

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

November 5th, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 Services

All Saints Sunday

Introduction for the day: 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.

Feast of All Saints, [November 1] The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. Our All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. Our liturgy abounds with references to the saints and to our continual relationship with them. The preface for All Saints describes the relationship this way: "that moved by their witness and supported by their fellowship, we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and with them receive the unfading crown of glory." Today and this week invite people to reflect on others – living and dead- who have moved and supported us in our lives of faith.

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Karen Natterstad

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, the whole company of heaven, and our sisters and brothers in this community.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Almighty and Everlasting God, you are a God rich in forgiveness:

God of grace we confess that we have not followed you in all that we say and do, that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We confess our broken relationships, our weak discipleship, and our basic insecurities. Renew us with your Spirit; give us strength of faith and courage to be disciples of faith, hope and love.

How blessed are those whose sins are forgiven. In the mercy of almighty God, I
 announce to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father,
 and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

We come before you, Lord, ready to receive good gifts from you. Amen.

Gathering Song

#422 For All the Saints [Stanza 1-4]

Remembrance of the Saints

Blessed be the God and Creator of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the
 God of all consolation.

**God comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows
 with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.**

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death.

**We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was
 raised from death by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.**

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with
 him in a resurrection like his.

Thanks be to God.

Let us pray. Almighty God, those who die in the Lord still live with you in joy and
 blessedness.

**We offer thanks for the grace you have bestowed upon your servants who have
 finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors.**

We remember this day the lives of those who touched our lives so deeply.

Please be seated.

Video Remembrance of those who have departed since last All Saint's Sunday.

We lift in prayer and remembrance these Saints from our community who have gone
 before us.

Take this moment to remember and call out the saints in your life.

We also remember with thanksgiving saints alive today who continue to touch our lives
 and our faith journeys, and we look ahead with hope to the people whose faithful
 witness to God's love will inspire future generations.

**Keep us grateful for the witness of the saints of all generations, and make us, like
 them, eager to follow in the way of Christ. Then at the last, bring us with
 them to share in the inheritance of the saints of life. Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

Gathering Song

#422 For All the Saints [Stanzas 5-7]

Apostolic Greeting

Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

God of the ages, we give you thanks for saints, those of our day and of days before, who nurtured us in faith, who told us the stories of Jesus, and who cultivated among us the sense of our own vocation to follow God's path.

Help us not only to remember them, but also to follow their example, to nurture their expectant hope, and to live our lives so that others might see your love reflected in all that we say and do. Thank you, God, for the gift of your saints. Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

Isaiah sees a vision of the end of days, when God will gather all people on God's holy mountain and will prepare for them a rich feast. At this banquet God will wipe the tears from all eyes. And there will be no more sorrow, for God will destroy death itself.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

34:1-10, 22

Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD; for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)

Let us read from Psalm 34 responsively:

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

I will glory in the Lord; let the lowly hear and rejoice.

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

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

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

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

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord and delivers them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!

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

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

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

2nd Reading

1 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

**#424 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones
[Stanzas 1-2]**

Gospel Reading

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.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

