St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
All Saints Sunday
November 5, 2017

Rev. Arden Dorn, Transitional Minister

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Gathering
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✞ one God, who calls us into an everlasting hope, who guides us to springs of the water of life, who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom. Amen.

One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

O God, our merciful redeemer, we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor’s face. We turn our ears from voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for ✞ his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God. Amen.

The assembly stands.

GATHERING SONG (ELW p. 415) Father Most Holy

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.
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 2 Powers, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 3 Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 4 For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign, Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
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.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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 provides a response to the question asked in 6:17: “Who is able to stand?” The writer responds to the faithful with the assurance of God’s protection and a vision of eventual victory.

9 Then I looked, and there was a great number of people. There were so many people that no one could count them. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language of the earth. They were all standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They wore white robes and had palm branches in their hands. 10 They were shouting in a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” 11 The elders[a] and the four living things were there. All the angels were standing around them and the throne. The angels bowed down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God. 12 They were saying, “Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength belong to our God forever and ever. Amen!”
13 Then one of the elders asked me, “Who are these people in white robes? Where did they come from?”
14 I answered, “You know who they are, sir.” And the elder said, “These are the people who have come out of the great suffering. They have washed their robes[b] with the blood of the Lamb. Now they are clean and white. 15 And they are before the throne of God. They worship God day and night in his temple. And the One who sits on the throne will protect them. 16 Those people will never be hungry again. They will never be thirsty again. The sun will not hurt them. No heat will burn them. 17 For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to springs of water that give life. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, word of Life.

Thanks be to God.
RESPONSE PSALM: 34:1-10, 22

R People who belong to the Lord, fear him! Those who fear him will have everything they need.

I will praise the Lord at all times. His praise is always on my lips.
My whole being praises the Lord.
The poor will hear and be glad. R

Tell the greatness of the Lord with me.
Let us praise his name together.
I asked the Lord for help, and he answered me.
He saved me from all that I feared.

Those who go to him for help are happy.
They are never disgraced.
This poor man called, and the Lord heard him.
The Lord saved him from all his troubles. R

The Lord saves those who fear him.
His angel camps around them.
Examine and see how good the Lord is.
Happy is the person who trusts the Lord.

People who belong to the Lord, fear him!
Those who fear him will have everything they need.
Even lions may become weak and hungry.
But those people who go to the Lord for help will have every good thing.

But the Lord saves his servants’ lives.
No one who trusts him will be judged guilty. R

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.

1 The Father has loved us so much! He loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are his children. But the people in the world do not understand that we are God’s children, because they have not known him. 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God. We have not yet been shown what we will be in the future. But we know that when Christ comes again, we will be like him. We will see him as he really is. 3 Christ is pure. And every person who has this hope in Christ keeps himself pure like Christ.
Our involvement with God’s

Word of God, word of Life.
Thanks be to God.
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.

Jesus saw the crowds who were there. He went up on a hill and sat down. His followers came to him.

2 Jesus taught the people and said:

3 “Those people who know they have great spiritual needs are happy.
   The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

4 Those who are sad now are happy.
   God will comfort them.

5 Those who are humble are happy.
   The earth will belong to them.

6 Those who want to do right more than anything else are happy.
   God will fully satisfy them.

7 Those who give mercy to others are happy.
   Mercy will be given to them.

8 Those who are pure in their thinking are happy.
   They will be with God.

9 Those who work to bring peace are happy.
   God will call them his sons.

10 Those who are treated badly for doing good are happy.
   The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

11 "People will say bad things about you and hurt you. They will lie and say all kinds of evil things
about you because you follow me. But when they do these things to you, you are happy. 12 Rejoice and be glad. You have a great reward waiting for you in heaven. People did the same evil things to the prophets who lived before you.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ!

The assembly is seated.

SERMON
Rev. Arden Dorn

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW p. 423) Shall We Gather at the River

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Welcoming God’s reign of righteousness and mercy, let us pray with people of every time and place.

