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power;
holy is the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Thanksgiving at the Table X (p. 69)

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the world was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child. When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such

life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour, life in you, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (p. 182)

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Words of Distribution for live-stream

The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

*** Distribution**

At the direction of the usher(s), communicants come forward, entering the center aisle from both sides and receive the bread from the pastor and then proceed to take wine from the common cup or an individual cup from the tray closest to the pew you are sitting in (used cups are placed in baskets right beside the Worship Assistant). Individuals not receiving communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

*** O Lamb of God (p. 182)**

*** Communion Hymns (red) ELW 482, 631, 873**

Table Blessing

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

Prayer after Communion

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. **Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

The love of God strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn (blue) ACS 950 Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In

- 1 Oh, when the saints go marching in,
oh, when the saints go marching in,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.
- 2 Oh, when the Lord in glory comes,
oh, when the Lord in glory comes,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the Lord in glory comes.
- 3 Oh, when the new world is revealed,
oh, when the new world is revealed,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the new world is revealed.
- 4 Oh, when they gather round the throne,
oh, when they gather round the throne,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when they gather round the throne.
- 5 And on that hallelujah day,
and on that hallelujah day,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
on that hallelujah day.

Text: African American spiritual

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

*** Postlude**

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