

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*"A family where Christ is Head and the entire congregation are ministers."*

**Rev. Jonathan Meraz ~ Pastor**  
**Stephen Pruitt ~ Director of Music**



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Norfolk, VA 23505  
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[www.trinitylutherannorfolk.org](http://www.trinitylutherannorfolk.org)



If you have a smart phone or tablet computer you can scan this code and the complete Order of Worship will appear on your screen.

**WiFi Password** – HelloFriend

*Good Morning and a Special Welcome* to all who are worshipping with us today. Trinity is a liturgical Lutheran church using the Divine Service as written in the Lutheran Service Book. Today's Divine Service is printed for you in this bulletin. Today's service is being live streamed to YouTube and will be available later in the day on Trinity's Facebook page and Website. The receiving of communion will not be recorded to preserve the sanctity of the sacrament. During this time, the recording will be directed to the stained-glass window above the altar so communion hymns can still be shared. By entering the service, you consent to the video recording to be used for live streaming, inclusion on our web site and Facebook, and/or any other purpose by Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. We hope that your experience here is meaningful and will be lasting.

**PRAYERS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED FOR** – Flo and Richard Ball, Talma Butcher, Victor Duarte, Helen Everett, Doris Fitchett, Pat Gregory, Jeanne Greif, Jeffrey Ingmire, Jr., Terry Ingmire, Paul Lass, Julie and Sam Locklear, Pastor Jonathan Meraz, Patrick Mick, Brenda Pendry, Scott and Natasha Thieman, Linda Vernick, Marc Vernick, Sarah Von Moll, Leslie Waller.

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**HOLY COMMUNION** – In the Sacrament of Holy Communion our Lord Jesus comes to us with **His very body and blood** to eat and to drink **for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another**. He invites to His table those who trust His words, **repent of all their sin** and forgive and love one another as He forgives and loves us.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because **Holy Communion is a confession of the faith** which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the LCMS, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to **speak with the Pastor before communing**.

*For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff, 10:32ff, 18:15-35, 26:26-29; Acts 2:38, 42; 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:17-34*

Other Christians and children who have not completed instruction may come forward, cross their arms over their chest and receive a blessing. For those who prefer it for any reason, the cups in **the center of the tray contain a grape juice option**. Please let the pastor know if you need a **Gluten Free wafer**.

(Before communing, we ask that first time guests and visitors please speak with the Pastor.)

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### **Areas of church to be open to congregation during Phase 3 –**

**Parking lot entrance only - Hallway inside parking lot doors - Sanctuary - Two Restrooms on parking lot side of building**

#### **Church Service –**

1. Services will be livestreamed for those who do not feel comfortable attending in person.
2. There will be Bible Study at 9 AM and Worship at 10 AM on Sundays. (during Phase 3 there will no fellowship in the Welcome Center or Sunday School).
3. Bulletins will not be handed to you but will be in the pews when you come in. **Please sit in these pews only. Singles may sit on the opposite ends of a pew.**
4. The content of the service will be under the discretion of the Pastor and the Director of Music.

The Augsburg Confession states: "It is taught among us that saints shall be remembered so that our faith may be strengthened, when we see what by grace they received and how they were sustained by faith." Luther suggested that when we think about saints we can be thankful for them, be strengthened by their faith, and be imitators of them.

Today is All Saints' Day. Let us then remember our family and friends that have gone to their eternal rest in the past year. Please remember the loved ones of the following in your prayers:

Bill Gunther

Doris Lass

Conrad Greif

Gene Barker

# All Saints' Day

November 1, 2020

The congregation sits quietly. Please be aware that some people use the time prior to the service for reflection and meditation in the sanctuary. Please respect this time of silence.

## Organ Chorale

*Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

Robert A. Hobby

## Welcome and Announcements

Stand (as you are able)

## Opening Hymn

*Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

LSB 670



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, Bright  
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, More  
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, Ye  
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, Su -



ser - aphs, cher - u - bim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain:  
 glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, Lead their prais - es:  
 pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia,  
 per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia,



"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,  
 "Al - le - lu - ia!" Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal  
 al - le - lu - ia!" Ye ho - ly Twelve, ye mar - tyrs  
 al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the



pow'rs, Vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'  
 Word, Most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the  
 strong, All saints tri - um - phant, raise the  
 Son, And God the Spir - it, Three in



choirs: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 Lord: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 song: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 One: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

# Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

**C** 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.

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;  
in your righteousness deliver me.

