



## Grace Lutheran Church

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**ALL SAINTS DAY (Observed)**

**November 7, 2021**

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**Welcome:** We are glad that you are here or are watching our worship service online. May you be blessed through this time of worship. We pray you find today's service a source of encouragement and strength. For those worshipping in person please take time to register your attendance using the slips in the pew rack. These can be placed in the offering plates by the door as you exit.

**Prayer Requests** are always welcome. To have someone included in our prayers during worship, please call the pastor or church office or write down the request and give it to the pastor.

**Lectionary Summary:** “A great multitude ... from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,” cry out, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne” (Rev. 7:9–17). Faith-filled saints from every place and time, with unified voices, eternally magnify the Lamb of God. As His beloved children, we, too, “shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:1–3). Joined with the throng of angels and myriad saints, we shall “serve him day and night in his temple” (Rev. 7:9–17). In our earthly tension vacillating between saint and sinner, faith and doubt, sacred and profane, we earnestly seek Jesus to calm our fears, comfort our spirits and forgive our sins. The Holy Spirit through faith in Christ propels us forward, fortifying us in Word and Sacrament, to our eternal home. In the midst of our constant struggle as believers, we need to be blessed. And so we are. The poor in spirit, the meek, the hungry, the thirsty, the merciful, the pure and the persecuted are all blessed, and we will most certainly inherit the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:1–12).

**Order of Worship**  
**Matins** *LSB 219*

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Greeting**

**Ringing of the Bell**

♪ **Opening Hymn: “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”** *LSB 670 v. 1, 3, 4*

**1** Ye watchers and ye holy ones, Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,  
Raise the glad strain: “Alleluia!”  
Cry out, dominions, pryncedoms, pow’rs, Virtues, archangels, angels’ choirs:  
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

**3** Respond, ye souls in endless rest, Ye patriarchs and prophets blest:  
“Alleluia, alleluia!”  
Ye holy Twelve, ye martyrs strong, All saints triumphant, raise the song:  
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

*Stand*

**4** O friends, in gladness let us sing, Supernal anthems echoing:  
“Alleluia, alleluia!”  
To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One:  
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

*Public domain*

**Opening Versicles (Matins)**

*LSB 219*

♪ **P** O Lord, open my lips.  
♪ **C** And my mouth will declare Your praise.  
♪ **P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
♪ **C** make haste to help me, O Lord.  
♪ **C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.  
♪ **P** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
♪ **C** O come, let us worship Him.

## Venite

**♪C** O come, let us sing |to the Lord,  
 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of |our salvation.  
 Let us come into His presence with thanks|giving,  
 let us make a joyful noise to |Him with songs of praise.  
 For the Lord is a |great God  
 and a great |king above all gods.  
 The deep places of the earth are |in His hand;  
 the strength of the hills is |His also.  
 The sea is His, for He |made it,  
 and His hand |formed the dry land.  
 O come, let us worship and |bow down,  
 let us kneel before the |Lord, our maker.  
 For He |is our God,  
 and we are the people of His pasture and the |sheep of His hand.  
 Glory be to the Father and |to the Son  
 and to the |Holy Spirit;  
 as it was in the be|ginning,  
 is now, and will be for|ever. Amen.

**♪P** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**♪C** O come, let us worship Him.

*Sit***Readings From Holy Scripture****First Reading***Revelation 7:9–17*

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup>and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels were standing 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>saying, “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, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” <sup>14</sup>I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>“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. <sup>16</sup>They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup>For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Epistle

*1 John 3:1–3*

<sup>1</sup>See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 5:1–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth 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 shall be comforted. <sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. <sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. <sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. <sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons 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 others 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 so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

### Children’s Message

♪Sermon Hymn: “Behold a Host, Arrayed in White”

LSB 676

- 1 Behold a host, arrayed in white, Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright!  
With palms they stand; Who is this band Before the throne of light?  
These are the saints of glorious fame, Who from the great affliction came  
And in the flood Of Jesus’ blood Are cleansed from guilt and shame.  
They now serve God both day and night; They sing their songs in endless light.  
Their anthems ring As they all sing With angels shining bright.
- 2 Despised and scorned, they sojourned here; But now, how glorious they appear!  
Those martyrs stand, A priestly band, God’s throne forever near.  
On earth they wept through bitter years; Now God has wiped away their tears,  
Transformed their strife To heav’nly life, And freed them from their fears.  
They now enjoy the Sabbath rest, The heav’nly banquet of the blest;  
The Lamb, their Lord, At festive board Himself is host and guest.
- 3 O blessèd saints in bright array Now safely home in endless day,  
Extol the Lord, Who with His Word Sustained you on the way.  
The steep and narrow path you trod; You toiled and sowed the Word abroad;  
Rejoice and bring Your fruits and sing Before the throne of God.  
The myriad angels raise their song; O saints, sing with that happy throng!  
Lift up one voice; Let heav’n rejoice In our Redeemer’s song!

