



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

AS WE GATHER

Today is bittersweet. Bitter, because some of us will be remembering someone we love who died recently, and we are still grieving. Yet sweet, because that loved one was also loved by God, redeemed by Jesus, and lives in that place Jesus went ahead to prepare. We grieve, as Paul says, but not “as others do who have no hope” (1 Thessalonians 4:13). We also hear the words of Jesus in the Beatitudes, where Jesus blesses people not usually considered blessed: the poor in spirit, the mourning, the meek, peacemakers, the persecuted. The broken circumstances of your life do not define you entirely; Jesus defines you as blessed because He has taken hold of you in love and mercy and will never let you go. Blessed are you.

PRELUDE

Handbells, For All the Saints

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** We gather in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 3:1

- P** In Baptism, God welcomes us into the family of Christ and embraces us with His love. Welcomed and embraced, we are free to confess our sins, trusting the power of Christ to lead us to newness of life.
C **We confess, good Lord, that we have sinned against You and our neighbors in thought, word, and deed. We have hungered and thirsted for unworthy things. Our hearts are not right within us. Forgive us, O God, for the sake of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.**

Silence for reflection.

- P** Hear these beautiful words from the disciple John: “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.”
As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen. Thanks be to God for our Baptism into Christ!**

HYMN: “FOR ALL THE SAINTS” *Stanzas 1, 2, and 4*

LSB 677

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

- P** In joyful expectation of the resurrection to life eternal, we remember before the Lord our departed family and friends who have gone before us in faith. *After each name is read a bell is rung.*

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>William A. Andrees</i> | <i>November 3, 2022</i> |
| <i>Edward Lilly</i> | <i>December 1, 2022</i> |
| <i>Lee Muir</i> | <i>December 10, 2022</i> |
| <i>Marilyn Licht</i> | <i>January 4, 2023</i> |
| <i>Roy R. Schroeder</i> | <i>April 16, 2023</i> |
| <i>Joseph Clark</i> | <i>June 30, 2023</i> |
| <i>Janet Mumm</i> | <i>July 27, 2023</i> |
| <i>Ruth E. Schultz</i> | <i>August 5, 2023</i> |
| <i>Wayne Herman</i> | <i>September 3, 2023</i> |
| <i>Jessica Gauda-Lane</i> | <i>October 10, 2023</i> |
| <i>Dorothy Chaws</i> | <i>October 24, 2023</i> |

- P** 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.
C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.**C** And also with you.**P** Let us pray.**C** Lord God, You sustained those who have gone before us in faith, You showed them grace, and in their lives You have shown us examples of good works that are the fruit of faith in Christ. So sustain us in faith and grace, that we bear the fruit of faith with perseverance and joy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Psalm 149*¹Praise the LORD!Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!²Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!³Let them praise his name with dancing,
making melody to him with tambourine and
lyre!⁴For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;
he adorns the humble with salvation.⁵Let the godly exult in glory;

let them sing for joy on their beds.

⁶Let the high praises of God be in their throats
and two-edged swords in their hands,⁷to execute vengeance on the nations
and punishments on the peoples,⁸to bind their kings with chains
and their nobles with fetters of iron,⁹to execute on them the judgment written!This is honor for all his godly ones. Praise the
LORD!**L** This is the Word of the Lord.**C** Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Revelation 7:9–17*⁹After 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, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice,
"Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the
throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And 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, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and
wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power
and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying,
"Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from
where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you
know." And he said to me, "These are the onescoming 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.¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst
anymore;the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.¹⁷For 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."**L** This is the Word of the Lord.**C** Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1–12

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

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

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice 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 our Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: “GOD’S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT”

LSB 594

SERMON

Main Points:

One thing NEW I learned:

What can I apply to my life?

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P As loved and redeemed children of God and in communion with all the saints, let the incense of our prayer ascend to God.

A time of silence.

P That the Church, called from death to life by our Lord Jesus, would follow in the footsteps of all the saints who by God's grace were agents of Christ's life-giving service in the world, and for all people of the Church, that we proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel of our salvation with boldness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For the leaders of the world and of this nation; for all voters and for those elected, that they will respect the truth of the God-given dignity of every man, woman, and child; for all who serve in the armed forces; for victims of violence and war; and for our enemies, Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For all those in any kind of need, those whom we name now.... and those whom we name silently before You. [*Time of silence*]. Bring peace to the dying and comfort the bereaved. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For all the households of this congregation, that they be havens of peace, and beacons of hope sharing the love of Jesus in their neighborhoods. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For this holy assembly, that, setting our hope on Christ, we live to the praise of His glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P With thanks and praise, along with heavy hearts, we remember the loved ones who have gone before us this year to their rest in paradise. Having hope in Christ, we await the day we shall sing our praise reunited with the faithful, gathered before the throne of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hear us when we call upon You, most merciful Father, and grant us grace to entrust our lives and our world to Your unfailing love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

