



*Some of John Nava's "The Communion of Saints" tapestries
in the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles.*

DOVE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 1, 2020
All Saints Sunday

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WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Pastor Stephen Springer

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

PROLOGUE

Kevin Seal, pipe organ

Improvisation on *In Paradisum*

The In Paradisum chant is the Gregorian chant most closely associated with Christian funeral rites, and settings of the text have been a prominent feature of many Requiem mass compositions. This morning, in memory of all of the saints who have gone before us, our organist presents an improvisation based on the chant tune.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

Amen.

CANTICLE: THIS IS THE FEAST

Setting IV

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

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.

A reading from Revelation.

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

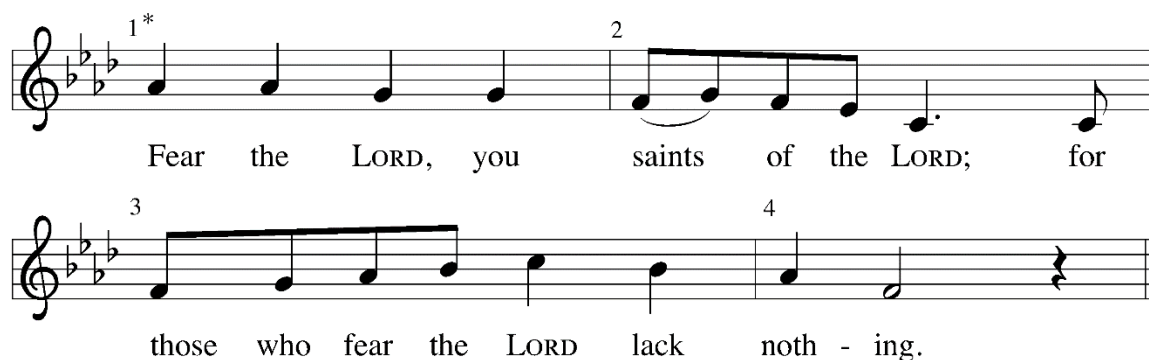
¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY (ELW): Psalm 34:1-10, 22

The refrain is first introduced by the leader, then repeated by the assembly.



**May be sung in canon.*

Psalm 34:9

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

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¹I will bless the Lord | at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.

²**I will glory | in the Lord;**
let the lowly hear | and rejoice. REFRAIN

³Proclaim with me the greatness | of the Lord;
let us exalt God's | name together.

⁴**I sought the Lord, who | answered me**
and delivered me from | all my terrors.

⁵Look upon the Lord | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.

⁶**I called in my affliction, and | the Lord heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles. REFRAIN

⁷The angel of the Lord encamps around those who | fear the Lord
and de- | livers them.

⁸**Taste and see that the | Lord is good;**
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!

⁹Fear the Lord, you saints | of the Lord,
for those who fear the | Lord lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing | that is good.**

²²O Lord, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. **REFRAIN**

SECOND READING: I John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

A reading from First John.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW #169



Cantor: They are before the | throne of God,*
and the one who is seated on the throne will | shelter them. [Romans 6:14]

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.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

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 receive 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 for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

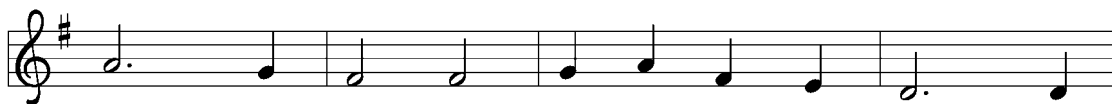
SERMON

Pastor Steve Springer

(vv. 1-2: all; v. 3 higher voices; v. 4 lower voices; v. 5 harmony; vv. 6-7 all)



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,
Stanzas 3-5 below.
 6 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the
 7 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; . .
 saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; the
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . .



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine, we fee - bly strug - gle,
4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the ear the
5 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west; soon, soon to faith - ful



they in glo - ry shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are
dis - tant tri - umph song, and hearts are brave a - gain and arms are
ser - vants com - eth rest; . . . sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
strong.
blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition: "Lord in your mercy," the assembly responds "Hear our prayer."

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Lord of all saints, we praise you for evangelists and martyrs whose sacrifices witness to your gospel across time and space. Anoint us with the missionary spirit of the early church. Inspire us by their courage to carry our faith and the message of salvation to multitudes from every nation, so they may know you and also be called children of God.

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

Thank you, Lord, for being in our midst at Dove of Peace, for being our rock and fortress, our one true light. We take refuge in you, and ask that you would deliver us from all fears. Help us endure the hardships caused by isolation and distance. Keep us who gather safe and well, so we may continue to bring worship to those at home.

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

Lord of every nation, guide this country - red states and blue states, voters from all walks of life, young and old - as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good.

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

We pray your reign may come to all nations. Turn the hearts of the nation's leaders to your will for peace and justice for all.

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

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Awaken in us your call to serve all who suffer, and help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord.

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

With thanksgiving, we remember all of the saints who lived faithfully on earth and now rest with you, especially those most dear us. *[Silence]* We pray with gratitude for the saints of our congregation who in this last year have departed from us and have entered into the church triumphant:

+ Jane Au +
+ Kenneth Brown +
+ Esther Fodness +
+ Kris Hornback +
+ Ruth Jeanette +
+ Donald Kraemer +
+ Frank Musgrave +
+ Sara Jane Musgrave +
+ Lorraine Phillips +
+ Wilma Young +

Hold us as one fellowship, one church, through the mystery and completeness of your Son Jesus Christ.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Together with all of Christ's saints, let us pray as he 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.**

MEDITATIONMembers of the Dove of Peace Chancel Choir

Let Saints on Earth
Austin Lovelace (1919-2010)

This hymn text by Charles Wesley reminds us that we are part of the communion of saints, "one family divided by the narrow stream of death." The composer has set the stanzas of text to two different melodies, seemingly to represent the two realms of God's saints in heaven and here on earth. The last stanza and the composer's setting of it point to the time when we will "join hands with those that went before" in an undivided song of praise.

COMMISSIONPastor Stephen Springer

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.



1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all a -
 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, be - yond mere
 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a spar - kling
 4 Give thanks for saints of a - ges past and saints a -



round seems bleak: on God's good prom - ise they re - ly, so
 mor - tal sight: who seek the cit - y God has planned, the
 pre - cious stone: they show by what they say and do an
 live to - day: though of - ten by this world de - spised, their



while they live and when they die how force - ful -
 true, e - ter - nal prom - ised land, and steer on
 in - ward beau - ty, warm and true, for God's con -
 hearts by God are rich - ly prized. Give thanks that



ly they speak— the strong, who once were weak!
 toward that light, a bea - con ev - er bright.
 cerns they own— God's love through them is known.
 we may say we share their pil - grim way.

Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, b. 1962

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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Toccata, from *Suite Gothique*, Op. 25
Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Today we celebrate the feast of All Saints. This feast day has a long association with the evening that precedes it, and in fact the name Halloween is taken from an antiquated name for All Saints Day, "All Hallows Day". The Christian feast and the cultural feast have long been intertwined, and many of our customs on Halloween come from early religious practices. No instrument is more strongly associated with Halloween than the pipe organ, and this toccata by Boëllmann is one of the more "spooky" works in the repertoire. It's easy to imagine goblins and ghosts dancing around to the C Minor diminished tonality of the primary theme!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Assisting Minister: Dianne Huston
Lector: John Hoelter
Cantor: Eric Holtan