For you are my rock and my fortress;

and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

Into your hand I commit my spirit;

you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

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.

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.

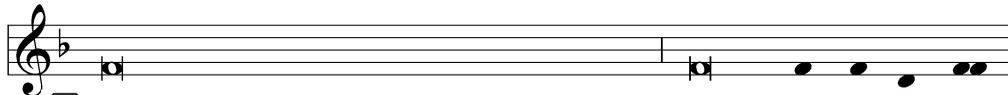
# Kyrie



**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



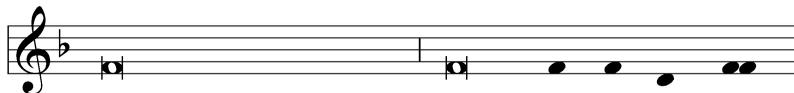
**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



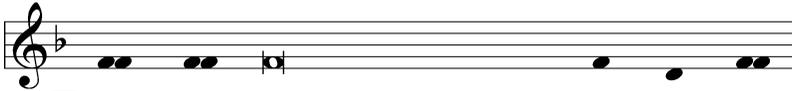
**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### This Is the Feast



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** 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. Amen.

*Sit*

## First Reading

*Revelation 7:2–17*

<sup>2</sup>Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, <sup>3</sup>saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” <sup>4</sup>And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

<sup>5</sup>12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed,  
12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,  
12,000 from the tribe of Gad,  
<sup>6</sup>12,000 from the tribe of Asher,  
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,  
12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,  
<sup>7</sup>12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,  
12,000 from the tribe of Levi,  
12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,  
<sup>8</sup>12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,  
12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,  
12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

<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.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

- C** 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.  
Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

### 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.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia and Verse

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 5:1–12*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. 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*

**Hymn of the Day**

*For All the Saints*

LSB 677



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
3 Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!



Who Thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy  
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old And  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; Yet



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
win with them the victor's crown of gold!  
all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

(additional verses next page)

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!

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

7 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!

△ 8 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!

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## Sermon

*Stand*

## Nicene Creed

**☩ 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 ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

Stand (as you are able)

**Prayer of the Church**

**P** Lord, in your mercy...

**C** ....hear our prayer.

## Service of the Sacrament

**Preface**



**P** The Lord be with you.



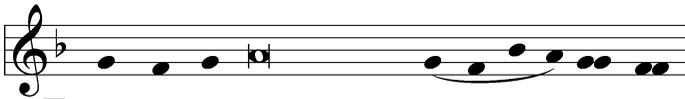
**C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



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



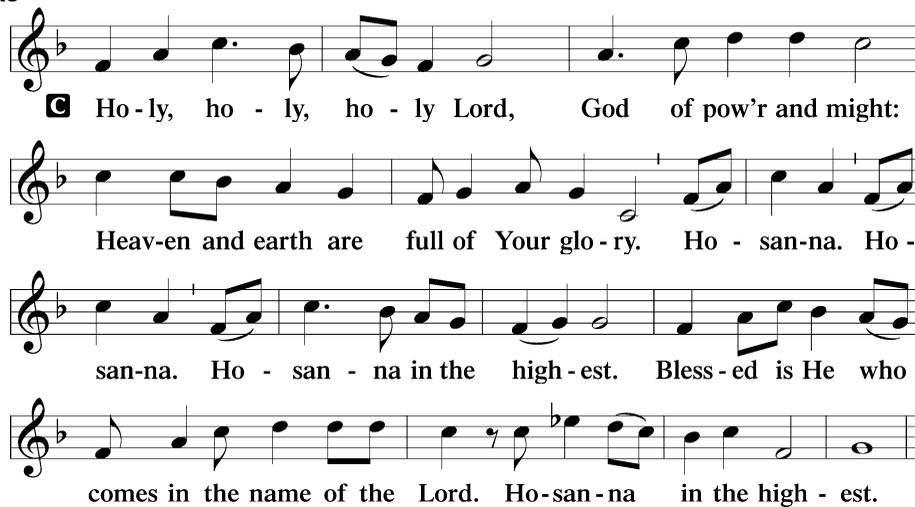
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

**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. In the communion of all Your saints gathered into the one body of Your Son, You have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, encouraged by their faith and strengthened by their fellowship, may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

## 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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- 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.



