

# St. Johns Lutheran Church

## Blessed Saints in White Robes



Made White  
in the Blood of the Lamb

St. Johns Lutheran Church

St. Louis, Missouri

The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

(All Saints Day Observed)

November 6th, 2022

Divine Service Setting 4

LSB 203

## **AS WE GATHER**

In today's Gospel, we see people questioning Jesus about the resurrection from the dead and eternal life. Jesus proclaims that God is the God of the living and that death is not the final word, but there is eternal life after death. Eternal life with Christ is a comfort indeed. We have a sure hope as we navigate the grief and tragedy of this world, knowing that Jesus will bring us from this valley of sorrow into the joys of eternity with Him.

## **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **WELCOME GUESTS**

We're glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering. Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St. Louis City) and checking out our website (<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>).

## **PREPARATION**

**HYMN**              From God Can Nothing Move Me      *LSB 713*

**From God can nothing move me;  
He will not step aside  
But gently will reprove me  
And be my constant guide.  
He stretches out His hand  
In evening and in morning,  
My life with grace adorning  
Wherever I may stand.**

**When those whom I regarded  
As trustworthy and sure  
Have long from me departed,  
God's grace shall still endure.  
He rescues me from sin  
And breaks the chains that bind me.  
I leave death's fear behind me;  
His peace I have within.**

**The Lord my life arranges;  
Who can His work destroy?  
In His good time He changes  
All sorrow into joy.  
So let me than be still:  
My body, soul, and spirit  
His tender care inherit  
According to His will.**

**Each day at His good pleasure  
God's gracious will is done.  
He sent His greatest treasure  
In Jesus Christ, His Son.  
He ev'ry gift imparts.  
The bread of earth and heaven  
Are by His kindness given.  
Praise Him with thankful hearts!**

**Praise God with acclamation  
And in His gifts rejoice.  
Each day finds its vocation  
Responding to His voice.  
Soon years on earth are past;  
But time we spend expressing  
The love of God brings blessing  
That will forever last!**

**Yet even though I suffer  
The world's unpleasantness,  
And though the days grow rougher  
And bring me great distress,  
That day of bliss divine,  
Which knows no end or measure,  
And Christ, who is my pleasure,  
Forever shall be mine.**

*Stand*

**For thus the Father willed it,  
Who fashioned us from clay;  
And His own Son fulfilled it  
And brought eternal day.  
The Spirit now has come,  
To us true faith has given;  
He leads us home to heaven.  
O praise the Three in One!**

## **INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## **OPENING SENTENCES**

I give thanks to God for you, beloved by the Lord.

**God has called us through the Gospel.**

God gives us hope through the resurrection of the dead  
**and the life of the world to come.**

God loves us and gives us eternal comfort by His grace.

**God calls us to stand firm and cling to His work and Word.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Despite God's call for us to stand firm, we have failed to do so.

Despite God's gift of eternal comfort, we have sought temporal comforts that have led us away from Him. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and seek His forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection.*

Heavenly Father,  
**we confess that we have placed our hope in the things of this world. We have looked for comfort from idols of our own making rather than from You. We have faltered and fallen and failed. Forgive us, renew us, and restore us, on account of Jesus. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you, and for His sake, He restores your hope and comfort. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen. We are forgiven. We have eternal comfort in Jesus.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**LSB 204**

**To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Good-will from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing-  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heavenly King.**

**To You, O sole begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heart-felt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high.**

**For you a-lone are holy;  
You only are the Lord,  
For-ever and for-ever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad re-ply.**

### **SALUTATION**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Living God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **MEMORIZED WORD**

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. Romans 8:18

### **FIRST READING** Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup> And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God

forever and ever! Amen.” <sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” <sup>14</sup> I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup> “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. <sup>16</sup> They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup> For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL**    *Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5*

**These are the ones coming out of the great tribu \* lation.**

**They have washed their robes and made them white in  
the blood \* of the Lamb.**

**Blessèd are those whose strength is \* in You,  
in whose heart are the highways to \* Zion.**

**EPISTLE**    *1 John 3:1-3*

<sup>1</sup> See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE**        *Luke 20:38*

**Alleluia. He is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to Him. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**        *Matthew 5:1-12*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: <sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. <sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. <sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. <sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. <sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. <sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

Jerusalem the Golden

*LSB 672*

**Jerusalem the golden,  
With milk and honey blest--  
The promise of salvation,  
The place of peace and rest--  
We know not, oh, we know not**



**What joys await us there;  
The radiancy of glory,  
The bliss beyond compare!**

**Within those halls of Zion  
Sounds forth the joyful song,  
As saints join with the angels  
and all the martyr throng.  
The Prince is ever with them;  
The daylight is serene;  
The city of the blessed  
Shines bright with glorious sheen.**

**Around the throne of David,  
The saints, from care released,  
Raise loud their songs of triumph  
To celebrate the feast.  
They sing to Christ their leader,  
Who conquered in the fight,  
Who won for them forever  
Their gleaming robes of white.**

*Stand*

**O sweet and blessed country,  
The home of God's elect!  
O sweet and blessed country  
That faithful hearts expect!  
In mercy, Jesus, bring us  
To that eternal rest  
With You and God the Father  
And Spirit, ever blest.**

**SERMON**

## APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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**

**OFFERING** *“Blessed Are They” Sung by the Choir*

## COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Today, as we celebrate All Saints' Day, we are given three reasons for honoring the saints in the Apology of the Augsburg Confession. ***First, is thanksgiving*** as we remember the saints, we thank God for giving faithful servants to His Church.

***Second, is the strengthening of our faith*** as we see the mercy that God extended to His saints of old. And also, these saints are examples by which we may imitate both their faith and their holy living according to our calling in life.

