



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Brenda Wicklund

November 7, 2021,

All Saints Sunday

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“We are called by God to grow in faith together, sharing Christ’s love with each other and our community”

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Of all three years of the lectionary cycle, this year’s All Saints readings have the most tears. Isaiah and Revelation look forward to the day when God will wipe away all tears; in John’s gospel, Jesus weeps along with Mary and all the gathered mourners before he demonstrates his power over death. On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah’s feast to come.

## Prelude

Joanne Richards

**Welcome to Worship this morning. We will be sharing Holy Communion, Communion will be given two ways, you can either come up front and receive from Pastor or you can pick up the convenient cup/wafer before the service and receive at your seat.**

## All Saints Day Prayer

**Ringing of Bell and Names Read:** *Steve Chaffee, Kay Conway, Jessica Lindahl and Max Tatting.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

L: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection*

L: Have mercy on us, O God.

**C: We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice. Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.**

L: God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for ☩ Jesus’ sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts. Yours is the kingdom of God.

**C: Amen.**

## Hymn

### “Blessing and Honor”

Red Worship Book 854

- 1 Blessing and honor and glory and pow’r, wisdom and riches and strength evermore, be to the Lamb who our battle has won, whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne; whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne!
- 2 Let all the heavens sound forth Jesus' name; let all the earth sing his glory and fame. Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flow'r echo his praises and tell of his pow'r; echo his praises and tell of his pow'r.
- 3 Ever ascending the song and the joy, ever descending the love from on high; blessing and honor and glory and praise--this is the theme of the hymns that we raise; this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
- 4 Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb! Take we the robe and the harp and the palm; sing we the song of the Lamb who was slain, dying in weakness and rising to reign; dying in weakness and rising to reign!

## Greeting

Red Worship Book pg. 147

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

**C: And also with you.**

## Kyrie

Red Worship Book pg. 147-148

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: 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 mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## Canticle of Praise

Red Worship Book pg. 149-150

L: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia**

## Prayer of the Day

**C: 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.**

*Isaiah sees a vision of the end of days, when God will gather all people on God's holy mountain and will prepare for them a rich feast. At this banquet God will wipe the tears from all eyes. And there will be no more sorrow, for God will destroy death itself.*

## First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

## Psalm 24

L: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,

**C: the world and those who dwell therein.**

L: For the LORD has founded it upon the seas

**C: and established it upon the rivers.**

L: Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD,

**C: and who may stand in God's holy place?**

L: Those of innocent hands and purity of heart,

**C: who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by what is false.**

L: They shall receive blessing from the LORD

**C: and righteousness from the God of their salvation.**

L: Such is the generation of those who seek you, O LORD,

**C: of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

L: Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever-lasting doors,

**C: that the King of glory may come in.**

L: Who is this King of glory?

**C: The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**

L: Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever-lasting doors,

**C: that the King of glory may come in.**

L: Who is this King of glory?

**C: Truly, the LORD of hosts is the King of glory.**

*Here is a vision of the new heaven and new earth in which God resides fully with God's people so that mourning, despair, and pain have been eradicated. These renewing words from the God who spans all of time are trustworthy and true.*

#### **Second Lesson: Revelations 21:1-6a**

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6a</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Red Worship Book pg. 151**

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

#### **The Holy Gospel according to St. John**

**C: Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)**

**Red Worship Book pg. 151**

*Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.*

#### **Gospel: John 11:32-44**

<sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you

would see the glory of God?"<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me."<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

## **The Gospel of Our Lord**

**C: Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)**

**Red Worship Book pg. 151**

**Children's Sermon**

**Pastor Brenda Wicklund**

**Sermon**

**Through the Tears -John 11:32-44**

**Pastor Brenda Wicklund**

***Let us pray: We plead to you like the Psalmist Oh Lord. "You have kept count of my tossing; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your record?" (Psalm 56:8) May our hearts and tears turn to you Oh God, our Maker and our Redeemer. Amen.***

I have been thinking much about tears these days. We can cry happy tears and sad tears, when we are hurt or in pain or when we are just in that mode. When is the last time you cried?

Today we celebrate All Saints Day. We remember those we have lost in our lives, from years past, or traditionally this year as we rang the bell and said the names we have lost most recently, and we remember that we loved them and they us. They have received their promise of eternal life, yet we cry and we are sad because they are not with us. Our text today tell us of tears. The prophet Isaiah says there will be a banquet to feast at, on the mountain where we feast and we will have no more tears. Revelation shares with us that God himself will be with us, he will wipe every tear from our eye, death will be no more and mourning, crying, and pain will be no more. I will make all thing new, says our God. (Rev. 21:3-5).

We hear these words and find comfort. We look at our Gospel, and we see that Jesus is crying tears just as we do. When we look at the Chapter of John, we find some people in mourning, Mary and Martha having lost their brother, of people that saw Jesus weep, and groan, that Jesus loved him to, and some that said why Jesus not got there sooner. Mary and Martha greet Jesus in their loss, pain, tears, death; they are hurt in their souls. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead! Imagine the turmoil and chaos, right? People do not rise from the dead, yet with Jesus and God all things are possible.

