



OUR CONFESSION APPROVES HONORING THE SAINTS IN THREE WAYS.

THE FIRST IS **THANKSGIVING**. WE SHOULD THANK GOD BECAUSE HE HAS SHOWN EXAMPLES OF MERCY, BECAUSE HE WISHES TO SAVE PEOPLE, AND BECAUSE HE HAS GIVEN TEACHERS AND OTHER GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. THESE GIFTS, SINCE THEY ARE THE GREATEST, SHOULD BE AMPLIFIED. THE SAINTS THEMSELVES, WHO HAVE FAITHFULLY USED THESE GIFTS, SHOULD BE PRAISED JUST AS CHRIST PRAISES FAITHFUL BUSINESSMEN (MATTHEW 25:21, 23).

THE SECOND SERVICE IS THE **STRENGTHENING OF OUR FAITH**. WHEN WE SEE PETER'S DENIAL FORGIVEN, WE ALSO ARE ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE ALL THE MORE THAT GRACE TRULY SUPERABOUNDS OVER SIN (ROMANS 5:20).

THE THIRD HONOR IS THE **IMITATION**, FIRST OF FAITH, THEN OF THE OTHER VIRTUES. EVERYONE SHOULD IMITATE THE SAINTS ACCORDING TO HIS CALLING.

THE BOOK OF CONCORD, APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION, XXI, 4-7

ALL SAINTS

NOVEMBER 3, 2024 ✠ 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

ALL SAINTS DAY

In the first three centuries after Christ's resurrection, the lives of the martyrs (those who lost their lives for confessing their faith in Christ) of the Church were commemorated on the day and in the place where they were killed. There were so many who were killed because of their faith in Christ during those centuries, that throughout the Christian Church different days were set aside not only for each martyr, but a special day for all Saints. This has traditionally been celebrated on November 1st.

The earliest reference to a day being dedicated to the commemoration of All the Martyrs and All Saints of the Christian Church comes from the 2nd century. This day has a special history in the Lutheran Church because it was on the eve of All Saints' Day (Hallow's Eve) in 1517 that Martin Luther posted 95 Theses for debate on the door of the church at Wittenberg, Germany.

Today our focus is two-fold—we give thanks to God for the saints who now rest from their labors; who have fought the good fight; who have finished the race. We also ask that God would bless "The Holy Christian Church, The Communion of Saints" who still fight the good fight. We pray that God would help us imitate the example of those who have gone before (Hebrews 11-12) and so encourage and strengthen us on the way that leads to our heavenly home.

.....
THE SAINTS HAVE NO NEED OF HONOR FROM US; NEITHER DOES OUR DEVOTION ADD THE SLIGHTEST THING TO WHAT IS THEIRS. CLEARLY, IF WE VENERATE THEIR MEMORY, IT SERVES US, NOT THEM. BUT I TELL YOU, WHEN I THINK OF THEM, I FEEL MYSELF INFLAMED BY TREMENDOUS YEARNING.

- BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX (ca. 1100 AD)

The Festival of ALL SAINTS

∞ The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD type**. ∞

Hymn 883 Behold a Host, Arrayed In White

Dialogue of Praise, Repentance and Forgiveness

Please stand.

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

Mt 28:18-20

Amen

Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto the One who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and ever.

Revelation 5:13

Jesus remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.

Luke 23:42-43

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by my sins and am deeply sorry for them.

Silence for reflection

Jesus' death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. He said to His people,
"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven."

John 20:23

Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. You are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life!

Amen!

In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God;

We trusted in Him and He saved us."

Isaiah 25:9

My flesh and my heart may fail,

But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalms 73:26

I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth.

And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh, I will see God.

Job 19

THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer of the Day

To all who are loved by God and called to be saints: grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

His grace and peace to you also.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have knit Your people together in one holy Church, the body of Christ our

Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of Your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

When God removes the shroud of death that hangs over us and brings us with him to everlasting glory, he will serve us a banquet of the finest things and he will wipe every tear from our eyes. Such a soaring promise lifts our eyes to even better days and fills us with hope in the God who saves us.