## Pastor will give instructions on communing.

### Distribution

The pastor distributes the body and blood of Christ to those who come to receive.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.

### Distribution Hymn

### Jerusalem the Golden

LSB 672



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, With milk and hon - ey blest—  
2 With-in those walls of Zi - on Sounds forth the joy - ful song,  
3 A - round the throne of Da - vid, The saints, from care re - leased,  
△ 4 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, The home of God's e - lect!



The prom - ise of sal - va - tion, The place of peace and rest—  
As saints join with the an - gels And all the mar - tyr throng.  
Raise loud their songs of tri - umph To cel - e - brate the feast.  
O sweet and bless - ed coun - try That faith - ful hearts ex - pect!



We know not, oh, we know not What joys a - wait us there:  
The Prince is ev - er with them; The day - light is se - rene;  
They sing to Christ their lead - er, Who con - quered in the fight,  
In mer - cy, Je - sus, bring us To that e - ter - nal rest



The ra - dian - cy of glo - ry, The bliss be - yond com - pare!  
The cit - y of the bless - ed Shines bright with glo - rious sheen.  
Who won for them for - ev - er Their gleam - ing robes of white.  
With You and God the Fa - ther And Spir - it, ev - er blest.

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1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home,  
 2 O hap - py har - bor of the saints,  
 3 Thy gar - dens and thy gal - lant walks  
 4 There trees for - ev - er - more bear fruit



When shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows  
 O sweet and pleas - ant soil! In thee no sor - row  
 Con - tin - ual - ly are green; There grow such sweet and  
 And ev - er - more do spring; There ev - er - more the



have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?  
 may be found, No grief, no care, no toil.  
 pleas - ant flow'rs As no - where else are seen.  
 an - gels dwell And ev - er - more do sing.

5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there  
 Around my Savior stand;  
 And soon my friends in Christ below  
 Will join the glorious band.

6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare  
 For that bright home of love  
 That I may see Thee and adore  
 With all Thy saints above.

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1 We sing for all the un-sung saints, That count-less, name-less throng,  
 2 Though un-in-scribed with date or place, With ti-tle, rank, or name,  
 3 So we take heart from un-known saints Be-reft of earth-ly fame,



Who kept the faith and passed it on With hope stead-fast and strong  
 As liv-ing stones their sto-ries join To form a hal-lowed frame  
 Those faith-ful ones who have re-ceived A more en-dur-ing name:



Through all the dai-ly griefs and joys No chron-i-cles re-cord,  
 A-round the mys-t'ry in their midst: The Lamb once sac-ri-ficed,  
 For they re-veal true bless-ing comes When we our pride ef-face



For-get-ful of their lack of fame, But mind-ful of their Lord.  
 The Love that wrest-ed life from death, The wound-ed, ris-en Christ.  
 And of-fer back our lives to be The ves-sels of God's grace.

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*Stand*

### Thank the Lord



**☐** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



***Pastor will give instructions on exiting the building one pew at a time. Please continue exiting thru the parking lot doors to the parking lot in an orderly manner to ensure there is social distancing. We will not be using the front entrance at all.***

**Organ Chorale**

*For All the Saints*

Charles Ore

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Offering - An offering plate has been placed by the entrance/exit door so that you may leave your tithe.

**A VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING will be held next Sunday after service – The current members of the Church Council in positions coming up for election have volunteered to remain in those positions. This was approved by the Church Council and will be brought to the voters for approval. These positions are: Vice President - Scott Thieman, 2nd Trustee - Walter Staley, Treasurer - Dave Petri, Director of Christian Growth – Judy Sykes, Director of Deacons - Sharyn Leiding, LWML President as elected by the LWML - Cathy George. Bud Hubert has also volunteered to remain as President for one more year. The agenda for this meeting will include Elections for 2021, Church Budget Approval for 2021, and the Financial Report on the State of the Church. During this meeting we will be following the same Covid guidelines as we are currently following during the Worship Service.**

