

All Saints' Day- November 2, 2025 PAX

Blessed

As We Gather

Some people believe they are blessed when they receive a good cup of coffee or when they look good in their swimsuits. While these may be blessings, we are truly blessed because we are God's children who are guided, guarded, protected, and provided for by our Good Shepherd. Our heavenly Father has claimed and cleansed us in the waters of Baptism. As God's children, we are saints now and forever—not because of anything we have done or will do but because of Jesus. Jesus begins His Sermon on the Mount by listing how, and when, we are blessed. Jesus richly blesses us saints in this life and in the one yet to come.

“BLESSINGS”

*We pray for blessings - We pray for peace
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep
We pray for healing, for prosperity
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering
All the while, You hear each spoken need
Yet love us way too much to give us lesser things*

CHORUS

*Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops
What if Your healing comes through tears
What if a thousand sleepless nights
are what it takes to know You're near
What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise*

*We pray for wisdom - Your voice to hear
And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near
We doubt Your goodness, we doubt Your love
As if every promise from Your Word is not enough
All the while, You hear each desperate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe (CHORUS)*

BRIDGE

*When friends betray us...
When darkness seems to win we know that pain reminds this heart
That this is not . . . this is NOT our home - It's not our home*

*'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops
What if Your healing comes through tears and
What if a thousand sleepless nights*

are what it takes to know You're near

*What if my greatest disappointments or the aching of this life
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy
And what if trials of this life . . .
the rain, the storms, the hardest nights??*

... Are Your mercies in disguise

“10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)”

CHORUS

*Bless the Lord, oh my soul, oh my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, oh my soul
I worship Your holy name*

Verse 1

*The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the ev'ning comes (CHORUS)*

Verse 2

*You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (CHORUS)*

Verse 3

*And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise un-ending
Ten thousand years and then forever more (CHORUS X2)*

*Yes I will worship Your holy name
Lord I worship Your holy name
Sing like never before, oh my soul
I worship Your holy name
Yes I will worship Your holy name
Lord I worship Your holy name*

Invocation

- P** We gather as a people in the name of the God who brings His children home, of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!
- C** Amen.

Confession and Absolution

1 John 3:1–3; Matthew 5:12a

- P** John wrote, “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so, we are.” The devil, the world, and our sinful nature lead us to live lives that don’t show this truth. We confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

Merciful God and Father,

- C** **We confess to You that our lives don’t always reveal that we really are Your children and that You are our Father. We admit that we sin against You and others with our thoughts, words, and actions. In Your righteousness, forgive us and wash away our sinful past. Restore our joy that comes from Your salvation and keep us strong with a willing spirit. Amen.**

- P** John reminds us, “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. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.” Because our God is merciful, Jesus Christ died for us, and for His sake God forgives all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, He gives the power to become the children of God and gives them the Holy Spirit. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

- P** Rejoice, your reward is great in heaven!

- C** Alleluia! Amen!

Prayer of the Day

- P** Join me in prayer.
Almighty and everlasting God,
- C** **You make us saints by calling us to faith and cleaning us in the waters of Baptism. Lead us to imitate the lives of the saints who passed before us, as they imitated Jesus, so that together with them, we will see the unimaginable joys You prepare for those who love You;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

First Reading

Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After 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, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹And 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, ¹²saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” ¹⁴I 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.

¹⁵“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.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For 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.”

Epistle

1 John 3:1–3

¹See 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.

²Beloved, 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. ³And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies Himself as He is pure.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him.

²And He opened His mouth 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 shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Children’s Message

“WE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD”

*Blessed are they who are poor in spirit
There’s is the kingdom of God
Bless us, O Lord, make us poor in spirit
Bless us, O Lord, our God*

CHORUS

*We are the light of the world
May our light shine before all
That they may see the good that we do and give glory to God*

*Bless those who hunger and thirst for justice
They will be satisfied
Bless us O Lord, hear our cry for justice
Bless us, O Lord, our God (CHORUS)*

*Blessed are they who will mourn in sorrow
They will be comforted
Bless us, O Lord when we share their sorrow
Bless us, O Lord, our God (CHORUS X2)*

Blessed are they who are poor in spirit

Sermon

Rev. Greg Prauner

Apostles’ 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

Commissioning for the Youth and Adults attending the Middle School Gathering

Prayers of the Church

P We praise You, God, our Maker and King, for leading Your children through the wilderness of this world to the promised land of Your eternal heavenly kingdom. We thank You for saving us by grace through faith in the Lamb, who is our shepherd and guide. We thank You for the encouragement and example of Your saints who have gone before us. Drive us by Christ's love and empower us by Your Spirit to imitate them as they imitated Christ. To the God who hears His children,

C we cry to You!

P We thank and praise You for making us members of Your mystical Body, the Church, through Holy Baptism. Keep us firmly rooted in the truth of Your Word. Lead us to rejoice with those who rejoice and to mourn with the grieving. We ask You to comfort all who are grieving the earthly loss of loved ones today. We ask for encouragement, strength, and healing for everyone who is struggling physically, emotionally, and spiritually, [*especially . . .*]. To the God who hears His children,

C we cry to You!

P We thank You for Your deep love for us, Your children. Strengthen families by deepening their love for one another. Strengthen mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers in their vocations, so they train their children and grandchildren in the way they should go as they make their way through this warring world. Bless authorities, those who serve in government, those who serve in Your church, those who work to bring peace and justice and healing, as well as those who work in schools and businesses. To the God who hears His children,

C we cry to You!

P Lord Jesus, as we wait for Your return, feed us with Your body and blood so that we may be raised to new life and be seated at Your heavenly banquet forever. While our earthly bodies still die, You have been raised up so that we can pass from death to life and join those who have died in You and now rest in the resurrection. Bring us to Your full salvation, so we may see You face to face and live with You, our Lamb and Shepherd; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Commemoration of the Redeemed Children of God

P Today, with God's children throughout the Christian Church, we remember all those who remain God's children for eternity. We especially remember those who have gone to the church triumphant during this past year.

Sylvia Uecker
Billy Schomberg
Betty Sirek
Paul Hixson
Gary Zierke
Jan Koehler

Leroy Fischer
Betty Henzler
Sheryl Kruger

Join me in prayer.

Good God Almighty, You bring together Your faithful people from all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

C Grant us to follow Your blessed saints in living Godly lives that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You;

- P** through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benediction

- P** May the God who hears our prayers guide you, protect you, provide for you, and ✠ give you peace in our heavenly hope. Amen!
- C** Amen!

“Alive And Breathing”

Verse

*What holds your heart, what stirs your soul
what matters come to mind
The cares you keep, the thoughts you think
It's not all wasted time, seek and you will find*

Chorus

*Joy still comes in the morning, hope still walks with the hurting
If you're still alive and breathing, praise the Lord
Don't stop dancing and dreaming, there's still good news worth repeating
So lift your head and keep singing, praise the Lord*

Verse

*The years roll by, we wonder why we lost our way from home
Our Father finds the child inside we had left for growing old
Awake, awake, awake my soul*

CHORUS

Bridge 1

*Let everything, let everything, let everything praise the Lord
In the working, in the waiting, let it praise the Lord
In the blessing, in the breaking, come on praise the Lord
In the dying, the rising, Let it praise the Lord
Let it praise the Lord, praise the Lord*

CHORUS, CHORUS

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