Gather your church from every nation, tribe, people, and language to proclaim your salvation. Defend and preserve those who are persecuted because of their faith. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reveal your will for your creation, mighty God. Renew waters, lands, and skies that are threatened by our carelessness. Teach us to honor and care for the works of your hands. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Move the hearts of all who participate in upcoming elections. Give courage, generosity, and vision to candidates and voters alike. Guide elected officials to answer the call of those who cry out for fair and just policies. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.


Seek the lost, those who hunger and thirst with questions of faith, and those absent from our worship today. Make us ready to receive newcomers you send to our congregation. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We remember with thanksgiving the blessed saints whom you have received into your glory, especially Buck Myers and Alton Borgfeld. Guide us with them to the springs of the water of life. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Peace is shared among the assembly, and then the assembly is seated.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

The assembly stands.

OFFERING HYMN (ELW p. 523) Let Us Go Now to the Banquet
OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOTT, UNSER SCHÖPFER, SIE MACHTET ALLES, UND SIE BIEHEN FÜR JEDEN BEHDRIFT. DAS BRODT, DAS WIR BRECHEN UND DEN WEIN GIEßEN WIR VON IHNEN KOMMEN. WIE WIR ESSEN UND TRINKEN MIT DANKSAGUNG, UNS MIT DEINER LIEBE FÜLLEN; DIESE LIEBE DURCH UNS FÜR ANDERE; UND UNS DIE HEILIGEN MELDEN SIE VOR UNS IN EINEM HEILIGEN UND GRENZENLOSE GEMEINSCHAFT; DURCH JESUS CHRISTUS, UNSEREN HERRN. AMEN.

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.

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 Buck Myers and all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow’r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Ho-san-na.

Ho-san-na. 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.
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin’s womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the Virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. Amen. Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. Amen.
LORD’S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: (The assembly joins hands to pray)

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.

The assembly is seated.

Today We Welcome and Celebrate
Russell Jonas, Jaycee Polasek, Wyatt Polasek, Logan Polasek, and Grace Thompson
at the table of the Lord.

DISTRIBUTION – All are WELCOME at the table of the Lord.

This meal gives you strength for your journey of faith & life. Go forward as the body of Christ in your family, community and the world. Children or anyone choosing not to commune, but wishing to be blessed, may indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Anyone who is unable to come forward may indicate to an usher that you wish to receive communion where you are seated.

Following Communion, the assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sovereign God, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.
Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

The assembly stands.

BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN  (ELW p. 835)  All Creatures, Worship God Most High

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sound the good news. Thanks be to God.

DOXOLOGY  (ELW p. 884)  Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Welcome!

We have all come to St. Paul’s by different paths, and from various walks of life. Through worship, study, prayer and fellowship we each seek to deepen our faith, comfort and encourage one another and dedicate our lives more fully to sharing Christ in our homes, our community and the world. All are welcome at St. Paul’s. We are eager to know you, and we invite you to get to know us.

A Nursery is located at the rear of the sanctuary in the overflow area.

If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance, please signal an usher.
For Prayerful Consideration

Ill or Injured

For those in the military
Nick Adams, Allen Bowles, Justin Chandler, Justin Elkins, Rodney Foreman, Jamaica Goodhue, Jacob Jones, Felipe Leal, Jr., Garrett Peterson, Michael Rosales, James Skinner, Chris Sustaita, Kassie Thompson, John Vasquez, and Delmiro Villanueva.

Birthdays
Peggy Buehring (Nov. 6), Nolan Jonas (Nov. 7)

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Alton L. Borgfeld.

LAY READERS FOR NOVEMBER
Nov. 12: Shelley Gibbens   Nov. 19: Sandra Dickens   Nov. 26: Dale Tessman
Join us on Thursday, November 16th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Kenedy for the Karnes County Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service!

Jennifer Mitchell, the new pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Karnes City, will deliver the sermon.

An offering will be taken up during the service for the Karnes County Thrift Center, which will reopen in 2018.