

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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All Saints Sunday ✠ November 7, 2021

PRELUDE – "MEDITATION ON 'EVENTIDE'" – CRAIG PENFIELD
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Spirit.

Amen.

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

Silence for reflection

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice. Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.

God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for ✠ Jesus' sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts. Yours is the kingdom of God, **Amen.**

HYMN #422 FOR ALL THE SAINTS

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

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.**

FIRST LESSON:

ISAIAH 25:6-9

PSALM 24 *Spoken responsively*

¹The 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.**

³Who 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.**

⁵They 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.**

⁷Lift 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!**

⁹Lift 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.**

SECOND LESSON:

REVELATION 21:1-6A

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 11th Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

JOHN 11:32-44

The Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

ANTHEM "LET THE RIVER FLOW" – STAN PETHEL

HYMN – #756 *ETERNAL FATHER STRONG TO SAVE*

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became
incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
glorified.**

**He 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**

THE PRAYERS

Response: Your mercy is great.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The pastor offers the prayer.

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**

HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

Let us pray...Almighty Father, in the Lord's Supper you give us a
foretaste of the Lamb's Feast of Victory. Keep us faithful to you
so that we, with all your saints in heaven, may at length celebrate
the Feast which has no end in Christ our LORD. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the
book of life, ✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time
forth and forevermore. **Amen.**

HYMN #423 *SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER*

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE – "HEAVEN" – RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM

✠ ✠ ✠

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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors. "God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond." –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

THE DAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR....ALL SAINTS DAY ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

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.

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.

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.

JOHN 11:32-44: Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord Jesus, help us to love you through service to our neighbors in need. Amen.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR... Marie Berghold, Sandra Denora, Ann Greensweig, Ray Hammond, Frank Kelly, Penny, Stephen

Other concerns:

Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in "acute care" situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of those for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
ASSISTING MINISTER	Amy Ortwein
LECTOR	Amy Ortwein
GREETER	Diane Wirth
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Ron Fried

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

SANCTUARY LAMP...by Joyce Fulford

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Dean and Deb Stover

LOOKING AHEAD

MON. NOV. 8 – 7:00 PM Church Council.

THURS. NOV. 11 – 6:30 – 7:30 PM Cub Pack #364.

SUN. NOV. 14– 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal.

SUN. NOV. 14 – 10:30 AM Worship.

BETTY LOU'S PANTRY UPDATE...Most needed donations at the pantry right now:

Tuna Helper Chunky Soups Canned Pasta Boxed Potatoes

Other things always needed:

Toilet paper, jelly (other than grape), non-sugared cereal, hygiene products (other than soap).

THE ANNUAL COAT DRIVE IS NOW UNDER WAY. Don't throw out your old coats. Blue Church is collecting gently used coats for the winter season to help those who can use them. You can bring in coats and drop them in the bin in the narthex. They are greatly appreciated.

THINKING AHEAD OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR OUR PANTRY FAMILIES. In view of the still unstable virus spread, we will again forego physical presents and give gift cards so parents can purchase gifts for the children. Donations can be put in the collection plate on Sundays or sent to the church by mail. Please make checks out to BLUE CHURCH so one check can be sent to Betty Lou's Pantry. Just please remember to put in the memo line that your donation is for BLP Christmas gift cards. **Please have donations in by November 14th.** Thanks for all your help!

THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS – NOVEMBER 7, 2021. We remember all who have died in the faith of Christ in the past year and the promise of the resurrection to be fulfilled, especially...

**JOHN BLACKWOOD
WAYNE CLAUSER
MILDRED B. HILL
CHARLES W. MOHR
WILLIAM S. "BILL" RABENOLD
CANDICE ROBINSON
TODD S. STORAT
EILEEN STOUTT**

LESSONS

Isaiah 25:6-9 – 1st Lesson

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured 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;
⁸ he will swallow up death for ever.
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.
⁹ 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.

Revelation 21:1-6a – 2nd Lesson

21 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. ²And I

saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And 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.' ⁶Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.'

John 11:32-44 - Gospel

³²When 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.' ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So

the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' ³⁷But 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. ³⁹Jesus 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 for four days.' ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I 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.' ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' ⁴⁴The 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.'

St. Paul's Lutheran "Blue" Church
Prayers ✕ All Saints Sunday ✕
November 7, 2021

A: Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need, responding,

"Your mercy is great."

A brief silence

A: Merciful God, we give thanks for all missionaries who have brought your message of hope to new communities and wiped tears away. Continue to raise up courageous missionaries to share your gospel of hope. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: Creating God, we praise you for abundant harvests and the goodness of creation. Create communities of care for our earth so that all land, water, and soil will be celebrated and cherished by future generations of saints. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: God of peace, we give you thanks for nations of peace that serve as a refuge for all whose homelands are afflicted with violence. Strengthen those who continue to work for peace and support all veterans who carry the scars of war. Hear us, O God.

"Your mercy is great."

A: God of healing, we give you thanks for health care workers who labor around the clock to answer cries for help. Bring wholeness to all who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, addiction, and all who long for healing in any way. Today we pray especially for: Marie, Sandra, Ann, Ray, Frank, Stephen,

Penny, and everyone who has asked for our prayers or known only to the Lord. Hear us, O God.

“Your mercy is great.”

A: God of justice, we praise you for the feeding ministries and for all meals that bring people together for nourishment and fellowship. Bless chefs, bakers, servers, dishwashers, communion assistants, and meal ministry coordinators. Hear us, O God.

“Your mercy is great.”

A: God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints who have inspired, challenged, loved, and taught us:

JOHN, WAYNE, MILDRED, CHARLES,

WILLIAM, CANDICE, TODD, EILEEN,

ELEANOR, JOHN. Wipe away our tears and lead us by their example until we feast together on your holy mountain. Hear us, O God.

“Your mercy is great.”

Pastor: God our protection and strength, we entrust to you for all whom we pray. Remain with us always through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.