

# All Saints Day

November 1, 2020



The Eternal Flame continues to burn as the contractors start to set up the lift to install our new Sanctuary Lights.

Remembering the Past  
Celebrating the Future

## Gethsemane Lutheran Church

3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

*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.*

## GATHERING

---

**PRELUDE:** *Préambule* (24 pièces en style libre, Op. 31)

Louis Vierne

### **WELCOME, COMMUNITY LIFE, and PRAISE REPORTS**

*The congregation rises in body or spirit*

## A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING & REMEMBRANCE

---

**Choir:** *Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in his bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge ne'er was given.*

Gracious God, we give you thanks for those whom you have claimed in holy baptism. May the light of their lives point to your love and goodness for all the world to see. From this past year we name:

*Ryker Patrick Pollet*

**Choir:** *God his own doth tend and nourish,  
In his holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things he spares them,  
In his mighty arms he bears them.*

O God, we remember with thanksgiving those who have died this past year:

*Gary J. Scanlan  
Robert Walter Walczuk  
Wilma Frances Shaw*

and others we now name before you either silently or out loud:

*Bob Rice  
Brent Teasley  
Abe Riggs*

*(Brief silence for meditation and reflection before the following verse.)*

**Choir:** *Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord his children sever;  
Unto them his grace he showeth,  
And their sorrows all he knoweth.*

Almighty God, those who die in the Lord still live with you in joy and blessedness.

**We give you heartfelt thanks for the grace you have bestowed upon your servants who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors.**

Into your hands we commend them, O merciful Savior, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming.

**Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Choir:** *Though he giveth or he taketh  
God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.*

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958. Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune. Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

*The congregation is seated.*

**OPENING HYMN: On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand**

**Hymn# 437**

1 On Jordan's stormy bank I stand,  
and cast a wishful eye  
to Canaan's fair and happy land,  
where my possessions lie.

Refrain

I am bound for the promised land,  
I am bound for the promised land;  
oh, who will come and go with me?  
I am bound for the promised land.

shines one eternal day;  
there God the Son forever reigns  
and scatters night away. Refrain

3 No chilling winds or pois'nous breath  
can reach that healthful shore;  
sickness and sorrow, pain and death,  
are felt and feared no more. Refrain

4 When shall I reach that happy place  
and be forever blest?  
When shall I see my Savior's face  
and in God's bosom rest? Refrain

Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727-1795. Music: PROMISED LAND, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835: adapt. Rigdon M. McIntosh, 1836-1899. Public Domain.

## 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**

*The congregation is seated.*

## WORD

---

### **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 is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.*

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **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.*

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation rises in body or spirit.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Choir on Behalf of the Congregation: *Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

*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.*

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is seated.*

## **SERMON – I Will Bless the Lord at All Times**

*During the hymn, the congregation is invited to come forward and light a candle in memory of a loved one. Candles have been left on your pew with your bulletin. An usher will direct you. Please maintain a 6-foot distance from those around you.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY: Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

**Hymn# 773**

1 Precious Lord, Take my hand,  
lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn,  
Through the storm, through the night,  
lead me on to the light.  
Take my hand, precious Lord,  
lead me home.

3 When the darkness appears  
and the night draws near,  
and the day is past and gone,  
at the river I stand  
guide my fee, hold my hand.  
Take my hand, precious Lord,  
lead me home.

2 When my way grows drear,  
precious Lord, linger near,  
when my life is almost gone  
hear my cry, hear my call,  
hold my hand, lest I fall.  
Take my hand, precious Lord,  
lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993. Music:  
PRECIOUS LORD, George N. Allen, 1812-1877,  
adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey. Text and music © 1938,  
1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Alfred  
Publishing. All rights reserved. Used by  
permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-  
704953.