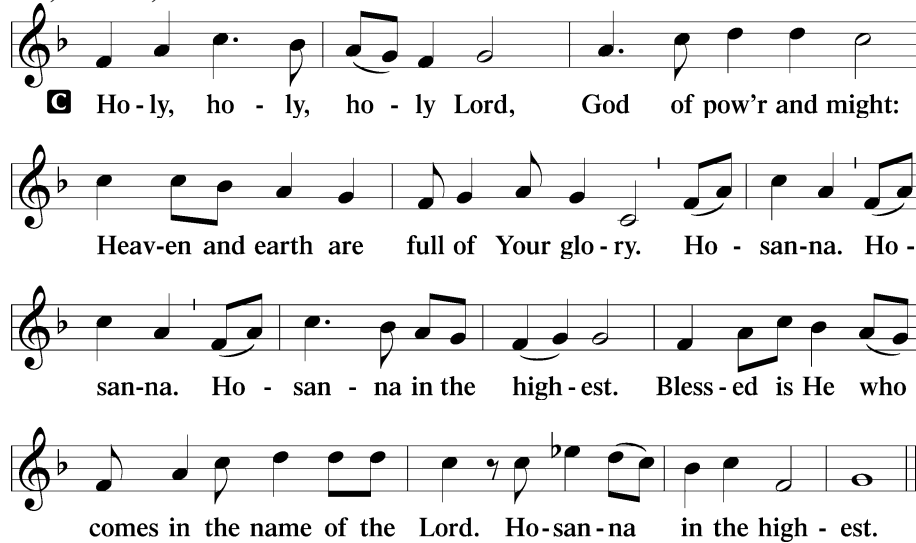
To our visitors: The **Lord's Supper** is celebrated at St. John in the confession that not only bread and wine, but Jesus Christ's very body and blood are given to us to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our faith in Him and our union (*communion*) with one another. Our Lord invites to His table all those who believe His words, repent of all sin, and set aside all refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. *If this is your first time at St John or if you have not been instructed about the Lord's Supper, we ask that you speak to the Pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper.*

For those who wish to take communion in their seat, please notify an usher or elder, and be seated near the center aisle. We offer either individual or common cup for the wine.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who sustains us with faith, fills us with undeserved grace, and works in us to bear the fruit of the Spirit. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

PEACE OF THE LORD - PAX DOMINI

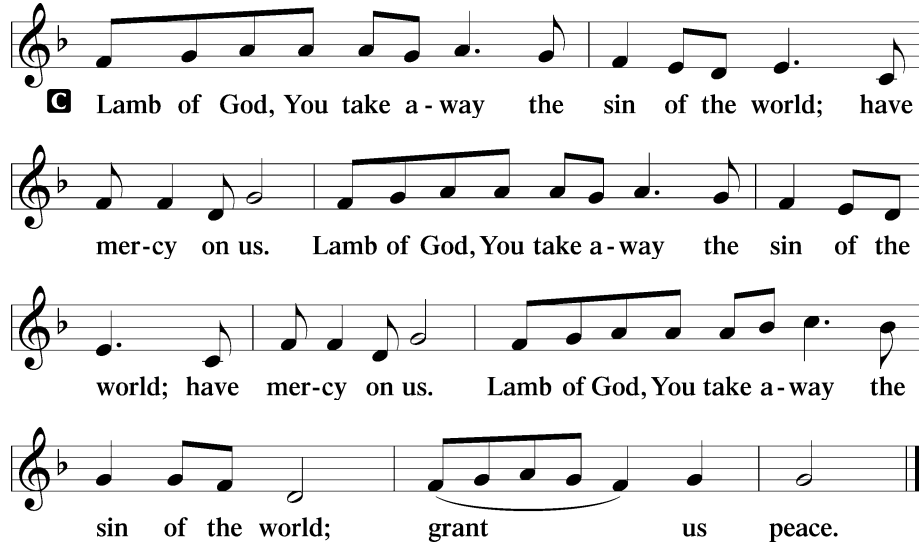
John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD - AGNUS DEI

John 1:29 163



☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER"

LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His
in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose
heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

HYMN: "O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST"

LSB 733



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727
Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN: "I'M BUT A STRANGER HERE"

LSB 748

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS—DO NOT REMOVE

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“They have
WASHED
their
ROBES
and made them

WHITE

in the blood of the
LAMB.”

REVELATION 7:14, NIV