

# ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



November 7, 2021

10:00 a.m.

## INTRODUCTION

*Of all three years of the lectionary cycle, this year's All Saints readings have the most tears. Isaiah and Revelation look forward to the day when God will wipe away all tears; in John's gospel, Jesus weeps along with Mary and all the gathered mourners before he demonstrates his power over death. On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah's feast to come.*

## PRELUDE



+ GATHERING +

## REMEMBRANCE OF ALL SAINTS

*The congregation stands. All make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

**C** **Amen.**

*A brief silence is kept.*

**P** Holy One,

**C** **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

**P** Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✠ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

**C** **Amen.**

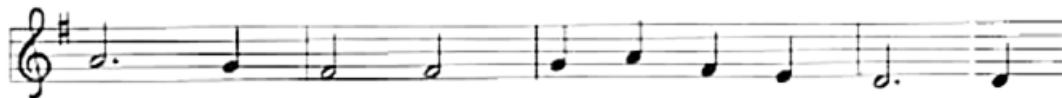
*The assembly is seated.*

*As each name is called, the congregation is invited to light candles in remembrance of loved ones. After the candles are lit, stand as you are able for the gathering hymn.*

**GATHERING HYMN**      422      *For All Saints (vs. 1, 2, 5-7)*



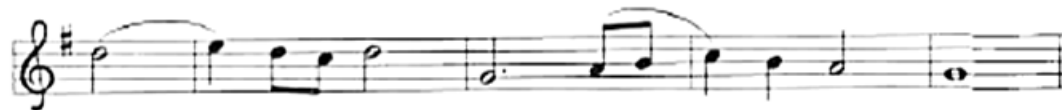
1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who  
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou,  
*Stanzas 3-5 on facing page.*  
6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: the  
7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



thee by faith before the world confessed, thy  
Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; . . .  
saints triumphant rise in bright array; the  
gates of pearl streams in the countless host, . . .



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
King of glory passes on his way.  
sing - ing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:



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

5 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west;

soon, soon to faith - ful ser - vants com - eth rest; ...

sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.

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

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897  
 Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958  
 © Oxford University Press

## GREETING

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

**C** And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



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



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. | Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*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.



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON



+ 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.*

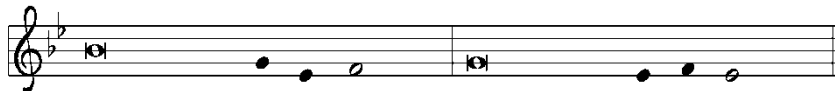
¶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ¶And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ¶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.

Reader           The word of the Lord.

**C                Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 24

*We sing the psalm responsively.*



Leader ¶The earth is the LORD's and all ¶ that is in it,  
the world and those who ¶ dwell therein.

**C            ¶For the LORD has founded it up- ¶ on the seas  
and established it up- ¶ on the rivers.**

L            ¶Who may ascend the mountain ¶ of the LORD,  
and who may stand in God's ¶ holy place?

**C** <sup>4</sup>Those of innocent hands and puri- | ty of heart,  
who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by | what is  
false.

**L** <sup>5</sup>They shall receive blessing | from the LORD  
and righteousness from the God of | their salvation.

**C** <sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek | you, O LORD,  
of those who seek your face, O | God of Jacob.

**L** <sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- | lasting doors,  
that the King of glory | may come in.

**C** <sup>8</sup>Who is this | King of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, might- | y in battle!

**L** <sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- | lasting doors,  
that the King of glory | may come in.

**C** <sup>10</sup>Who is this | King of glory?  
Truly, the LORD of hosts is the | King of glory.

*Spoken after the psalm is sung:*

**C** **Amen.**

## **SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6a**

*Here is a vision of the new heaven and new earth in which God resides fully with God's people so that mourning, despair, and pain have been eradicated. These renewing words from the God who spans all of time are trustworthy and true.*

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

Reader        The word of the Lord.

**C                Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### GOSPEL:    John 11:32-44

*Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.*

P        The holy gospel according to John, the eleventh chapter.

**C        Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing



here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *We encounter the living word of God in the preaching.*

HYMN OF THE DAY 428 *Give Thanks for Saints (vs. 1-3)*



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  
 Text © 2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission.

## NICENE CREED

A Let us confess our faith.

C 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition ends: Hear us, O God.*

*Congregational response: Your mercy is great.*

## PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

*We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*



+ MEAL +

## OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

### OFFERING HYMN      692      *We Are an Offering*

We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text: Dwight Liles, b. 1957  
Music: Dwight Liles  
Text and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING  
PM

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

C **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.**

*The assembly stands.*

## + SENDING +

**BLESSING** *We receive the blessings of the triune God.*

P God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life,  
✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore.