*The congregation rises in body or spirit.*

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Lord of all the saints, we praise you for evangelists and martyrs whose sacrifices witness to your gospel across time and space. Inspire us by their courage to carry our faith to new people and places around us. We ask a blessing for the Mayhaus family in the baptism of baby Eleanor Louise tomorrow. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every place, the universe proclaims your greatness from generation to generation. Bless the work of naturalists, conservationists, and park rangers who train our attention to the wonders of the world you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every nation, guide this country—red states and blue states, rural voters and urban voters, young and old—as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every blessing, your Son's blessing came to those living with poverty, grief, hunger, thirst, and persecution. Shape our vision of the saints to match his own. Awaken in us your call to serve all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every venture, anoint us with the missionary spirit of the early church. Bless all new missions of our synod. Empower testimony from new communities of faith to shape a diverse witness to your saving power. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort us as we grieve those who have died in the past year. In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*The congregation is seated.*

## OFFERING:

*During this time of offering, we ask that you remember the church's ongoing expenses and our ongoing need to be generous people of God. Offerings may be dropped off or mailed to the church. You may also visit our website at [gethsemanestl.org](http://gethsemanestl.org) to donate electronically.*

**Anthem:** *Humble Thyselfes*

Dr. Aria Thomé

*The congregation rises in body or spirit.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**C 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**

## SENDING

---

### BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

**Amen**

*The congregation is seated.*

### SENDING HYMN: *I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me*

**Hymn# 860**

1 I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

3 When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

2 Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

## DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** *Chaconne*

Louis Couperin

*The congregation waits for guidance by the ushers to exit the sanctuary. Please refrain from stopping for fellowship until you have exited the building.*

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS007854. Worship songs are reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953. Copyright ©2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

### Worship Leaders

Pastors:	Elizabeth and John Backus
Organist:	Dr. Steven Ball
Hymns:	Dawn Schuessler and Dr. Aria Thomé
Anthem:	Dawn Schuessler and Dr. Aria Thomé
Lector:	Steve Doss

### CHURCH STAFF

Ministers: Pastor John Backus	<a href="mailto:1963ford@live.com">1963ford@live.com</a>	(314) 250-4442©
and Pastor Elizabeth Backus	<a href="mailto:elizabethlbackus@gmail.com">elizabethlbackus@gmail.com</a>	(314) 295-4600©
Choir/Bell Choir Director: Dr. Aria Thomé	<a href="mailto:gethsemane.choirs@gmail.com">gethsemane.choirs@gmail.com</a>	(480) 290-6369©
Organist: Dr. Steven Ball	<a href="mailto:music@gethsemanestl.org">music@gethsemanestl.org</a>	(609) 515-5857©
Office Manager: Kim Elliott	<a href="mailto:office@gethsemanestl.org">office@gethsemanestl.org</a>	(314) 313-4161©
Connections Coordinator: Gretchen Jenson	<a href="mailto:connect@gethsemanestl.org">connect@gethsemanestl.org</a>	(314) 518-6978©
Council President: John McElwee	<a href="mailto:mcelwee2@sbcglobal.net">mcelwee2@sbcglobal.net</a>	(314) 791-2197©

### ALTAR FLOWERS:

Today's flowers were given by the Schuessler family  
in honor of Dawn and Lindsay's birthdays.

A second arrangement of flowers were given anonymously  
in memory of John Ball and William Boyer.

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar  
November 1 - 8, 2020**

Today <b>All Saints Day</b>	9:30 am	In-Person Worship Service (HUGS) (Streaming live on YouTube and Facebook)
	10:30 am	Confirmation Class
11/2 Monday	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal
11/3 Tuesday	6:00 am – 7:00pm	Election – Voting at Church in Fellowship Hall
11/4 Wednesday	10:30 am 7:00 pm	Staff Meeting Genesis Bible Study (last in series)
11/7 Saturday	8:00 am 9:00 am – 2:00 pm 3:00 pm	Set-up for Rummage Sale Kid’s Stuff Rummage Sale Clean-up from Rummage Sale
11/8 Sunday	9:30 am 10:30 am	In-Person Worship Service (HUGS) (Streaming live on YouTube and Facebook) Confirmation Class