***Third, is imitating their faith.*** for all those who have gone before us for the mercy they showed us, for the examples they gave us, for the joy they brought to our lives, we give thanks.

*[At this time individual members who have died since last All Saints' Day may be remembered by name. Irene Hurst, Carol Carr, Don Osiek, and Dennis Solomon, As each name is read, a bell will toll, a candle is lit, and Scripture read, as a sign of remembrance and of victory in Christ.]*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Let us pray

Lord Jesus Christ, You came down from the heavens to dwell among us. In Your humanity, You endured the sufferings and temptations we face. Strengthen us to pick up our cross daily and follow You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we bring before You all those who have stopped following You. We pray that You would soften their hearts and give us wisdom to share Your words of eternal life so that they might follow You again. Lord, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, You have borne our griefs and shared in our sorrows. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief, [*especially . . .*] Point them to the hope of the resurrection to eternal life with Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we bring before You all who have suffered the pain of miscarriages, stillbirths, and infant death. Be the eternal comfort and hope those who suffer need. Assure them in Your grace and mercy that You are the God of the living. Lord, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we pray for all who teach. Strengthen their gift of teaching by the power of the Holy Spirit so that knowledge and wisdom would increase, especially knowledge and wisdom of You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we commend all these things into Your hands of eternal comfort, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

### **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.

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

**Amen.**

**HYMN**                      Sing with All the Saints in Glory                      *LSB 671*

**Sing with all the saints in glory,  
Sing the resurrection song!  
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,  
To the former days belong.  
All around the clouds are breaking;  
Soon the storms of time shall cease;  
In God's likeness we awaken,  
Knowing everlasting peace.**

**Oh, what glory, far exceeding  
All that eye has yet perceived!  
Holiest hearts for ages pleading  
Never that full joy conceived.  
God has promised, Christ prepares it;  
There on high our welcome waits.**

**Ev'ry humble spirit shares it,  
Christ has passed the eternal gates.**

**Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices;  
Jesus lives who once was dead.  
Shout with joy, O deathless voices!  
Child of God, lift up your head!  
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders  
Crowd on faith; what joy unknown,  
When, amid earth's closing thunders,  
Saints shall stand before the throne!**

Preacher	Alvaro Witt Duarte
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Lector	Pastor Michael Tanney
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	Cameron Hampel, John Benwell, Patrick Benwell, Jayvon Evers, Joan Potvin, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Isaac Hedstrom
Acolytes/Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Bible Class	Tristan Pilot

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# Announcements

## Saved to Share Called to Care

### Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday: 50

Communion: 40

Offering: \$1,582.00

**VOTER'S MEETING** There will be a Voter's Meeting next Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am after Bible Class.

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY** for young adults between the ages of 18-30. The Bible Study will run from 5:30pm-7:30pm, and will include a pizza dinner (provided by St. Johns). Our next date will be November 12th. If interested, please send an email to [stjohnslcstl@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslcstl@gmail.com) to be added to the GroupMe.

**SUPPORT OUR LCMS SCHOOLS** The Missouri District has been approved as an Educational Assistance Organization under the State of Missouri – Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Tax Credit Program. Under this program, taxpayers will be able to direct qualified dollars to the scholarship program at no extra cost and receive tax credits for their participation. These funds will then be used to provide scholarships for selected students at LCMS schools throughout the state of Missouri. [See the flyers around Church for more info.](#)

**FOOD PANTRY HELP** The Food Pantry could use volunteers to help with a food delivery on November 12th at 12pm. Talk to Karen Vineyard for more info.

**WOL RESTAURANT NIGHT** for November will be on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> At JJ Twigg's on Hampton. 10% of Sales will benefit WOL! No flyer is needed for Word of Life to get credit.

**CALLING ALL 8TH GRADERS!** The early application deadline for the **Lutheran South** 2023-2024 school year is November 15, 2022. Why apply by November 15? You will get a t-shirt that is only available to early applicants, receive an early acceptance letter in December, and qualify for course selection on February 6. There is no reason to wait! Join the Lancer family and apply today at [lslancers.org/admissions](https://lslancers.org/admissions).

## Prayers

**Special Prayer Petitions** –**Melba Fanger** for a quick recovery; **Maureen Rehmer** for healing of her hip; **Carmen Hobson** for patience in waiting for the news for heart surgery; **Bobbie** who is back in the nursing home, but suffering; **Confirmation Class** for the Lord to mature their faith; **Our Vicars** as they continue to take classes at the Seminary; **Our Field-Workers** Tristan (and family) and Isaac.  
**Shut Ins** – Bobbie Kepford, Jerry Schmaltz, Steve Bain, Eileen Wehrheim, Carmen Hobson, Melba Fanger

### *Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week*

**November 6-November 13**

Sunday	<b>9:00am Worship</b> 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	8am-12pm Office Open / <u>7pm</u> Elders <u>8am-3pm</u> Counseling in Nursery / <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass
Tuesday	8am-12pm Office Open 3pm-6pm Compass 7pm Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open 3pm-6pm Compass 3:45pm Compass Chapel 6:00pm Choir
Thursday	8am-12pm Office Open 2pm Ridgewood Apartments Bible Study 3pm-6pm Compass / 6:30pm Adult Confirmation
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open 8am Bible Study NO Counseling in Nursery 1pm Nepali Mother's Prayer Service NO Compass
Saturday	8:30am Food Pantry 9am Confirmation 2pm Vicar Meeting / 3pm Nepali Leadership Meeting 5:30pm-7:30pm Young Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	<b>9:00am Worship w/ Communion</b> 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship <u>11:30am</u> Voter's Meeting / <u>12:30pm</u> African Worship