St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
All Saints Sunday
November 4, 2018

Rev. Arden Dorn, Transitional Minister
Mike Tessman, Assistant Minister
Randy Witte, Lay Reader
Dylan Busselman, Organist

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

Of all three years of the lectionary cycle, this year’s All Saints readings have the most tears. Isaiah and Revelation look forward to the day when God will wipe away all tears; in John’s gospel, Jesus weeps along with Mary and all the gathered mourners before he demonstrates his power over death. On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah’s feast to come.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN
(ELW p.532) Gather Us In

GREETING

God whose love is pouring over us, welcomes us here today.
Praise be to God!

God whose healing power is ready to bind up our wounds, welcomes us here today.
Praise be to God!

God whose transforming presence offers us hope and peace, welcomes us here today.
P: Praise be to God who loves, heals and restores us. AMEN.

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.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
The assembly shall kneel or stand, as they are able.

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.
KYRIE

1 Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
2 Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
3 Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.

We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
Renew us with your saving pow’r; create in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

1 Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
2 Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;

Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav’n a-bove;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:

we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God’s right hand.
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father’s splendor bright.

Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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 assembly is seated

Word

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:6-9

Isaiah sees a vision of the end of days, when the Lord will gather all God’s people on God’s holy mountain and will prepare for them a rich feast. At this banquet the Lord will wipe the tears from all eyes. And there will be no more sorrow, for God will destroy death itself.

6 On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

7 And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

8 It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.
RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 24

R: They shall receive blessing from the God of their salvation.

1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who dwell therein.

2 For the Lord has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. R

3 Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord, and who may stand in God's holy place?

4 Those of innocent hands and purity of heart, who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by what is false.

5 They shall receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of their salvation.

6 Such is the generation of those who seek you, O Lord, of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob. R

7 Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors, that the King of glory may come in.

8 Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

9 Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors, that the King of glory may come in.

10 Who is this King of glory? Truly, the Lord of hosts is the King of glory. R

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6a

Here is a vision of the new heaven and new earth in which God resides fully with God's people so that mourning, despair, and pain have been eradicated. These renewing words from the God who spans all of time are trustworthy and true.

1 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; 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."

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God. The assembly stands.
Glory to You, O Lord!

Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.

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

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

With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church,
the world, and all people in need.

Lord God, Sovereign of all creation, draw us into your presence, and transform us to be a holy people.
Bless us through your word and holy meal to show your uncommon love to others. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Move us to reinvigorate polluted waters and air, renew fallow fields, and revive natural habitats that have been destroyed. Open our eyes to the bounty you have given us, and inspire us to tend to it. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Fill our public servants and we who elect them to office with your wisdom. Let your justice flow through our governments and institutions. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Unbind those who are burdened by illness or grief especially for David, Ellvera, Laura, Bobby & Betty, Laquita, Helen, Andy, Christy, Alva, Francis, Linda, Leroy, John, as well as those that we name out loud or in our hearts… Wipe away the tears of those who cannot see your life through the weight of their affliction. Be with those who will die today. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Bear the pain of people who are denied justice, especially when it results in violence or death. Bring your peaceful rule into the world for the sake of those who are oppressed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Strengthen and bless this congregation’s ministries of outreach, healing, and hospitality. Make us eager to receive those you send to us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

As we sow Seeds of Hope, we pray for St. John Lutheran in Westhoff. Guide them to new opportunities and abilities to draw younger people into the congregation. We pray also for St. Peter’s in Elgin that they may have vision, direction, and that God would use them as an instrument of grace in their community. We pray for St. Paul’s – Karnes City and St. Paul’s – Nordheim as the congregations continue discussions of the St. Paul’s Squared opportunity. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We bless you for the lives of the saints who now rejoice in your salvation face-to-face. Join us with all whom you have made righteous -- Lucille Seiler, Alton Borgfeld, Mary Ruth Witte, and preserve us in eternal life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you**

**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.

**OFFERING HYMN** *(ELW p. 512)*

**Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil**
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. 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.

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 Lucille Seiler, Alton Borgfeld, Mary Ruth Witte, and all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
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.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

THE 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.
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

The assembly is seated.

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

2
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.

Sending

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

BLESSING

The love of God surround you; the grace of Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore. Amen.
Onward, Christian Soldiers

1 Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus going on before:
Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe;
forward into battle, see his banners go.

2 Like a mighty army moves the church of God;
Christians, we are treading where the saints have trod;
we are not divided all one body we,
one in hope and doctrine, one in charity.

3 Crowns and thrones may perish, kingdoms rise and wane;
but the church of Jesus constant will remain;
gates of hell can never against that church prevail;
we have Christ’s own promise, and that cannot fail.