*Public domain*

Sermon “Remain In Me”

Pastor Erik

*Stand*

♪Te Deum Hymn: “We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God”

LSB 941

- 1 We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,  
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.  
To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,  
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:  
“O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!”
- 2 The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;  
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.  
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,

**Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:  
“O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!”**

- 3 You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,  
Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev’ryone:  
    You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin’s womb,  
    Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;  
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—  
You opened heaven’s kingdom to all who would believe.**
- 4 You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God’s right hand,  
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.  
    We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,  
    So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;  
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,  
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!**

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*Sit*

### **Remembrance of the Faithful Departed**

- P** I heard a voice from heaven saying: Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth.”
- C** “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “That they may rest from their labors, and their deeds do follow them.” Rev. 14:13

♪ **“For All the Saints”** *LSB 677 selected verses*

♪ **For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

♪ **Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

- P** Let us remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before us with the sign of faith, for they were created by God to offer Him praise and thanksgiving forever, and He gave them new life through His Son in Holy Baptism and nourished them in

the company of His people at His holy table, and in His mercy has summoned them to His nearer presence so that they may continue in joyful service to Him forever. We remember those who have died as members of Grace Lutheran Church during the past year.

<b>Warren Korth</b> October 17, 1949 to January 9, 2021	<b>Verdelle Reeg</b> June 16, 1926 to June 30, 2021
<b>Swede Fredrickson</b> September 6, 1932 to February 3, 2021	<b>Dwaine Rethwisch</b> November 8, 1928 to July 5, 2021
<b>Lonnie Samuelson</b> March 19, 1960 to March 7, 2021	<b>Berniece Hogan</b> August 25, 1926 to August 24, 2021
<b>Lanora Sorensen</b> August 31, 1933 to April 22, 2021	<b>Jim Kahler</b> February 18, 1932 to September 30, 2021
<b>Larry Mitchell</b> January 19, 1939 to June 19, 2021	<b>Bonnie Sandahl</b> December 17, 1934 to October 3, 2021

♪ **Oh, may Thy 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!**

♪ **Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**P** In joyful expectation of the resurrection to life, we remember before You, O Lord, all our departed kin and friends and all those who in our hearts and minds this day.

<b>Dolores Erwin</b> Mother of Janet Casey	<b>Neva Echtenkamp</b> Mother of Jerry Echtenkamp
<b>Liz Hadcock</b> Granddaughter of Louise Green	<b>Jerene Lohmeyer</b> Mother of Bonnie Hansen
<b>Arnold Hoffman</b> Father of Carlene Bodlak	<b>LeRoy Mock</b> Father of Dwight Mock

♪ **The golden evening brightens in the west;  
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;  
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

♪ **But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:  
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;  
The King of Glory passes on His way. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God we remember with thanksgiving those who loved and served You in Your Church on earth and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joy of Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

♪ **From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

♪ **Kyrie**

*LSB 227*

**C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

**Lord's Prayer**

**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.

**P** O Lord, hear my prayer.

**C** And let my cry come to You.

**Collect of the Day**

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving**

## Collect for Grace

**P** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**MC** Amen.

## Benedicamus and Benediction

LSB 228

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**MC** Thanks be to God.

**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**MC** Amen.

## Closing Hymn: “By All Your Saints in Warfare”

LSB 517 sts. 1, 4, 3

**1** By all Your saints in warfare, For all Your saints at rest,  
Your holy name, O Jesus, Forevermore be blest!  
For You have won the battle That they might wear the crown;  
And now they shine in glory Reflected from Your throne.

**4** Apostles, prophets, martyrs, And all the noble throng  
Who wear the spotless raiment And raise the ceaseless song—  
For these, passed on before us, We offer praises due  
And, walking in their footsteps, Would live our lives for You.

**Δ3** Then let us praise the Father And worship God the Son  
And sing to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One,  
Till all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne,  
Ascribing pow’r and glory And praise to God alone.

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## NEWS AND NOTES

**WE REJOICE** with the following members of Grace who are celebrating this week.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Aaron Daniels, Bonnadell Koch, Aracili Latham, Linda Gehner, Kimberly Ocampo, Micah Sprouls, Con Munson, Kelly Hansen, Landen Sharer, Jordyn Doescher, Larry Echtenkamp, Brian Frevert, Bob Sutton, Doug Heithold & Addilyn Temme

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Scott & Tanya Brogren, Mark & Kara Heithold, Gene & Janet Claussen, Jon & Cynthia Rethwisch and Ron & Rhonda Sebade

**LAST WEEK** our offerings were \$7,846.

**ONLINE WORSHIP:** Livestream of our Sunday morning services is being offered each week. Check the church's website [www.gracewayne.com](http://www.gracewayne.com) or Facebook page for the link which should be available on Sunday morning. A recording of the service is still available to watch later in the day or week. May God bless your worship time.

**NURSERY:** A nursery room has been created to help parents with young children. The nursery is located in the first room west of the upstairs fellowship hall. Please feel welcome to use the room to quiet your child.

**PARENTS OF LITTLE CHILDREN:** Books which your children may enjoy are available in book bags located near the doors at the east end of the sanctuary. Please return the books after the worship service. Thank you.

**ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION:** The LYF is collecting aluminum cans as a fundraiser for the youth group. Please place the cans you donate in the small shed on the west side of the alley behind the preschool. Please put your cans in **tied plastic garbage bags (No paper bags)** and **NO BOTTLES! ALUMINUM CANS ONLY, NO OTHER TYPE OF ALUMINUM.** The youth appreciate your effort in helping to raise money and also helping to clean up the environment!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** “A Confident Confession” is the title of today’s lesson. Jesus asks His disciples two very direct questions: “Who do people say I am?” and “Who do you say I am?” (Matthew 16:13, 15). Peter’s bold confession, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (v. 16), prompts Jesus to commend his words and proclaim this truth as the rock upon which the Church will be built. When Jesus foretells His death and resurrection, Peter objects and becomes a hindrance to Jesus’ mission. Jesus rebukes Peter and keeps His focus on the cross. For those who cannot attend in person, visit <http://bit.ly/onlinesundayschool> to access an online video overview for Unit 7, Lesson 12 and additional family materials.

**LUTHERAN HOUR:** "**Jesus Keeps Filling**" -- Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
In one way or another, we are all broken, cracked vessels. Life leaks out, but Jesus keeps filling. Hear the "Lutheran Hour" message on KTCH AM next Sunday at 7:30 am.

**ADULT BIBLE CLASS:** We are continuing our overview study of the Gospel of John. So many favorite passages of the Bible come from this gospel. Our class allows us to see them in context and to see how major themes of the gospel intersect with our lives. The class meets in the basement Sunday at 9:15.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS:** Join us for our continuing study of the book of First Samuel. As David is forced to flee for his life, we see God's provision for him. New faces are always welcome Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in the large meeting room upstairs.

**VOTERS' MEETING:** Mark your calendar and plan to attend our annual voters' meeting on November 21. A meal will be served following the 10:30 service and the meeting should commence at noon.

**HOME VISITS:** As the weather turns colder and travel is sometimes more difficult a reminder that the pastors would be happy to come to bring the Lord's Supper to your home. Please contact the church office if you would like to schedule a visit.

**COLLEGE SUNDAY NIGHT DINNERS:** Open to ALL College Students, Young Adults, and anyone who is Young at Heart!!! Come join us for a free dinner, fellowship and an awesome Bible Study! If you are missing home cooked meals, and your mom's favorite recipes you can't get much better than the classic food options we provide! Hope you can join us every Sunday at 7:30PM! And be sure to invite your friends to come for the food, but to stay for the FUN! 😊

**COLLEGE BIBLE STUDIES 4PM THURSDAYS:** Interested in joining other college students and young adults in studying God's word? Want to review and freshen up on your theological understanding of God's master plan for our salvation? Then come join us Thursday at 4pm on the southside of the College Library weather permitting. If it is raining, we will see you inside the college library. Be sure to bring your Bible and invite your friends!

**WAYNE FOOD PANTRY DISPLAY:** During November the Altar Guild will be assembling a display in the sanctuary for donating non-perishable food items for the Wayne Food Pantry. Any healthy, filling, non-perishable foods are welcome. There is also a need for: brownie & cake mix, canned chicken, canned fruit, cereal, cooking oil, flour, gravy, instant potatoes, instant rise, juice, pancake mix, pancake syrup, pasta, saltine crackers, soup, stuffing, sugar and toilet paper. The display will be taken to the pantry on November 22, **the Monday before Thanksgiving.**

**VOTE WITH PURPOSE** as the Thrivent Board of Directors election is available through Nov. 20. Eligible members please cast your personal ballot.

**DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED:** During the month of November our Youth Group is asking for donations that we will take to the residents at the Norfolk Rescue Mission on November 20th. To help us in this effort we are asking that if you have any hygiene Products, or Clothing items for all ages should be brought to the Church Office to be given to Pastor Erik. On November 20th our Youth Group will be traveling to Norfolk to deliver these items, as well as serve the residents dinner that evening. Thank you in advance for helping us share God's love with the residents around this time of Thanksgiving! We pray that your own celebrations would be greatly blessed!

**THANKSGIVING DINNER** will be held at Grace on Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at noon. Call the church office to sign up. Don't spend thanksgiving alone join your Grace family.

**ALASKA MISSION FOR CHRIST MISSION TRIP TO CAMP BINGLE** – If you love a great adventure, being in God’s beautiful outdoors, serving other people, are at least 18 years old, and have been vaccinated then you can’t beat a weeklong mission trip to the Last Frontier at Camp Bingle! This Mission Trip will run from May 14th thru May 21st, 2022! At Camp Bingle we will be doing Habitat for Humanity type construction work, as well as regular maintenance on already existing structures. This trip is open to all skill levels, and the approximate total cost for this trip is \$700 including airfare to Fairbanks, transportation to and from Camp Bingle, food, and lodging. There is a requirement of a \$100 deposit and medical release form that are due to Pastor Erik by December 5th to secure your spot. Don’t miss out on this once in a lifetime kind of trip!

### **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**PASTORS:** Pastor Michael Buchhorn, Senior Pastor

Pastor’s phone: 402.833.1071 Email: pastorbuchhorn@gmail.com

Pastor Erik Christensen, Associate Pastor

Pastor’s phone: 979.204.0752 Email: pastorerik@gracewayne.com

Pastor Emeritus: Pastor Carl Lilienkamp

**ELDER ON DUTY:** Lonnie Matthes (8:00) Troy Stowater (10:30)

**ACOLYTES:** Landen Sharer & Konnor Kai (8:00)

Cloey Young & Reese Rethwisch (10:30)

**LAY READER:** Louise Green (8:00) Brian Kesting (10:30)

**GREETERS:** Louise Green (8:00)

Chad & Pam Janke (10:30)

**FISHERS OF KIDS PRESCHOOL:** Teacher – Keila Olson – 402.584.2257

Director – Sara Ruwe – 402.369.2661

**LUTHERAN HOUR SPONSOR:** Bonnadell Koch

**FLOWERS:** Given to the glory of God from Ron & Rhonda Sebade in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

<b>TODAY</b>	8:00 am.	Worship
	9:15 am.	Sunday School
	9:15 am.	Bible Class
	10:30 am.	Worship
	7:30 pm.	Sunday Night Dinner
<b>MONDAY</b>	6:00 pm.	Choir
	6:30 pm.	Elders
	7:30 pm.	Mission Council
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9:00 am.	Bible Study
	2:00 pm.	Ladies Aid
	5:00 pm.	Bell Choir
	6:30 pm.	Midweek
	<b>THURSDAY</b>	4:00 pm.
6:30 pm.		Sunday School Meeting
<b>SATURDAY</b>	4:00 pm.	Family Communion
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	8:00 am.	Worship/Communion
	9:15 am.	Bible Study
	9:15 am.	Sunday School
	10:30 am.	Worship/Communion
	7:30 pm.	Sunday Night Dinner

## Excerpts From Lutheran Confessional Writings On Saints

Our churches teach that the history of saints may be set before us so that we may follow the example of their faith and good works, according to our calling...But the Scriptures do not teach that we are to call on the saints or to ask the saints for help. Scripture sets before us the one Christ as the Mediator, Atoning Sacrifice, High Priest, and Intercessor (1 Timothy 2:5-6). He is to be prayed to. He has promised that He will hear our prayer (John 14:13). This is the worship that He approves above all other worship, that He be called upon in all afflictions. “If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father” (1 John 2:1)

Augsburg Confession Article XXI

Our Confession approves honors to the saints. For here a threefold honor is to be approved. The first is thanksgiving. For we ought to give thanks to God because He has shown examples of mercy, because He has shown that He wishes to save men; because He has given teachers or other gifts to the Church. And these gifts, as they are the greatest, should be amplified, and the saints themselves should be praised, who have faithfully used these gifts, just as Christ praises faithful business-men, Matt. 25, 21. 23. The second service is the strengthening of our faith when we see the denial forgiven Peter we also are encouraged to believe the more that grace truly superabounds over sin, Rom. 5, 20. The third honor is the imitation, first, of faith, then of the other virtues which every one should imitate according to his calling.

Apology to the Augsburg Confession Article XXI