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**Prayers of guidance for our Call Committee: Gary Borkowski, K.T. Elliott, Steve Hetager, Nick Kohlberg, Maryn Olson, and Megan Yemm.**

<b>Request for:</b>	<b><i>On Behalf of:</i></b>
Madison as she prepares for and recovers from surgery	<b><i>Deanna Brooker</i></b>
Strength and comfort for Rich LoRusso	<b><i>The Doss Family</i></b>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**"Genesis: Outside the Box!" Bible Study** with Pastor John comes to an end this Wednesday, November 4th. The Zoom link information to join the study is available on our website, along with a link to the recording of weeks 2 & 3.

**All Saints Program by the National Lutheran Choir.** Tune in NLC's All Saints Virtual Program offering music of **remembrance, perseverance and hope** for all who have experienced loss in this difficult year. Go to NLCA.com this afternoon at 4pm to listen.

**2021 Stewardship Campaign – Get Your Mission On:** This week, we learn how Rich Brendel gets his mission “gloves” on when he volunteers around the church and community. Don’t forget to return your pledge card to the church office or stop by the Drive Thru – *Pledge Drop* on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Light Up the Sanctuary:** Our contract has been signed and the supplies have been ordered. Work on the new lighting system for the sanctuary started this week. Please take a moment to consider your pledge to help cover the cost of the new lights.

**Kid’s Stuff Outdoor Rummage Sale Next Saturday:** November 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 2pm (weather permitting). Volunteers are desperately needed to set-up, help with sales, and clean-up after the sale. We are no longer accepting items for this sale. All proceeds will be used to help cover the costs of unexpected pandemic supplies like masks, hand sanitizer, and no touch thermometers. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, see Vicki Herrmann or Deb Schaller. Please tell your families and friends; help us spread the word.

**October Big Ask Continues:** We will continue to collect socks through the end of the month. We have also been asked to collect 400 cans of Yams for Isaiah 58’s Food Pantry. This will be used to supplement their Thanksgiving dinners in November. Our next Drive In – Food Drop is November 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can also Buy-A Bird by participating in Isaiah 58’s 27<sup>th</sup> annual event where you can be a superhero this holiday season. See our website for more information.

**Choir Rehearsals Scheduled:** Bell Choir and Choir rehearsal continue every Monday, with Bells at 6pm followed by choir at 7:15pm. Masks must be worn at all times when in the building. Instructions for social distancing will be provided. Join us now as we rehearse music for Christmas. Choir members are invited to sing outside for the Carol sing-a-long following Christmas worship, but choir and bell choir music during the service will be pre-recorded.

## Sunday Funnies:

Inherit the Mirth “Where faith meets funny”  
by Cuyler Black.



### Altar Flower Available Dates:

The following dates are still available to sponsor the flowers for the altar: December 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$30. You are welcome to pick up the flowers following the service for your enjoyment or request that the church staff take care of them.

## **Gethsemane is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation Affirmation of Welcome**

Christ's welcome knows no boundaries! Therefore, our welcome knows no boundaries and we invite all people to full participation in the life of the congregation.

We at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Saint Louis embrace...

People of any race or ethnicity...

People who are male, female, transgender, or any other gender identity...

People of any age...

People wherever they are, or wherever they have been, on their faith journeys...

People who are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated or partnered...

People who are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or any other sexual orientation...

People with a variety of political perspectives...

People who have, or had, addictions, phobias, abortions, or a criminal record...

People who are homeowners, renters, living with parents, or homeless...

People who are fully-abled, disabled, or of differing abilities...

People of differing educational backgrounds...

People of any socio-economic condition...

People not mentioned above, all of whom are created and loved by God!

As we celebrate and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation, we pledge to ourselves and to all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people in our life together and in our outreach to the world. We are committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith.