

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

*Gathering at St. John's Episcopal Church
1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL 33764*

**Sunday, November 1, 2026
All Saints Day, Year A**



Introduction

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.

Welcome

Prelude: Poor Wayfaring Stranger - T. Tonioli

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Hymn: Shall We Gather at the River - ELW 423



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.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

(The Psalm will be sung during communion today)

Second 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.

A reading from the first letter of John.

¹ 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. ² 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. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken



The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the One who is
close at hand; lis-ten to the voice that be-gan cre-a-tion;
lis-ten e-ven if you don't un-der-stand.

Text: Anonymous, Canada

Music: LISTEN TO THE WORD, Anonymous, Canada; adapt. *Church Hymnary*, 4th Edition, 2005

Gospel: 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.

A reading from the holy gospel of according to Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

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 receive 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 for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon: Pr. Anne Harman - Stewarding the Legacy of St. Paul's

Hymn of the Day: As Saints of Old - ELW 695



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christiernson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

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Apostle's Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

*Please respond to each invocation: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

At the conclusion of our intercessions today we will remember, with the tolling of the bell, members of our congregation who have died in the past year. At the end of the reading of names, all will be invited to name out loud your own loved ones you would like to remember on this day.

A Sign of Peace and Reconciliation

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please be seated.

OFFERING

All that we have, physically and spiritually comes from God.
Our offering, of time, talent and treasure is a response to our awareness
that God is the creator of all things and that we are redeemed
through life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Your support of this ministry and the faith life of this community is appreciated.

Hymn: Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table - ACS 977



1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
 2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
 3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
 4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to



that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
 ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
 dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
 be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,



some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
 with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
 they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
 who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
 ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
 vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
 breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es



all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.
 fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
 round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.
 wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: COPELAND, Michael Corzine, b. 1947

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Music © 2000 Michael Corzine, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Offering Prayer

Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Dialogue:

The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score is written on five staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and'. The second staff contains 'might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff contains 'san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The fourth staff contains 'Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -'. The fifth staff contains 'san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.' and ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

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.**

Invitation to Communion

We believe that Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus. In this sacrament we are invited to have a personal experience of Christ's presence. This is the Lord's table. All who desire to be in relationship with Christ are welcome to receive.

We receive communion using bread and wine. If you need to receive a gluten free host, please ask the communion minister. For those who prefer to receive grape juice rather than wine you will find white grape juice in the center of the trays as communion is given. If you have a question, please ask the minister as you receive. The bread and wine should be consumed here in the church before you return to your seat. If for some reason, you are unable to consume either the bread or wine please bring what was not consumed to the ushers or the pastor as soon as the service is completed.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Taste and See

Refrain – All

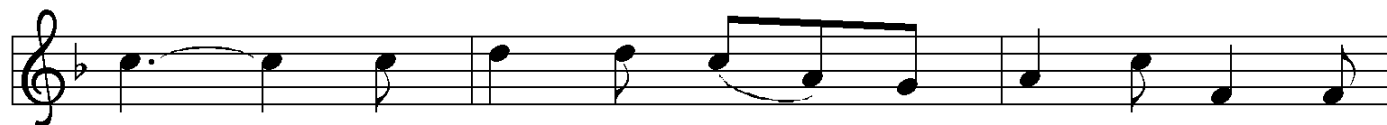
Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Hymn: I Come With Joy - ELW 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Prayer after Communion

Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost,
bind the injured,
and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out,
awake to your presence,
now and forever. Amen.

Announcements:

Blessing

The holy Trinity,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to your life as one of God's saints.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: O When The Saints Go Marching In - ACS 950



1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the
2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they
5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that



saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that
hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that



num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.
num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.
num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.
num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual

November

Sunday, November 1 - Daylight Savings Time Ends - clocks back 1 hour
Thursday, November 5 - Quilt Ministry - 9:00 AM
Tuesday, November 10 - Doris Hanson - Memorial Service - 11:00 AM
Tuesday, November 10 - NO FaithTalk@7
Wednesday, November 11 - Taizé Prayer - 7:15 PM
Friday, November 13 - Council Meeting 10:30 on ZOOM
Saturday, November 14 - Friday, November 20 - Pr. Anne on Vacation
Tuesday, November 17 - Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
7:00 PM Congregation Beth Shalom
Wednesday, November 18 - WELCA Bible Study & Silver Foxes
Thursday, November 19 - Quilt Ministry
Sunday, November 22 - Town Hall Meeting after worship (In person and ZOOM)
Wednesday, November 25 - Book Club
Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day
Sunday, November 29 - Advent 1

December

Wednesday, December 2 - Holden Evening Prayer - 7:15 PM
Thursday, December 3 - Quilt Ministry - 9:00 AM
Friday, December 4 - Church Women United - Farmworkers Ingathering
Saturday, December 5 - St. Paul's & St. John's Christmas Party - 3:00 - 5:00
Sunday, December 6 - Advent 2 & Congregation Meeting
Wednesday, December 9 - Taizé Prayer - 7:15 PM
Friday, December 11 - Council Meeting - 10:30
Saturday, December 12 - Advent Retreat - 9:30 - 3:00
Sunday, December 13 - Advent 3
Tuesday, December 15 - Drum Circle - 10:30
Wednesday, December 16 - Grace Notes - 7:15 PM
Thursday, December 17 - Quilt Ministry - 9:00 AM
Sunday, December 20 - Advent 4
Sunday, December 20 - Interfaith Light Labyrinth - 5:30 PM - Clearwater UUC
Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Dinner (5:30 PM) & Worship (7:00 PM)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Gathering at St. John's Episcopal 1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation, embodies God's love, and promise of salvation through faith in Christ by extending inclusion and welcome to all.

We welcome the full, active participation of all who worship and minister with us. If you are interested in learning more about Jesus, God's life and action in the world and our lives, the Lutheran faith, or this congregation and how you can be more involved, please reach out to Pastor Anne.

Phone Number: 727- 446-7718

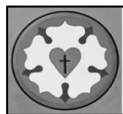
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St. Paul's Spirituality Center

an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church



Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



From sundaysandseasons.com.

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