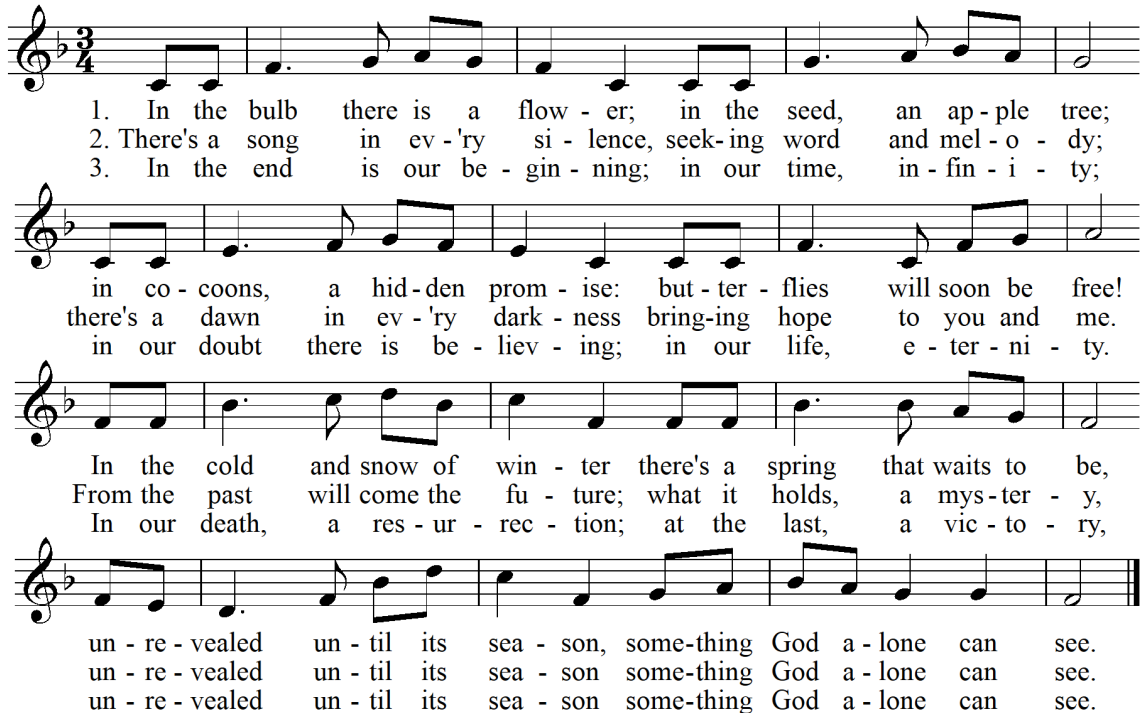
Pastor Karen Natterstad

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

Hymn of Promise

(Prayer Cards, which can be found in the pew racks, will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)



1. In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2. There's a song in ev - 'ry si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3. In the end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise; but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in ev - 'ry dark - ness bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son some - thing God a - lone can see.

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Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.

Prayer of Intercession

Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, let us offer our prayers before God's throne of grace.

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Offering

Julia Murphy, Piano

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory

Rejoice in God's Saints

Re - joice in God's saints to - day and all days!

A world with - out saints for - gets how to praise.

Their faith in ac - quir - ing the hab - it of prayer,

their depth of a - dor - ing, Lord, help us to share.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Copyright © 1973 Hope Publ. Co. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved. Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918. Tune: Laudate Dominum, 10 10 11 11.

Offertory Prayer

God, you make all things new. In you we have a new hope, hope that wipes away tears, and hope that sees beyond death.

Enrich us and make us a people rich in hope. Then, we will be generous with the gifts you give us. Accept our gifts on this day. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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 to Communion

This is the true bread, which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

Come for the table is now set.

Please be seated.

Fruit juice is offered as an alternative to wine. Juice is in the center of the communion tray.

Communion Hymn

#423 Shall We Gather at the River

Please stand as you are able.

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, your saints, arrayed in white and washed in your own blood, praise you even now in heaven's heights. We hope to join them, Lord. Fulfill our hope. You are the Lord forevermore.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

God of all creation, your saints dwell in heaven and on earth.

For you have sanctified all people who put their faith in you.

From generation to generation, you kept our ancestors in the faith and welcomed them into your heavenly home.

May we follow in their footsteps of faith and look to you for blessing.

May the blessings of God the Creator, God the Redeemer and God the Sustainer be with us this day and always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Remembering the Saints of St. Matthew's who have died since last All Saints Sunday:



David Anderson	January 28, 2023
Helen Bessert	December 30, 2022
Evelyn Bollinger	October 17, 2023
Mae Brielmaier	September 7, 2023
Arnold Fuerstenberg	June 15, 2023
Deann Gjenvick	March 10, 2023
David Johnson	December 15, 2022
Shirley Kaisler	April 30, 2023
Carol Keller	November 27, 2022
Kent Krueger	April 21, 2023
Honora Kumm	March 16, 2023
Jerry Laughery	May 17, 2023
Lowell Timm	May 5, 2023
Edward Weiskotten	November 29, 2022

Scripture for All Saints Sunday - November 5, 2023

1st Reading -- Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

2nd Reading -- 1 John 3:1-3

See 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.

Beloved, 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. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Gospel Reading -- Matthew 5:1-12

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

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."