



“Mourning and crying and pain shall be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

Rev. 24:4b

All Saints Sunday
November 5, 2023 + 9:00 a.m.

Zion-Public WiFi password: Zion54484
Congregational responses are in BOLD.

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Regardless of your church membership or affiliation, all are encouraged to participate in communion or to come forward for a blessing.

**The communion bread is homemade by congregation members and contains gluten and honey. For those with allergies or sensitivities, an alternative will be provided upon request. **

Children of all ages are encouraged to worship with the whole community in Christ. Children's worship bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Page numbers that are listed are found in the front of the cranberry-colored hymnal at the bottom of the page. Hymn numbers are listed in bold, large print on the top of the page.

If you would like home communion, a hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or at office@zionstratford.org or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or pastoramy@zionstratford.org.

Ministers: All the People of God through the love of Jesus and the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit

Pastor: Rev. Amy Heinz

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Busche

Organists: Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

Custodian: Rod Huther

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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PRELUDE

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / CENTERING

THE GATHERING

INVOCATION

Trusting in the word of life given in Baptism and emerging as a new creation, raised with Christ in a resurrection like his, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“For All the Saints”

LBW #174

Names of family and friends of the congregation will be read during the singing of this hymn. After a name is read, those who presented the name may come forward to light a candle.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Living God, in whom there is no shadow or change,
we thank you for the gift of life eternal,
and for all those who, having served you well,
now rest from their labors.

**We thank you for all the saints remembered and forgotten,
for those dear souls most precious to us.**

**We bless you for their life and love,
and rejoice for them that “all is well,
and all manner of things will be well.”**

God of all creation,
mindful of all those choice souls who have gone on ahead of us,
teach us, and each twenty-first-century disciple of every race and
place, to follow their example to the best of our ability:

to feed the poor in body or spirit,
to support and comfort the mourners and the repentant,
to encourage the meek and stand with them in crises,
to affirm those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
to cherish and learn from the merciful,
to be humbled by, and stand with, the peacemakers.

**Let us clearly recognize what it means
to be called the children of God,
and to know we are to be your saints
neither by our own inclination nor in our own strength
but simply by the call and the healing holiness
of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for individual reflection and confession.

Faithful Lord,

In the busyness of our daily lives,

we forget to remember your goodness.

We forget to give thanks for your many blessings.

**We fail to greet one another with words and expressions
of peace, love, and thanks.**

**We forget to remember the ones who have passed before us,
recalling and retelling the stories of their lives.**

**Forgive us and help us to remember the saints
and receive the gifts of their goodness, and**

help us to be thankful for the living saints around us.

Be with us as we take time to rejoice

with believers everywhere in the world and through all of time.

Amen.

God grants forgiveness of sins, strength in weakness,
comfort in grief, and the promise of eternal salvation.
Because of the love of our gracious Lord,
in the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

GREETING

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

And also with you.

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.

THE WORD OF GOD

READING

Revelation 21:1-6a

Then 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. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ 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 and be their God;

⁴ 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.” ⁵ 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.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the

Omega, the Beginning and the End.

GOSPEL**John 11:32-44**

The Holy Gospel according to John the eleventh chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³² 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.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ 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.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² 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.” ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON**If You Had Been Here****Pastor Amy Heinz****HYMN OF THE DAY*****“By All Your Saints”*****ELW 421*****v1,2,last***

APOSTLES' 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 THE PEOPLE

Almighty God, in the presence of your bounty keep us humble,
and in the presence of all people's needs make us compassionate
and caring.

A brief silence.

We pray for all unhappy lives, those who are bitter and resentful,
those who are sensitive to criticism and quick to take offense,
those who desire their own way, whatever the inconvenience or
cost to others.

May your judgment and mercy be for their healing.

Hear our fervent prayer.

We pray for those who are lonely, who are shy and self-conscious,
who find it hard to make friends, who ever feel themselves
strangers in a world they can scarcely understand.

May your presence inspire confidence and ensure companionship.

Hear our fervent prayer.

We pray for those who live with bitter regrets, for loving relationships brought to ruin, for opportunities freely given and woefully abused, for the bitterness of defeat or betrayal at another's hand, or for failure in personal integrity.

May your grace give new hope to find victory at the very scene of failure.

Hear our fervent prayer.

We pray for all in illness and pain, weary of the day and fearful of the night. Grant strength to those who suffer and to those who provide care. We pause now to speak their names either aloud or silently in our hearts.

A brief silence.

May your touch, embodied in our care, bring healing and wholeness.

Hear our fervent prayer.

Bless the company of Christ's body, the church in every land. Make her eager in worship, fearless in the proclamation of the gospel, and passionate for caring.

May your Holy Spirit pour out on all people a living faith in you.

Hear our fervent prayer.

Bless our country with compassion for others. Bless our leaders with wisdom and patience. Bless our children with passion for service.

May your loving example bring an end to unhappy divisions and inspire us to live for others.

Hear our fervent prayer.

Bless each of us in the communion of the saints, and keep us ever mindful of the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us and who will come after us. Make our imperfect faith perfect so that we may, at the last, receive the fulfillment promised to your people.

We pray in the great name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We Share the Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"We Are an Offering"

ELW 692

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Ever-present God,

with this offering we present also ourselves:

all that we have been,

all that we are,

all that we shall become,

and our resolve to walk in your way.

Accept us and our offering, and nourish us at your table for service in Jesus' name.

Amen. **

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty and everlasting God, we bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and calling us to be your people. We thank you that you have not abandoned us in our rebellion against your love, but sent prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation. Above all, we thank you for sending Jesus, your Son, to deliver us from the way of sin and death by the obedience of his life, by his suffering upon the cross, and by his resurrection from the dead.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and out of every people unites us into one holy church.

Therefore with the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth we worship and glorify you, God most holy, and we sing with joy:**

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ELW 191

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 146

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

ELW 733

“Beautiful Savior”

ELW 838

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Serve the World in God’s Name

BENEDICTION

May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Shall We Gather at the River”

ELW 423

v1,2,4

DISMISSAL

Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Zion Lutheran Church

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

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