4 Onward, then, you people, join our happy throng,
blend with ours your voices in the triumph song;
glory, laud, and honor unto Christ the King;
this thro’ countless ages with the angels sing.
DISMISSAL

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

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

For Prayerful Consideration

**Ill, Injured or Otherwise Struggling:** Sadat Abrihim, David Anaba, Sharon Baumann, Ellvera Boehm, Laura Burney, Bobby & Betty Busselman, Alex Caballero, James Castillo, Pauline Davidson, Mitch Dorn, Roxanne Dorn, Shane Edens, Norma Foreman, Laquita Gibbens, Helen Grimm, Linda Henning, Jack Hockey, Andy James, Michael Janysek, Raymond Jenkins, Alva Jonas, Steve Kelly, Evalina, Francis Kempe, Linda Lathrop, Ella Manka, Khloe Martinez, Moma Ndeh, the Ndeh family, Charles Pierce, Leroy Polderick, Carly Rosenboon, Shanna Swierc, Mathew Sournada, John Tackitt, Yvonne Watkins, Anyemarie, Kyle Worthy, Cody Zaiontz, and Norma Zamzow

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

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

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. **If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance,** please signal an usher.
Coming Events

Let's join together and PARTICIPATE!

**November 18 will be our Global Church ThanksLiving Service at 10:30 am** followed by a catered meal from Polak’s. Please sign up if you plan to attend the luncheon. (See next page for more details.)

**The Community Thanksgiving Service** will be held at First Presbyterian on November 13 at 7:00 pm.

**Youth Confirmation** will be December 2.

**The Music Academy Winter Recital** will be December 9 at 3 PM at St. Paul’s. The recital is open to the public. Invite your friends!

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**DEAR, SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

If anyone is interesting in volunteering your time please feel free to contact the activity department. Activities can range from bingo, dominoes, room visits, church services, to a simple coffee social. The best times to have activities with more participation would be 10am or 3pm. If you would like to do anything on the weekends please do not hesitate to contact the activity department. To whomever would like to bring items to use as bingo prizes for our residents like shampoo, conditioner, t-shirts, perfume, old jewelry, and house shoes would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all your help!

Sincerely,

Kristan Ashley- Activity Assistant

bluebonnet nursing & rehab
Global Church ThanksLiving Worship Service & Lunch
November 18 beginning at 10:30 am

Our guests will be Andrew Steele and Rahel Mwitula Williams from ELCA Global Church Sponsorship. The November 18 offering will be donated to ELCA Global Mission. A catered Turkey & Dressing lunch will be served following the worship service. Please let us know how many people will be attending the lunch. Guests are welcome!

Andrew Steele has served as the Director for ELCA Global Church Sponsorship since April of 2015. In this capacity, Andrew oversees the advancement efforts for ELCA Missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers, Global Ministry projects, and the International Women Leaders initiative. These ministries make up $33 million of the $198 million goal as part of Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA.

He joined the ELCA in 2013 as the Manager of Donor Relations for Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA after serving as a Senior Major Gifts Officer for United Way of Metropolitan Chicago. Prior to joining United Way of Metropolitan Chicago, Andrew spent a year volunteering in Bloemfontein, South Africa, as an ELCA Young Adult in Global Mission volunteer. He is also founder of BLOOM Africa, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization working to strengthen communities and empower orphans in Lesotho, Africa. He leads annual cultural immersion trips to Lesotho and South Africa. Andrew graduated from Wittenberg University, (one of the ELCA’s 26 affiliated colleges and universities,) with a degree in Sociology. He now serves on the University’s Alumni Association Board as well as the Board of Directors for Wheat Ridge Ministries, United Way North-Northwest, and Friends of Lesotho.

Rahel Mwitula Williams is ELCA Manager of Donor Relations with ELCA Global Church Sponsorship. In this role, she seeks to develop and deepen relationships with ELCA Lutherans, to participate the church’s call to service and create lasting impact through ELCA Missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers, Global Ministry projects, and the International Women Leaders initiative.

Born and raised in Tanzania, East Africa, Rahel migrated to the United States with her family when she was 12 years old. She obtained her a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Loyola University and her a Master of Science degree in International Public Service from DePaul University. She is a founder of ILAVA: It Can Be Done- An African Inspired Lifestyle Boutique which serves as a way to help women entrepreneurs in Kenya and Tanzania gain economic security, and ILAVA Gives Back 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that empower and provide academic, economic and social resources to women and children in targeted African’s countries. She serves as an Executive Board Officer for the BIGG Hearted Foundation, an organization that provides scholarships and education programs to Chicago land area students. She is a member of Shekinah Chapel Lutheran Church in Chicago.