



All Saints' Day / Reformation

Grace Lutheran Church
Yorba Linda, California

November 1, 2020



Worship

Today, November 1, is one of the minor festivals of the Church called All Saints Day. It began in the third century to honor martyrs of the Christian faith. By the seventh century, many churches used All Saints Day as a time to remember all who have departed this life and are in heaven with their Savior.

The Bible teaches that all who believe in Jesus are part of the Holy Christian Church – the Communion of Saints, and so this day directs all of us to Christ and the promise of eternal life in heaven.

The birthday of the Lutheran Church, the Reformation, has an interesting connection to All Saints Day. It was this festival that gave Luther the opportunity to post his Ninety-Five Theses to the church door in Wittenberg in 1517; October 31 was the eve of All Saints Day (Hallow's – Eve). Martin Luther learned from Scripture that we gain our righteousness or our holiness from Christ alone. May God bless our worship today as we give thanks that we, along with all God's people, are dressed in Christ's righteousness.

Note: Text in grey indicates that part of service is not included in the video.



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace

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REMEMBERING THE SAINTS WHO HAVE DEPARTED

This morning we reflect on the Lord's grace to those who have died in Christian faith (members of Grace in 2020: Kathe Lind, Joan Dressendorfer and Muriel Perkola, as well as a number of our relatives and friends) and now live in greater light than we.

L: I heard a voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

C: **He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."** (Revelation 21:3,4)



OPENING HYMN

For All the Saints
(#551:1-2)

**1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
All who their faith before the world confessed,
Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**2 You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;
You, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight
And in the darkness drear their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

WE STAND

*For a reminder of
our baptism
where we were
made holy,
radiant and
blameless in
God's sight.*

Psalm 122:1
Psalm 27:4

Psalm 24:3ff.

DIALOGUE FOR REFORMATION

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

L: I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
C: **One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.**

L: Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?
C: **He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.**

Psalm 14:2-3

L: The Lord looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Martin Luther
(1 Cor 5:21)

C: "Lord Jesus, you are my righteousness; I am your sin. You became what you were not and made me to be what I am not."

Romans 4:7,8

L: Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Psalm 32:1,2

C: I will exalt you, O Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths; O Lord my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.

Psalm 30:1

RESPONSE

For All the Saints (#551:3-5)

**3 Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
And win with them the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine,
Yet all are one within your grand design. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

*Blessed are the
saints of God, for
theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.*

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:1-12

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

He said:

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 be shown 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 because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

After the Gospel, the congregation says:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.



PSALM OF THE DAY

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
- ³ though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.^[c]
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
- ⁵ God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
- ¹⁰ He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

ALL: ¹¹ The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.



HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (#200)

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need That has us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.**
- 2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant one Whom God himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?" Jesus Christ it is,
The almighty Lord. And there's no other God;
He holds the field forever.**

**Wear what
they are
wearing!**

SERMON

Revelation 7:9-17

**1. It's what
winners
wear.**

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

**2. It's what
saints wear.**

¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying:

“Amen! Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”

¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

¹⁴ I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶ ‘Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’

‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

“Serve him in everlasting righteousness...”

LUTHER’S EXPLANATION TO THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He had redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

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OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(God’s people pray for the His Church throughout the world.)*

- M. Lord, our refuge and strength, we worship and praise you for your ongoing work of reforming your Church among your people. **Lord, C. to you alone be glory.**

- M. God of grace, in unfathomable love you pitied us sinners and sent your Son as our substitute to deliver us from sin, guilt, death, darkness, and despair, and to clothe us in his righteousness. **For your grace, Lord, C. to you alone be glory.**

- M. By your grace you sent your Spirit to call us to repentance. Your powerful gospel rescued us from rebellion and fills us with faith in you, the true and living God, and sets us apart to be your saints. **For saving faith, Lord, C. to you alone be glory.**

- M. By your grace we are heirs of your eternal Word and trustees of the inspired Scriptures. By the Scriptures you overthrew the darkness of those who perverted your teachings and restored to your church the message of salvation by grace alone. **For the Holy Scriptures, Lord, C. to you alone be glory.**

M. Lord of the nations, you have made us citizens of both your kingdom of grace and of the earthly kingdom in which we live. As another election approaches, help us appreciate and use the privilege to choose leaders who govern us. Bless our nation with honest and responsible officials who will speak for what is right in your eyes.

Lord, our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble, fires again have threatened houses and homes and lives. We thank you your protection from widespread damage, and especially for fellow members who were close to the path of fire. For those who spend long hours protecting property and life, we give thanks. And for the opportunity to learn again what is of lasting value, we give thanks. For these and all your people, Lord, pour out your love. Be our mighty fortress, our trusty shield and weapon. Lord,

C. to you alone be glory.

OFFERING OF PRAYERS

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. By his saints and witnesses of the past he encourages us to run with perseverance the race marked out for us and to live in righteousness and peace.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.
You are my God, and I will exalt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *spoken by the worship leader*

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.



CLOSING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress (#200)

3 Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!
One little word can fell him.

4 The Word they still shall let remain, Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With his good gifts and Spirit.
And do what they will—Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—
Though all may be gone, Our victory is won;
The kingdom's ours forever!



MY REFUGE
AND MY FORTRESS,
MY GOD,
IN WHOM I TRUST

PRAYERS

Alexis, whose grandmother passed away this past week.

For God's protection during the fires this several members were all in evacuation areas).

CALENDAR

Today: Confirmation

Sunday-Tuesday – Grace Hall is being used as a Vote Center

Thursday - Bible Study online – 10 AM or 7 PM – God's Other Kingdom

*Sunday worship – online (at your convenience) or in-person at 9:30 AM.
Confirmation class – after church*

November 9th – Church Council

November 25th – Thanksgiving Worship

THANKSGIVING BASKETS – *We have begun collecting food to share with friends and neighbors for Thanksgiving. If you know of someone who could use the fixings for a meal, please let Pastor know.*