

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

**Pontiac, IL**

**November 1, 2020**

**“All Saints Day”**

**We gather to worship, reach out, and serve the Lord.**

**Welcome**

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. Whether you have worshipped with us many times or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

God’s Peace be with you,

Pastor Mathew

Contact Pastor Mathew

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Friday is Pastor Mathew’s day off.

**Introduction to the day**

**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.

**GATHERING**

### Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

In whose image we are made,

Who claims us and calls us beloved.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

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.**

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.

**Amen.**

**Greeting**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the

Holy Spirit be with you all**.**

**A: 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 beloved 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.**

**Children’s Message**

**WORD**

**Reading –** **Revelation 7: 9-17**

L: A reading from Revelation.

9After 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. 10They cried out in a loud voice, saying,  
 “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”  
11And 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, 12singing,  
 “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, robed in white, and where have they come from?” 14I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that 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.  
 15For 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.  
 16They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
  the sun will not strike them,  
  nor any scorching heat;  
 17for 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.”

L:Word of God, Word of life.

A**: Thanks be to God.**

**Reading – Psalm 34: 1-10, 22**

A reading from Psalms.

1I will bless the Lord at all times;  
  the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.  
 2**I will glory in the Lord;**  
  **let the lowly hear and rejoice.**  
 3Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;  
  let us exalt God’s name together.  
 4**I sought the Lord, who answered me**  
  **and delivered me from all my terrors.**  
 5Look upon the Lord and be radiant,  
  and let not your faces be ashamed.  
 6**I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me**  
  **and saved me from all my troubles.**  
 7The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord  
  and delivers them.  
 8**Taste and see that the Lord is good;**  
  **happy are they who take refuge in God!**  
 9Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord,  
  for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.  
 10**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,**  
  **but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**  
 22O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants,  
  and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

L:Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

A**: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Holy Gospel.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

(spoken responsively)

L: *Alleluia.* If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth,

**A: and the truth will make you free. *Alleluia.***

**Matthew 5: 1-12**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

1When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2Then 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 righteousness’ sake, 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. 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

L: The gospel of the Lord.

**A: Praise to you, O, Christ.**

**Sermon Pastor Mathew Berger**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Each petition ends “Lord, in your mercy.” The congregation is invited to respond, **“hear our prayer”.**

**Remembrance of those who have died**

During this time, we remember all who have died. After we read the words of Jesus responsively, you are invited to come forward and light a candle for a loved one who has died. You are also welcome to remain seated in prayer as the music plays.

L: Jesus says, Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;

for I am gentle and humble in heart,

**A: and you will find rest for your souls.**

L: For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

**A: And you will find rest for your souls.**

*You are invited to light a candle or remain seated as music is played.*

**Sharing the Peace**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**A: And also with you.**

*You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with your neighbors by saying or typing, “Peace be with you.”*

*Offerings can be given by mail or online. You can send a check to St. Paul Lutheran Church 210 Deerfield Rd Pontiac, IL 61764. You can give online at* [*http://www.stpaulpontiac.org/*](http://www.stpaulpontiac.org/)

**MEAL**

**Offering Prayer**

L:God of all goodness,

Generations have turned to you,

Gathered around your table,

And shared your abundant blessings.

Number us among them

That, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,

And give thanks for your rich blessings,

We may feast upon your very self

And care for all that you have made,

Through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

**A: Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

L: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**A: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the witness of your saints

you show us the hope of our calling,

and strengthen us to run the race set before us,

that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.

And so, with all the saints,

with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name.

**A: Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Words of Institution**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord's Prayer**

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

**A: 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**

L: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus’ table.

**Prayer after Communion**

L: Lord Jesus,

In this simple meal, you have set a banquet.

Sustain us on the journey,

Strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,

And give us glad and generous hearts

As we meet you on the way.

**A: Amen.**

**Announcements**

**SENDING**

**Benediction**

L: May the God of all creation,

In whose image we are made,

Who claims us and calls us beloved,

Who strengthens us for service,

Give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God

Sovereign, ☩ Savior and Spirit,

Be with you today and always.

**A:** **Amen.**

**Dismissal**

L: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**A:** **Thanks be to God.**

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Thank you to all those who contributed to today’s service: Worship Slides: Julie Mehlberg, Lector: Brad Solberg, Ushers: Mark Mackinson & Brad Solberg.