⁶On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

⁷On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears
from all faces;
he will remove his people's disgrace
from all the earth.
The LORD has spoken.

⁹In that day they will say,
"Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the LORD, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

This is the Feast

This hymn rejoices over the victory of Christ pictured in Revelation 5. It is a celebration of Christ's victory, not only over death, but in death.

8:00 am - Congregation sings the entire hymn

10:15 am - Junior Choir sings the first refrain and verses; congregation joins in remaining refrains

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 † Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -



blood set us free___ to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or,___ bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: v. 4
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun his___ reign. Al - le - lu - ia! *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Second Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

A glorious vision of the saints of God standing in paradise comforted John and is for our comfort too, to lift our hearts and draw us above ourselves and the struggles here below, up to the throne, to Christ, to rest, to our guaranteed future, our victory, our home.

⁹After 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. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,
 who sits on the throne,
 and to the Lamb.”

¹¹All 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,
¹²saying:

“Amen! Praise and glory
 and wisdom and thanks and honor
 and power and strength
 be to our God for ever and ever.
 Amen!”

¹³Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

¹⁴I 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. ¹⁵Therefore,

“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.
17For 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 Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

**Congregation: "And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up on the last day."**

*Cantors: "I am the resurrection, I am the life.
They who believe in me, even if they die, they shall live forever."*

**Congregation: "And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up on the last day."**

The Holy Gospel

John 11:32-44

32When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

33When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 34"Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

35Jesus wept.

36Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

37But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

38Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39"Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

40Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

41So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

43When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though He dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," Martha told Him, "I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God."

John 11:25-27

St. John recorded: "then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are they who die

in the Lord from now on.”

“Yes,” says the Spirit, they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.

Rev 14:13

As we look forward to the eternal joys in store for us, let us today remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before us in the Faith and received their true rest.

They were created by God to offer Him praise and thanksgiving forever, and He gave them new life through His Son in Holy Baptism, and nourished them in the company of His people in His Holy Supper. Now in His mercy has summoned them to His nearer presence so that they may continue in joyful service of Him forever.

In joyful expectation of the resurrection to life, we remember before You, O Lord, all our departed family and friends, and especially on this feast of all saints, those we now name in our hearts whom You have to heavenly rest.

Brief silence

For all those who stand now in glory, for their lives shared with us, for their example of faith, for their new life in eternity and that Your grace has found us too,

Thanks be to God!

For the martyrs of our holy faith; for the faithful witnesses to Christ of whom the world was not worthy; and for all who have resisted falsehood and wrong unto suffering or death:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For all who have labored and suffered for freedom, good government, just laws, and the sanctity of the home; and for all who have given their lives for their country:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For all who have sought to bless the world by their service and to lighten the dark places of the earth; for all who have dared to

push back the horizons of knowledge in order to bless the world in which we live:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For those who have been tender and true and brave in all of the lesser callings of life, serving faithfully where You have placed them:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For the teachers and companions of our childhood and youth; for fathers and mothers who nurtured us; for faithful pastors who ministered to us; and for the members of our household of faith who worship You now in heaven:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

For the grace given to all of them, and for the trust and hope in which they lived and died:

We praise You, O God, and bless Your name.

That we may hold them in remembrance always and that we may prepare ourselves to follow them in their upward way:

We ask You to hear us, O God.

And finally, we pray for the faithful gathered in this place: for those who rejoice, for those who suffer, and for those who mourn, that in the communion of the Holy Spirit, with the faithful and the saintly in heaven, with the redeemed of all ages, with our beloved who dwell in Your presence and peace, we, who still fight the good fight of faith on earth, unite in giving: Thanksgiving, glory, honor, and power unto You, O Lord, our God.

Amen.

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.

Hymn of Praise - For All the Saints (Hymn #880, st. 1,2,4,6,7,8)

We sing this hymn in thanksgiving and praise to God for the faithful departed of all time and places.