Our Special Ministries chairperson, Patty Malone, has come up with a great idea. To quote her '*who best to tell the history of our 100th year? I think it would be nice for people to submit how and/or what changes they have seen or made during 2020. Our 100th year - Covid-19 pandemic... a written expression of what it has been like to live through this moment in history. It could be as long or short as they want it to be. The more we receive, the better historical information we will have for those planning 150th etc...*'. All are encouraged to participate. This is a unique time and as much as we sometimes struggle with the inconvenience, the disappointment, frustration and, yes, even anger once in a while, God is using it for His good purposes. Please consider writing a few lines (or more) and sending them in. It would be wonderful for the future members of this household of faith to 'see' (hear) firsthand accounts of this time of trial. You can email your submissions to [tlc@trinitylutherannorfolk.org](mailto:tlc@trinitylutherannorfolk.org).

## November 2020

### Applying Bible Principles

#### **God uses money to enable us to give to others.**

*As for the rich in this present age, charge them....to do good,  
to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share.*

1 Timothy 6:17-18

How rich are you? Most of us would respond to that question with a recitation of our material possessions. We would list bank accounts and their contents, stocks, bonds, houses, vehicles, and other so-called assets as tangible evidence of our wealth.

But is that how rich we are? Not really. Adrian Rogers said this, “If you want to know how rich you are, add up everything you have that money can’t buy and what you’ve sent on to heaven. That’s how rich you really are.”

There are two ways to send money on to heaven, or as the Bible phrases it, to “lay up treasures in heaven.” One is to give to the work of the Lord. As we do that, particularly through giving our tithes and offerings here at Trinity Lutheran Church, we make deposits in what one writer described as the “Bank of Heaven.” Another way to accomplish that goal is to give to meet the needs of other people. That’s the admonition provided by the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 6:17-19 when he instructed Timothy, “As for the rich in this present age, charge them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future. . .”

Compared to many people in the world, all of us — to one degree or another — have been richly blessed by God. That’s why we need to apply Paul’s counsel to our lives. As we follow his instruction, giving in the name of the Lord Jesus to meet the needs of others, we are “storing up treasure . . . for the future.”

One of the primary reasons God provides material blessings to us His children is that we might through those material provisions minister in His name to other people. According to Matthew 25:40, when we do that, even to what Jesus described as the “least” of His brothers, it is as though we have done it unto Him.

As one writer expressed it so well, “Investing in the lives of others and growing in our relationship with God are spiritual treasures. They are not subject to destruction or thievery. They are fully protected. Their value never diminishes.” Or as an anonymous poet wrote, “Shall the great Judge say, when my task is through, that my soul had gathered some riches, too? Or shall at the last it be mine to find that all I had worked for was left behind?”

As you consider your true wealth and what really counts for eternity, think about this: How much better to be a poor person who is spiritually rich than a rich person who is spiritually poor.

How rich are you?

# THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Today, November 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>All Saints' Sunday</b>	
	Bible Study	9:00 am
	Communion Worship Service	10:00 am
Sunday, November 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost</b>	
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	8:45 am
	Bible Study	9:00 am
	Worship Service	10:00 am
	Voters' Assembly Meeting	Following Worship

## Scriptures for November 8<sup>th</sup>

Amos 5:18-24 ~ 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 ~ Matthew 25:1-13



The Oktoberfest take home dinner was a huge success. A very special **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported our fundraiser. We hope you enjoyed your dinners. A profit of \$470 will be applied to our Mission Outreach.

God bless, Trinity's LWML

**Give blood. Help save lives.** On Sunday, November 8, 2020 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Second Presbyterian Church located at 7305 Hampton Blvd., will be hosting the Faithful Neighbors Blood Drive in their fellowship hall. (Please note, all blood donated will have a COVID-19 antibody test completed on it!) Anyone interested can register on the American Red Cross website at [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and schedule an appointment.

**CHRISTIAN GROWTH NEWS** - Although Adult Bible Study has resumed, no Sunday School offerings are being collected. Therefore if you would like to make a donation to our ongoing support of ministry in Puerto Rico (still struggling to survive natural calamities), please drop a check in the offering plate or mail and add the memo "Sunday School Mission Project".

Sunday, October 25, 2020  
Worship Attendance - 50  
General Offerings - \$1,951.00