

THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

Bethel Lutheran Church

November 7, 2021



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 those who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. While we may face death with fear, the liturgy calls us to hear the Lord's promise that He is with us in life and in death.

Christ has claimed us in baptism and at His table we gather with the faithful of every time and place trusting that the promises of God will be

fulfilled. In the new Jerusalem we shall join all the saints in praise of God, Who has turned our graves into the doorway to eternal life.

✝ GATHERING ✝

OPENING HYMN

For All the Saints (v. 1, 2, 4, 7, 8)

#174 (grn)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

P. We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, the whole company of heaven, and our sisters and brothers.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P. Most merciful God,

C. You know our failings better than we do; we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. Our days and years pass by; the things we trust fade like grass. Be gracious to us, O God. Guide us again to the water of life, and renew in us the grace of holy baptism; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

P. You are all . . . and be glad!

C. Amen.

GREETING

P. Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C. And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise the Lord!



Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom-ise fail.



God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his pow'r pro-claim;



heav'n and earth, and all cre-a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Almighty God, Whose people are knit together in one holy Church, the body of 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 Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

RITE OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE SAINTS

P. In the new Jerusalem there will be no need of sun or moon,

C. for the glory of God will be its light

P. Before the Lamb is a multitude from every nation,

C. and they worship God night and day.

P. Surely He is coming soon.

C. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Holy God . . . now and forever.

C. Amen.

As the names of those who have died and those who have been baptized in the past year are read, a candle will be lighted.

P. For all those . . . now and forever.

C. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:6-9

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

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.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
⁸he 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.

⁹It 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.

The Word of the Lord. C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 24

They shall receive a blessing from the God of their salvation.



The earth is the LORD's and all | that is in it,
the world and all who | dwell therein.

²For it is He Who founded it up- | on the seas
and made it firm upon the rivers | of the deep.

³"Who can ascend the hill | of the LORD
and who can stand in His | holy place?"

⁴"Those who have clean hands and | a pure heart,
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood, nor sworn by what | is a fraud.

⁵They shall receive a blessing | from the LORD
and a just reward from the God of | their salvation."

⁶Such is the generation of | those who seek Him,
of those who seek Your face, O | God of Jacob.

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O ever- | lasting doors;
and the King of glory | shall come in.

⁸”Who is this | King of glory?”

”The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, might- | y in battle.”

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O ever- | lasting doors;
and the King of glory | shall come in.

¹⁰”Who is He, this | King of glory?”

”The LORD of hosts, He is the | King of glory.”

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.

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;

⁴He 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.”

⁵And 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.” ^{6a}Then He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

The Word of the Lord. C. Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: St. 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.

C. Glory to You, O Lord.

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.” 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?”

³⁸Then 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 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 upward 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.”

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Sing with All the Saints in Glory* (Tune is “Joyful, Joyful”)

- 1 Sing with all the saints in glory, sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth’s dark story, to the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking, soon the storms of time shall cease;
in God’s likeness we awaken, knowing everlasting peace.
- 2 Oh, what glory, far exceeding all that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts for ages pleading never that full joy conceived.
God has promised, Christ prepares it, there on high our welcome waits.
Ev’ry humble spirit shares it, Christ has passed the eternal gates.
- 3 Life eternal! heav’n rejoices: Jesus lives Who once was dead.
Shout with joy, O deathless voices! Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders crowd on faith; what joy unknown,
when, amid earth’s closing thunders, saints shall stand before the throne!

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING / OFFERTORY PRAYER

P. Creator God,

C. the earth and all that is in it belong to You. Inspire us to use what You have made to give justice to the oppressed, food to the hungry, and freedom to the captives. May our offerings, given in Your name, lift up those who are bowed down; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ MEAL ✠

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING page 88

THE SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY) page 89

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. Holy God ... an end to injustice and harm.

C. Amen

P. In the night ... redemption of our suffering world.

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P. Send Your Spirit ... both now and forever.

C. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER page 91

AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God) page 92

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING page 92

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P. Shepherd of Israel. . . now and forever.

C. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING

P. May Almighty God, who makes all things new in Jesus Christ, uphold you by the Spirit in times of trial and bring you at last to the heavenly Jerusalem. Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Rejoice in God's Saints* #689 (blue)

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

All Saints' Day is a universal festival of the Church. This festival day directs our attention to the richness of Christian history and the varied experiences of the grace of God by lifting up the lives of the saints.

The custom of commemorating all the martyrs of the Church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints' Day (Nov. 1) celebrates not only the martyrs and saints, but all the people of God, living and dead, who together form the mystical body of Christ.

Below are the names of the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church who have died since All Saints' Day last year. We remember them in our prayers today, and we give thanks for their lives. We remember and find strength in their faith and the faith of all the saints both known to us and known only to God.

2021 All Saints Remembrance

Joined the Saints Victorious

Mavis M Anderson

Chris Syltie

Doreen (Reenie) Esping

William "Bill" Melby

William "Bill" Ningen

Shirlee Eilers Gabbert

Audrey LaVonne Inselman

Jim Pridahl

Sylvia Pridahl

Henry "Hank" Jerzak

Joined the Saints on Earth

Miles Brooks Anderson

Halston Ruth Longhenry

THOSE WHO SERVE:

Ministers: All the People of God

Musician: Terry Dybsetter

Camera: Josh Sumption

Acolytes: Katie Munter/James Kamrath

Presider: Pastor Ellen Munter

Reader: Linda Bruns

Projection: Sara Wollum

Sound : Ken Jeremiason & Jerome Bruns

How to reach us:

Church Office: 507-296-4658
 Pastor's Cell: 507-828-1000(call or text)
 Bethel email: bethel@bethelofporter.com

Pastor's House: 507-296-4558
 Pastor's email: pastormunter@gmail.com
 Bethel web page: www.bethelofporter.com



Emily Morton, Angie Denelsbeck Anderson, Bill and Karen Pohlen, Barb Hurt
 The family and friends of Hank Jerzak



The attached QR Code can be used to directly access the online giving form for Bethel Lutheran.
 Just one way of our continuing effort to modernize so you can give conveniently to Bethel.

