

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

November 5, 2023

All Saints Sunday

Rev. Mark Selbo

Website: ChristLutheranVH.org

Twitter: [@ChristLuthVH](https://twitter.com/ChristLuthVH)

Facebook: [/ChristLutheranVH](https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranVH)

Church: 847-367-5787
ChristLutheranVH@aol.com

Preschool: 847-367-5791
CLCPreschool@aol.com

Member of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
(ELCA – www.elca.org)



All Are Welcome – All the Time!

You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to participate in any part of worship. If you wish to take communion, we ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus. His body and blood were given and shed for you.



Christ Lutheran Church & PreSchool is a community committed to the work of equity and inclusion, bringing justice and support for all of God's beloveds. We welcome those who are seeking God's love and grace for the first time or as a life-long believer. We welcome because Jesus shows us how to welcome, regardless of race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, economic resources, relationship status, health challenges or anything else that too often divides us. It is in our welcome which we commit ourselves to being an anti-racist space, a space where we seek daily to deepen our work of inclusion in the life of our church. Our unity is in Christ. All are welcome here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS

Including Names for All Saints Remembrance

By Kathy Davis, who will provide you with the updated Prayers of Intercession

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

– Silence for reflection –

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have wandered far from you:

we have not trusted your promises,

we have ignored your prophets in our own day,

we have squandered our inheritance of grace,

we have failed to recognize you in our midst.

Have mercy on us!

Forgive us and turn us again to you.

Teach us to follow in your ways,

assure us again of your love,

and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.

God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

SONG: For All the Saints, ELW 422 (vs 1, 3, 6, 7)

(Printed in Hymnal and on bulletin insert)

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be for-ever blest. A-lleluia! A-lleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. A-lleluia! A-lleluia!

But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way. A-lleluia! A-lleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-lleluia! A-lleluia!

GREETING

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

READING – Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: “Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”

Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes – who are they, and where did they come from?”

I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 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. ‘Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,’ nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; ‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’ ‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 34:1-10, 22

I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.

Those who look to him are radiant;
their faces are never covered with shame.

This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;
he saved him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him,
and he delivers them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Fear the Lord, you his holy people,
for those who fear him lack nothing.

The lions may grow weak and hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

The Lord will rescue his servants;
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

READING – 1 John 3:1-3

See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

– Please stand as you are able –

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG) – ELW 172

**Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Halle, halle, halle – lujah.
Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah!**

THE GOSPEL – Matthew 5:1-12

*The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to You, O Lord.***

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. He said:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

*The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.***

SERMON – “A Glimpse of Heaven”

SONG: Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing, ELW 886 (vs 1-4, 6)

(Printed in Hymnal and on bulletin insert)

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and king, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

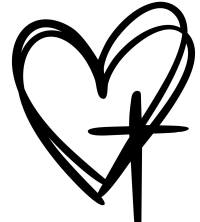
The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner’s ears, brings life and health and peace.

He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive.
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice. The humble poor believe.

To God all glory, praise and love be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav’n.

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 INTERCESSION *(on separate sheet)*

Merciful God... Receive our prayer.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.
– Please share a socially distanced sign of peace or greeting –

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(ELW p. 207)*

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks & praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of you glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION *(not printed/Presider's book on altar)*

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AT THE FRONT

All are welcome to receive the Real Presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to receive the sacrament. We ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus Christ. Those who are interested will be invited by an usher to come up the center aisle to the front to select a single-serving Communion kit from the tray, or to receive a blessing. Then return to your seat via the side aisle to open the kit and partake in Communion. An usher will offer a basket to collect the container. **All are welcome.**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

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

SONG: For All Your Saints, O Lord, ELW 427

(Printed in Hymnal and on bulletin insert)

For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live,
who followed you, obeyed, adored, our grateful hymn receive.

For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to die,
who counted you their great reward, accept our thankful cry.

They all in life and death, with you, their Lord, in view,
learned from your Holy Spirit's breath to suffer and to do.

For this, your name we bless and humbly pray anew
that we like them in holiness may live and die in you.

To God, the Father, Son and Spirit, ever blest,
the One in Three, the Three in One, be endless praise addressed.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

All Saints Sunday: Remembering Those Who Have Passed

Today is All Saints Sunday, a day when we traditionally remember those who have passed during the previous year (or in recent years, or those we want to remember as we speak their names in our hearts or aloud).

As we start worship today, we will not only take prayer requests, but we will also record names you would like remembered in our prayers today. May all of these Saints continue to be a blessing to you, and may God help you heal from your loss and find peace and hope in His promise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Holiday Gift Show** – Nov. 10 & 11 – Proceeds support Christ Lutheran PreSchool – Friday, November 10 from 6 to 8:30p and Saturday, November 11 from 9a to 3:30p
- **Saturday with St. Nick** – Sat, Dec. 2 from 10a to noon – songs, craft, snacks and a chance to visit with Santa. Bring your whole family. Our gift to the community.
- **Encampment Collection** – Thank you to all who contributed to our first delivery to Chicago. We continue to collect: Blankets/sleeping bags (new or gently used/clean), socks, hand warmers, feminine products, Mariano's gift cards (store closest to camp).
- **Sanctuary Support** – Our first batch of sleeping mats, small suitcases and OTC medicines were delivered to asylum seekers living in Police Stations and community centers in Chicago, a Sanctuary City. This collection continues as more refugees continue to arrive.
- **Sue's Pantry** – Looking for small sizes of flour, cooking oil, sugar. Also anything needed to keep a home and family clean – dish soap, laundry detergent, body wash, shampoo. We will also collect special items for Holiday Gift Bags, with a new plan being formulated by Sue right now. (Please also lift up Sue's husband Hasu in your prayers as he is recovering from a heart attack.)
- **Love INC** – Always looking for housewares, nonperishables and volunteers. Want to learn more about this amazing organization? Talk with Natalie.
- **COOL Ministries** – We continue to support the COOL pantry in Waukegan as well as Vernon Township Pantry with non-perishables. Collection bins in hallway.
- **BSA Troop 273** – Thank you to all who supported our partner Troop's free cookout on Saturday. Our Scouts continue to sell popcorn and Christmas wreaths.
- **Looking to restart Cub Scout Pack 273!** Children/families ages Kindergarten through 4th grade are encouraged to reach out to Theresa Calabrese (tc calabrese98@gmail.com).

CALENDAR:

- Christmas Service will be held on Sunday, December 24 at 9:30 a.m., only, this year.
- Holiday Gift Show – Friday, Nov 10 from 6 to 8:30p and Sat, Nov 11 from 9a to 3:30p
- Caring Hands – Saturday, Nov 18 from 9a to noon
- Tentatively planning to put up the Christmas Tree after worship on November 26
- Saturday with St Nick - Dec 2
- Advent begins Dec 3
- Special projects for Christmas - Gift Bags and/or Gift Cards for Sue's Pantry families. Details will be available soon.