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

MEN sing: Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL sing: Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

WOMEN sings: The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon, to faithful warriors cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please stand.

ALL sing: But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL sing: From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon Revelation 7 and John 11 Were they ours to keep?

After the sermon, please stand.

Apostles Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated.

Prayer of the Church

Offering



Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give a gift in that way.

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to (833) 693-7056. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

THE SACRAMENT

Stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who in blessing His saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

The Words of Our Lord Jesus

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Be seated.

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS

Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

*Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!***

Hymn 866 Blessed Are They

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.
Your † sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn | 889 Jerusalem the Golden



Thank you to our musicians, Amy Sehloff (piano/organ), Tom Bruce (trumpet), Zach Brandt (cantor), Chandra Lange (cantor and choir director), and Prince of Peace Junior Choir for adorning this festival with music!

On this feast day, God reminds us of our ultimate destination. Having hope in the eventual full realization of the kingdom of God doesn't take away our sorrow and grief, but it becomes a sort of comrade. It takes our hand and leads us toward what's true. Yes, we have lost so much, and we will continue to experience loss. But we have also received good things, and we will continue to receive good things. In Christ, we receive God's presence, comfort, love, grace, and mercy. We receive the ability to empathize and sympathize with others who are where we have been or where we are now. We receive assurance that this place we inhabit isn't our final stop.

- Charlotte Donlon, *The Christian Post*

“To those who know a little of christian history probably the most moving of all the reflections it brings is not the thought of the great events and the well-remembered saints, but of those innumerable millions of entirely obscure faithful men and women, every one with his or her own individual hopes and fears and joys and sorrows and loves — and sins and temptations and prayers — once every whit as vivid and alive as mine are now. They have left no slightest trace in this world, not even a name, but have passed to God utterly forgotten by men. Yet each one of them once believed and prayed as I believe and pray, and found it hard and grew slack and sinned and repented and fell again. Each of them worshipped at the eucharist, and found their thoughts wandering and tried again, and felt heavy and unresponsive and yet knew — just as really and pathetically as I do these things.

There is a little ill-spelled ill-carved rustic epitaph of the fourth century from Asia Minor:

— ‘Here sleeps the blessed Chione, who has found Jerusalem for she prayed much’. Not another word is known of Chione, some peasant woman who lived in that vanished world of christian Anatolia. But how lovely if all that should survive after sixteen centuries were that one had prayed much, so that the neighbours who saw all one’s life were sure one must have found Jerusalem! What did the Sunday eucharist in her village church every week for a life-time mean to the blessed Chione — and to the millions like her then, and every year since then? The sheer stupendous quantity of the love of God which this ever-repeated action has drawn from the obscure Christian multitudes through the centuries is in itself an overwhelming thought.”

— Dom Gregory Dix, *The Shape of the Liturgy* (1945)

“Yes, Lord, Martha replies. I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world....and she goes back calmly to the house to tell Mary that Jesus has arrived.

Notice what has happened. Martha came to Jesus so preoccupied with her own terrible situation that she could only see him in the light of that situation - Lord, if only you’d been here...and even now perhaps there’s some sort of hope. Jesus accepts her like that, but by the end of the conversation things are very different. When she goes away, she no longer sees Jesus through the haze of her problems.

She sees her problems in the light of Jesus. The big problem is still there. Knowing Jesus, she is no longer in a flap about it. Being risen with Christ, we are to seek the things that are above. Life does not suddenly become free of problems, but in the company of the living Christ we may be able to look at them with humility and faith, to cope with them with renewed strength and purpose, and to live our whole lives with holiness and with hope.”

-NT Wright on John 11

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WEBSITE
popslc.org

  
@poplutheranslc

MAIN OFFICE
(801)261-3808

DAVID M. BOETTCHER | PASTOR
CELL: (385)409-1653
david.boettchere@popslc.org

TYLER R. PEIL | PASTOR
CELL:(402)936-3655
tyler.peile@popslc.org

MICHAEL E. PAULSEN | PRINCIPAL
CELL:(262)490-4772
mike.paulsen@popschool.org