



Hope for the Resurrection

All Saints' Day
November 5, 2023

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, and there are activity bags and a cry room for small children just beside the front door.

Service of Preparation

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Use this time in quiet preparation for the Lord's Supper, perhaps with the help of page 129 in the front portion of the hymnary.

OPENING PRAYER

P: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy word. Please open our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Through the preaching of your word teach us to repent of our sins, to believe in Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake.
Amen.

HYMN

For All the Saints | #554

congregation: v.1

men: v.2

women: v.3

choir: v.4

instruments: v.5

choir: v.6-7

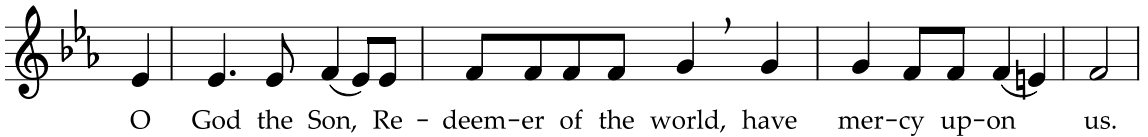
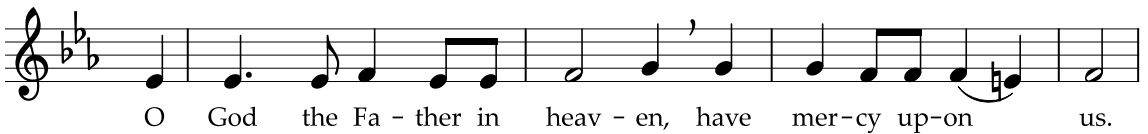
congregation: v.8

CONFESSION OF SIN

- P: Let us confess our sins to God and pray: We poor sinners confess to you, O God, not only that we have been conceived and born in sin, but also that throughout life we have often and in many ways offended you, our Lord and Maker, with our thoughts, words, and actions. You could with perfect justice reject and condemn us for all eternity. Therefore we come before you with sorrow of heart, in dread and terror of your holy justice and of everlasting death. Our sins are a grievous foe, which we should hate in every way as long as we live.
- P: O merciful God, in this hour you still remind us of your fatherly goodness. On account of the promises in your word, we flee for refuge toward your infinite mercy. We implore you, dear Father—on the basis of the work of Jesus Christ, your only-begotten Son, our Brother, who was handed over to death because of our sins and was raised to life again for our justification—forgive us all our sins through faith, which the Holy Spirit increases in our hearts to full assurance.
- C: We therefore pray you, O Lord, through your servant to declare to us the forgiveness of all our sins. We poor sinners are willing to forgive all who have offended against us. We earnestly desire to grow in true godliness. Help us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

HYMN

Kyrie



ABSOLUTION

P: Upon this your confession, by the authority of God, I declare to you the gracious forgiveness of all of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May he who has begun this good work in you carry it on to completion until the day of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you. Amen.

HYMN

Gloria

All glo - ry be to God on high, Who hath our race be -
friend-ed! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is
end - ed; God show - eth his good will to men, And
peace shall dwell on earth a-gain; O thank him for his good - ness!

Service of the Word

This Sunday we observe the celebration of All Saints' Day, the church's memorial day. It is a time to remember every Christian who has died in the faith and now rests from his or her labors, awaiting the Last Day. We also thank God for the blessings he has brought us through their service and example. We hope for the return of Christ and the resurrection of the dead.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, you bring your people together in one holy church. Lead us to follow the steps of your saints that we also may know the joys that you have prepared for those who love you. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 John 3:1–3

We don't know all the details about our new lives after the resurrection, but we know the most important things: we will see Christ and be transformed to be like him.

¹ See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:1–12

While the reading from Revelation shows us saints in glory, this Gospel reading shows us saints on earth. We are already blessed saints now, although the world can't see it.

¹ 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.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN

Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand | #557

SERMON

Revelation 7:9–17

St. John’s vision of a great multitude of saints who enjoy Christ’s blessing forever encourages us in our troubled earthly lives, as well as giving us hope for loved ones who have gone before us.

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.”

The law: What is a trouble human beings face on this topic?

We are victims of tribulation and things that cause pain, sometimes even contributing to the pains of others or ourselves.

The gospel: What is the good news for God's people on that topic?

The Lamb has washed us clean of our sin and God shelters us with his presence and promises to save us from things that cause pain.

The new life: What should you believe/think/feel/do as a result of that good news?

We should feel eager to reach this blessed condition ourselves so that we stay committed to worshipping God and serving him throughout a lifetime of tribulation.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C: 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 was 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall 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 one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I 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.

OFFERING

The teaching and evangelism work of King of Grace is supported entirely by donation. You can support this work by giving a gift in the offering plate or at www.kingofgracelutheran.com/give.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Service of the Sacrament

The members of King of Grace invite members of other ELS or WELS congregations to commune with us. We ask everyone else to please visit with our pastors before our next communion service.

P: Dear friends in Christ! In order that we may receive this holy sacrament worthily, it is good that we consider what we believe. From the words of Christ: "This is my body; this is my blood," we believe that Jesus Christ is himself present with his body and blood, as the words declare. From Christ's words "For the forgiveness of sins," we believe that Jesus Christ gives us his body and blood to actually deliver to us the forgiveness of all of our sins. And finally, we do as Christ commands when he says, "Take, eat; drink of it, all of you," and "Do this in remembrance of me."

We also unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and then love one another with a pure heart, and thus with the whole Christian church have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end, may God the Father grant us his grace; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

CLOSING PRAYER

P: O Lord, we give you our heartfelt thanks that you have taught us what you want us to believe and to do. Help us, O God, by your Holy Spirit, on the basis of Jesus' work, to keep your word in pure hearts, so that by that means we may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

Meditate on how Psalm 149 relates to today's theme at home throughout this week.

Preacher..... Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad | **Liturgist**..... Pastor Bernt Tweit
Organist (Sunday).....Karen Merseth | **Choir Director**Allen Labitzky
Pianist (Monday).....Emily Bredeson | **Preservice pianist**Natalie Josephitis
Brass..... Deb Anderson, Joe Ringen | **Timpani**.....Phyllis Thomforde



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