October 31, 2021

General: \$798.75 (\$412.75 received through eGiving)

For Your Information

To meet the expenses in our annual budget, an average of \$2,180.00 is needed in offering per week.

	Year:	2021	
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$	125,474.84	*Includes all Bethel and Parish related expenses
Monthly revenue required to meet budget:	\$	10,456.24	

Year to Date Actual Revenue and Budgeted Expenses Comparison-
 This report is based on budgeted expenses divided evenly for each month of the calendar year. Actual expenses per month vary greatly. This analysis is to be used as a guideline, and not a full representation of the full financial health of Bethel Lutheran Church.
 This report now includes revenues received from Hemne Luterhan Church as they are applied to all expenses related to the Bethel-Hemnes Joint Parish.

	Total Revenue for Month	Year to Date Revenue	Year to Date Budgeted Expense	Year to Date Difference: shortfalls shown as negative numbers	Cash Reserves Expended	Cash Reserves Repaid	Reserves Repaid Notes
January	\$7,243.51	\$7,243.51	\$10,456.24	-\$3,212.73			
February	\$8,528.56	\$15,772.07	\$20,912.47	-\$5,140.40	-\$2,000.00		
March	\$32,776.71	\$32,776.71	\$31,368.71	\$1,408.00			
April	\$8,253.97	\$41,030.68	\$41,824.95	-\$794.27			
May	\$11,379.61	\$52,410.29	\$52,281.18	\$129.11			
June	\$5,763.70	\$58,173.99	\$62,737.42	-\$4,563.43			
July	\$5,998.50	\$64,172.49	\$73,193.66	-\$9,021.17			
August	\$5,779.50	\$69,952.49	\$83,649.89	-\$14,077.40	-\$5,000.00		
September	\$9,423.85	\$78,996.34	\$94,106.13	-\$15,109.79			
October	\$9,426.36	\$88,422.70	\$104,562.37	-\$16,139.67			

What's with the "display" in the narthex ?

Through November 14th our spare change will be "gobbled up" to support the community take out Thanksgiving dinner prepared by the Presbyterian Church in Canby.



The display and the community projects supported by this effort will change frequently. If you have a community project that you would like Bethel to support, suggest the project to one of the Deacons.



Coming Soon:

The Thanksgiving Tree providing gifts for area children at Christmas time. Watch for the tree in the Narthex.

Tears Are Holy

"Jesus wept" (John 11:35). It's the shortest verse in the Bible (in many non-NRSV versions), popular among Sunday school children trying to pad their stats in Bible memorization games. Only two words, three short syllables: "Jesus wept." It is also a profound theological statement. Death hurts. Even for Jesus. Even with prophecies and promises to wipe away every tear.

Although we may put it out of mind at times, we have always been dust. We have always known that to dust we shall return. Before rushing to the reassurance of eternal life with God, we honor the sacred finitude of life by honestly naming and feeling the grief of death.

Even as He embodied resurrection power, Jesus felt the sting of death. When He heard that His friend Lazarus had died, He wept. He didn't immediately bring him back, and He didn't explain it away. He wept. This is Jesus at His most human *and* His most divine. Life is holy, and its loss is painful. Your tears, like Jesus' tears, are holy. You are not alone.

The vision of Revelation promises a time when God will wipe away every tear, when death and mourning and crying and pain will be no more. But as Jesus Himself experienced, we must first contend with the heartbreak of death. On All Saints Day we remember the saints who have gone before. We celebrate their lives and the promise of a future with God. And we honor them with our tears and mourning, and our honest and complicated feelings for them.

Stories promise endings, but too often death brings relationships to a stop without the closure of an ending. The promise of resurrection and the rituals of All Saints Day remind us that our stories continue to unfold in mysterious ways—even after death. God shows up in the messiness of loss and mourning, and God's love carries us through the loneliness and fear. Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

**John Christian Frederick Heyer, died 1873; Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, died 1719; Ludwig Nommensen, died 1918; missionaries
Sunday, November 7, 2021**

Heyer was the first missionary sent out by American Lutherans. After teaching at Gettysburg College and Seminary he was assigned to the Andhra region of India. Ziegenbalg, a worker among the Tamil people on the southeast coast of India, was opposed both by local Hindus and by Danish authorities who favored a different missionary style. He was known for caring about the welfare of the whole person. Nommensen was born in northern Germany and was sent to Sumatra as a Lutheran missionary. Working among the Batak people, he translated the scriptures into their language, and honored their native culture.

**Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397
Thursday, November 11, 2021**

Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army. Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man, whom he later understood as representing Christ. He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead. After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop.

**Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855
Thursday, November 11, 2021**

Kierkegaard was a Danish theologian whose writings also gave rise to the modern philosophy of existentialism. He frequently attacked the complacency of the state church of his day, as well as its desire to be accepted by polite society rather than be a stumbling block.