C **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SENDING HYMN 423** *Shall We Gather at the River (vs. 1, 3 & 4)*

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,  
 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;  
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

*Refrain*

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;


gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

**DISMISSAL**

- P We believe out loud that God’s mission for us is:
- C to be an active community that welcomes all people to nurture and share their faith and gifts with everyone, according to God’s call.**
- P Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.**

+ + +

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**FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
IN HONOR OF THE REECE FAMILY  
FALL BIRTHDAYS.**

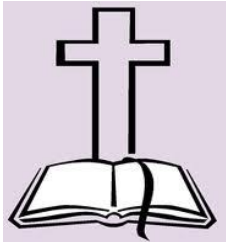
**Calendar for November 07 - 14**

Nov.	07	Sun.	10:00 am	Worship, All Saints Sunday
	10	Wed.	noon	Bible study (online)
	13	Sat.	8 am	Sanctuary moving day
	14	Sun.	10:00 am	Worship, Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*\*The office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day.*

**Next Sunday’s Readings, Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost:**

[Daniel 12:1-3](#)  
[Psalm 16](#)  
[Hebrews 10:11-14 \[15-18\] 19-25](#)  
[Mark 13:1-8](#)



## SERVING TABLE

Serving	November 7	November 14
<b>Presiding</b>	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom
<b>Preaching</b>	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Beth Alexander	Jennifer Dritt
<b>Cup Minister</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Lector</b>	Astrid van der mark	Jennifer Dritt
<b>Cantors</b>	Martin Guttenplan Sandy Larson	Rita Ford Jake Hartung
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Judi Duffy Linda Eshleman	Beth Alexander Erin Kenney
<b>Counters</b>	Audrey Post Billie Reardon	Bob Eshleman Linda Eshleman
<b>Announcements</b>	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom

## PRAYER REQUESTS

***New concerns:*** Isaac (son of Terri Schmitt) for healing (both physical and emotional); Astrid and Stephanie pray for their late sweet cat Chino who brought much joy in the short time she was with us. Also, we send prayers for Teddy McAdams and her family.

***For the sick:*** Val Sullivan; Margarete Decker (mother of Caroline Collins); Don Dowd; Isabelle Taylor (granddaughter of Bill & Connie Taylor), being treated for rheumatoid arthritis and Primary Immunodeficiency; Theresa Martin (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Dan Graney (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Sarah (friend of Cassandra White); Gerhard Hofer (brother-in-law of Ridy Hofer).

***In treatment for cancer:*** Stephanie Barber; Cathie Nitti (niece of Sharon Simmons); Jenny (niece of Laura Sullivan & Colin Hackley); Rosalinda Wright; Maggie Soff (friend of Sandy Sampson); James Sablan (brother of Donna Schiffer); Isabell Cintron (friend of Sharon Simmons); Sarah Lucas (friend of Cassandra White); Bruce Blubaum (cousin of Sharon Simmons); Chris Dickman (synod council member), child of Pr. Katrina Foster (friend of Cheryl).

***For health and protection:*** For all affected by coronavirus: those experiencing mental health difficulties due to isolation; those with the disease struggling to recover; those on the front lines fighting, researching and treating the disease (doctors, nurses, medical personnel, EMTs, the millions of unemployed people, etc.); for the unaccompanied children entering the US, including those “unaccounted for”.

***For prisoners:*** Femi and Eddie; all those on death row.

***Other concerns:*** Karen Olson; Blanche White (Melissa Barton).

***Church concerns:*** St. Stephen’s Congregational Council; The Florida-Bahamas Synod Council, all congregations searching for ways to stay connected and proclaim the Good News; Reconciling Works; Grace Lutheran Church; Bishop Pedro Suarez; Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; Our Savior Lutheran Church in Freeport, Bahamas; the ELCA Advocacy offices and ministry; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pensacola.

***World concerns:*** For all recovering in the Florida Panhandle from Hurricane Michael, including Messiah Lutheran Church; the people of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands continuing to recover from hurricanes; migrants fleeing violence in Central America; all those migrants and asylum seekers imprisoned by the US government; the people of Venezuela (birthplace of Bp. Suarez) and Hong Kong; for the Supreme Court as it considers cases involving the LGBTQ community.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:** Now that we are back to in-person worship service, we are in need of more worship assistants, mainly Cup Ministers. If you are interested, please contact Lori in the office.

**FLOWER CHART FOR 2021:** Do you have an anniversary, birthday or special memory you would like to honor? Celebrate the occasion by sponsoring the flowers for our service and signing up for the 2021 Flower Chart located in the narthex. The cost is \$35, and you can place that in the offering plate.

**RSVP FOR NEXT WEEK:** Remember to use the Sign-up Genius to reserve your spot for worship service (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c45a4a62ea7fbc16-sunday>). The deadline is noon on the Friday before worship. The calendar has dates available throughout the summer.





## 2022 Estimate of Giving

*In support of God's mission for St. Stephen Lutheran Church:  
To be an active community that welcomes all people to nurture and  
share their faith and gifts with everyone, according to God's call.*

**NAME(S):** \_\_\_\_\_

I/we pledge to intentionally give financially to the ministry of St. Stephen Lutheran Church:

*(Please select one option)*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **per week**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **per month**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **per year**

*I/we understand that this plan can be changed by notifying the financial secretary.*