

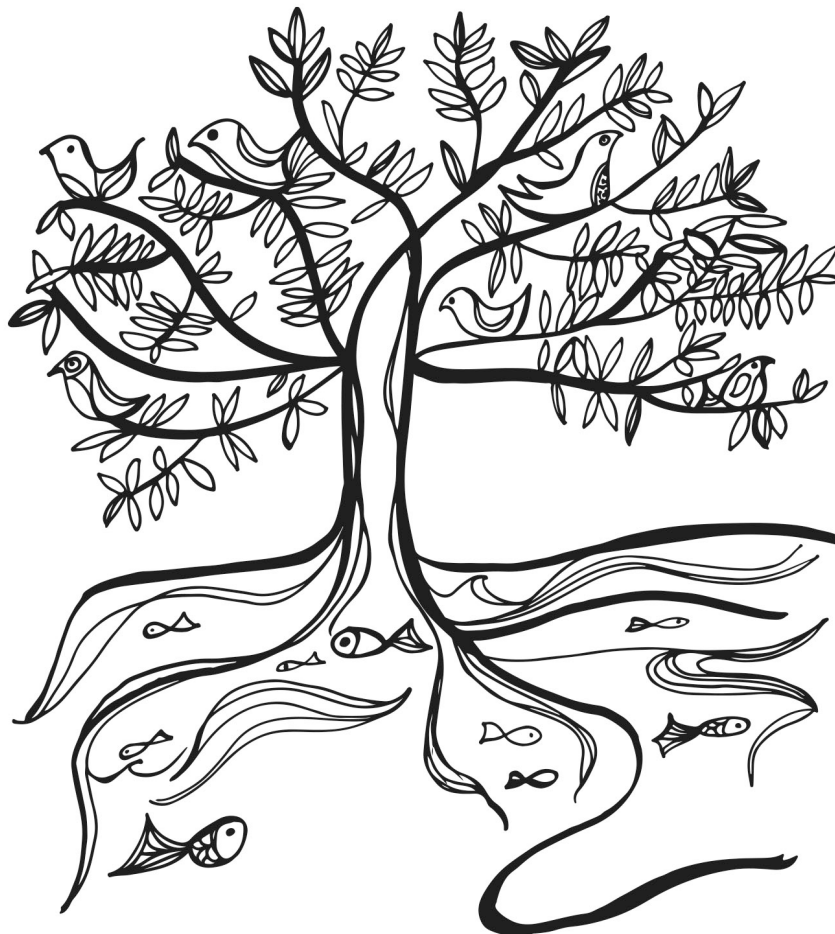
Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry

November 5, 2023 – All Saints Sunday

Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life

69 Mill Street • Athens, OH • (740) 593-3144

info@clcathens.org • www.clcathens.org



Introduction to the day

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.

PRELUDE**Down by the Riverside****DIXIE JAZZ**

DIXIE JAZZ MEMBERS: Michael Tobar, Piano; Matt James, Saxophone; Dave Borowski, Bass; Ben Wright, Trumpet

WELCOME**(PLEASE POWER OFF OR AIRPLANE MODE YOUR DEVICES)**

Here in Athens, in SE Ohio, we are occupying the traditional homeland of the Shawnee people. Before the Shawnee, this land was occupied by the Osage people, and by the Adena, Hopewell and Fort Ancient cultures.

HYMN OF PRAISE**Shall We Gather at the River**

(A Time of Remembrance will take place between vs. 3 and 4)



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap-py gold - en day.
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

On All Saints Sunday, we thank God for all the baptized, both the famous and the forgotten, both those who lived in the past and those around us today. We come to worship, with the faithful of every time and place, to gather at Jesus' feet and to receive his words of blessing trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

We remember, O God...The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time,
We remember, O God... The tender touch of loved ones, the example of heroes, the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

We remember, O God... The gentle strength of grandmothers, the loyalty of friends, the kindness of strangers, the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.

We remember, O God...The supreme love of Jesus, the blessing of his Spirit, the reminder of his words, the sharing of his suffering, the glory of his resurrection.

We remember, O God those saints close to our hearts in this place who have gone to abide with you in the last year: Larry Snyder, Mark Snyder, Karl Runser, Lou Childress...

(You are invited to come forward and light a candle in memory of loved ones)

We remember in every time and place the saints of God who have shown us the Lord. Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us worship God with Joy!

(The Time of Remembrance concludes with vs. 4 of Shall We Gather at the River)

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

⁹After 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. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

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

¹¹And 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, ¹²singing,

“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, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I 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.

¹⁵For 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.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for 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 reading from 1 John.

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Wade in the Water

Em B Em

Wade in the wa - ter, Wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren,

5 Em C B Em

Wade in the wa - ter, God's a-goin'-a trou-ble the wa - ter.

9 Em C B Em

See that host all dressed in white, God's a-goin'-a trou-ble the wa - ter. The
 See that band all dressed in red, Looks
 Look o - ver yon der, what do I see? The
 If you don't be-lieve I've been re - deemed, Just

13 Em C7 Em C B Em

lea-der looks like the Is - rae lite. God's a-goin'-a trou-ble the wa - ter.
 like the band that Mo - ses led.
 Ho - ly Ghost a - com-ing on me.
 fol-low me down to Jor - dan's stream.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, 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 will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

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

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

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

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

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

¹¹“Blessed are you when people 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 in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

For All the Saints (ELW 422)



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,
Stanzas 3-5 below.

6 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the
7 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; . .

saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; the
gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . .



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.

King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



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



3 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine, we fee - bly strug - gle,
4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the ear the
5 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west; soon, soon to faith - ful



they in glo - ry shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are
dis - tant tri - umph song, and hearts are brave a - gain and arms are
ser - vants com - eth rest; . . . sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
strong.
blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Music from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Your loving grace is poured out even though we are undeserving. We all have sinned and pray for forgiveness. Teach us to turn away from judging people by categories and fearing those who are different. Help us to appreciate the complexity and diversity of everyone since we are all Your children and made in Your image. Fill us with the power of the Holy Spirit to listen to others, forgive them, love them, and share the Gospel with them. Send us out to reflect our renewed relationship with you by dying to sin, living in God, and increasing our faith. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. We pray for wholeness throughout our broken and violent world. Where there is revenge, bring reconciliation. Where there is hatred, spread your love. Where there is terror, bring safety and healing. Bestow wisdom on all leaders to be peacemakers. We pray you will protect military personnel, sustain veterans, comfort military families, and keep safe all refugees. Bring relief to those who have been affected by disasters. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. We are deeply grateful for the saints living now and in the past and for the many blessings in our lives. We pray for the insight to become righteous, pure, and meek. May we learn to share our abundance and turn from our greed. Lead us to be careful stewards of your beautiful world, teaching us to care for everything in nature and to use the Earth's resources wisely. We also rejoice with those who are celebrating anniversaries, birthdays, and other joyous occasions. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. We pray for healing for anyone who is ill in mind, body, or spirit. Restore to wholeness those who are struggling with addictions. Strengthen all who deal with long-term diagnoses, such as cancer, dementia, and mental health issues. Bless our shut-ins and help us bring them joy and companionship. Grant wisdom and skill to all medical personnel, researchers, and caregivers so they may provide the best care. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of mercy, listen now as we offer other prayers, either silently or aloud..... Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. We pray for those to whom death draws near. Rest your peace, comfort, and hope on all grieving family and friends. Remind us all of the promise of eternal life with you. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING – THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

Giving is easy online through our website at <https://www.clcathens.org/give>

There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!

OFFERTORY

Refrain



Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my
heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the
Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*

1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's
2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the
mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me, it looked so
bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this
fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine.
track. It runs to heav - en and then right back. *to Refrain*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God,
**You bless us with gifts of guidance, new life,
growth in grace, and fruitful labor.
Accept the first fruits of time and toil,
field and orchard we offer here.
Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture
and the care of your creation;
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

It is indeed right and good that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, holy God, mighty and immortal, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on this day broke the bonds of death, opening to us the way of everlasting life and giving us a foretaste of the feast to come.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

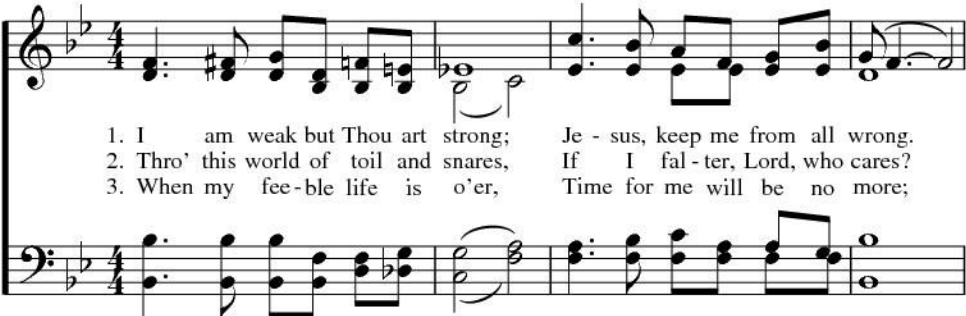
Christ invites you to this table.

Come, taste and see.


COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

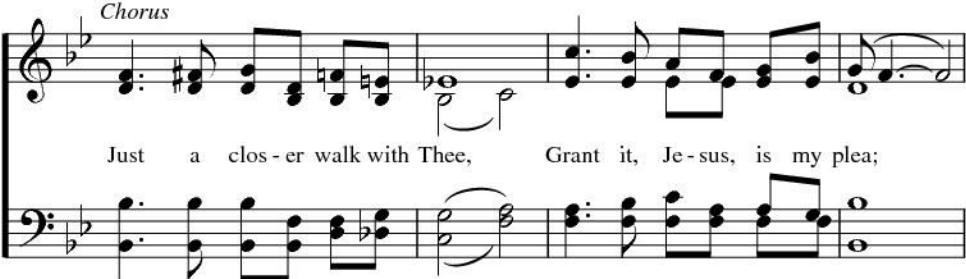


1. I am weak but Thou art strong; Je - sus, keep me from all wrong.
2. Thro' this world of toil and snares, If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
3. When my fee - ble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.
Guide me gen - tly, safe - ly o'er To Thy king - dom shore, to Thy shore.

Chorus



Just a clos - er walk with Thee, Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;



Dai - ly walk - ing close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the
2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they
5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that



saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that
hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that



num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.
num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.
num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.
num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY: *Presider/Preacher: Chad Huebner; Organist: George Weckman; Pianist: Patricia Cambridge; Asst/Lector: Jim Sillery; Live Stream: Marilyn Shealy; Time with Children: Jana Hovland; Ushers: John Deno, Rod Sauer, JoAnn Ball; Greeter: Anne Sparks; Acolyte: Rachel; Tray Server: John Molinaro*