Imagine how they felt. How do you feel? Whom are you remembering? Whom and what have you lost? How has this year affected you and in what way? This is a good day to reflect, laugh and cry, to mediate on whom you miss, and what you miss. To remember the words Jesus says, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" Yes, he did. Yes, he still does. Yes, he will continue to do so. In fact, some of his groans and tears, manifested in his road to Jerusalem. His suffering and death are near. Yet, through some more tears, Mary Magdalene will not recognize Jesus at the empty tomb and will only see pain, more pain. She does not see the promise right away, even when the resurrected Lord was right there. However, she does. Her Lord overcame death, just as he promised and a new life with him and his promises given, for her and all of us. We will get there as well.

There will still be tears. Loss hurts, hurt hurts, the incomplete without someone or something we love in death hurts beyond measure. We know the saints that have gone before us rest from their labor, but death is so final and it stinks. Yet through the Son whom we trust and believe in, "16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." (John 1:16). A life with him, promised to walk with you now and always.

Jesus shouts to Lazarus, to get up and get out. He gave that to those saints that have gone before us. Here the Good News. He does the same for each of us. Transformed in the promised resurrection and an abundant life now and forever with him.

May the peace of Christ, who transforms and transcends all understanding, guard you no. comfort you now, and forever. Amen.

*Refrain: Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

- 1 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*
- 2 Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee. *Refrain*
- 4 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine; take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain*

**Offering Prayer** –You may leave your offering as you exit the church, table with offering plates are there.

L: Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

L: Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

*A brief silence.*

L: Merciful God, we give thanks for all missionaries who have brought your message of hope to new communities and wiped tears away. Continue to raise up courageous missionaries to share your gospel of hope. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Creating God, we praise you for abundant harvests and the goodness of creation. Create communities of care for your earth so that all land, water, and soil will be celebrated and cherished by future generations of saints. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of peace, we give you thanks for nations of peace that serve as a refuge for all whose homelands are afflicted with violence. Strengthen those who continue to work for peace and support all veterans who carry the scars of war. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of healing, we give you thanks for health care workers who labor around the clock to answer cries for help. Bring wholeness to all who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, addiction, and all who long for healing in any way. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of justice, we praise you for the feeding ministries and for all meals that bring people together for nourishment and fellowship. Bless chefs, bakers, servers, dishwashers, communion assistants, and meal ministry coordinators. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints of this congregation who have inspired, challenged, loved, and taught us Steve Chaffee, Kay Conway, Jessica Lindahl and Max Tatting. Wipe away our tears and lead us by their example until we feast together on your holy mountain. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God our protection and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

Red Worship Book pg. 152

L; The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

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

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Red Worship Book pg. 153

L: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest

## Words of Institution

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.

## The Lord's Prayer

Red Worship Book pg. 154

**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.**

## Lamb of God

Red Worship Book pg. 154

L: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Communion Hymn

**"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"**

Red Worship Book 461

- 1 All who hunger gather gladly; holy manna is our bread. Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
- 2 All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest. Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy we keep the feast. We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
- 3 All who hunger, sing together, Jesus Christ is living bread. Come from loneliness and longing. Here in peace we have been fed. Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

## Communion Hymn

**"Blessed Assurance"**

Red Worship Book 638

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long: this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*
- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

## Prayer after Communion

L: Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet

**C: Amen.**

## Blessing

L: God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life, ✚ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore.

**C: Amen.**

## Hymn

**“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”**

**Red Worship Book 545**

- 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.
- 2 Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound. May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound. Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.
- 3 Savior, when your love shall call us from our struggling pilgrim way, let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey. May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.

## Dismissal

L: Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*the worship is ended ... let the service begin...*



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**\*\*The Noisy offering this month is for ELCA World Hunger there will be a bowl as you exit the church.\*\***

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## Next Week's Readings and Psalm

### First Reading

**Daniel 12:1-3**

### Second Reading

**Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25**

### Psalm

**Psalm 16**

### Gospel

**Mark 13:1-8**



**Prayer Concerns and Sympathy** ~ Jon Youngblom, Marie Sigler (niece of Virgil Seegebarth), David (brother of Colleen Volden), Gracie Edin, Debra Hocum (Kathryn Souer's daughter-in-laws mother), Yvonne Guptill, Bonnie Carlson (friend of Donna Martin), Ken Carlson (brother-in-law of Don Peterson), Joy Burch, Drew (Mindy's brother), Vicki Marks, Colton Thompson, Reverend Norm Belland, Don Storlie (father of Jeremy Storlie), Kim Reisig (sister-in-law of Amy Tvedt), Tyler (son of Jan Peura), Marsha Skoog (friend of Patty Sweeny) and John Bassett.

**For our members in care facilities** ~ Ruta Kalnins and Dorothy Svendsen.

**For firefighters, EMT's, those who serve to protect Policemen and women and military.**

**For world peace. For our companion synods.**

**For our missionaries: Jacqueline and Patrick Bencke**

## Announcements/Calendar

**Sun.** Day Light Savings Time Ends; 8:30 am Coffee Fellowship; 9:30 am Worship/HC/All Saints Day.

**Mon.** 5 pm Women's Romans Bible Study

**Tues.** 9:30 am Kettle River Pastors Conference; 9:30 am Women's Bible Study.

**Wed.** 9 am Library; 5-7 pm Confirmation; 5- 6:30 pm Faith in Action; 6:30 pm Worship; 7 pm Youth Group.

**Thurs.** 8 am Men's Text Study; Mindy Networking meeting.

**Sat.** 8 pm AA mtg.

**Sun.** 8:30 Coffee Fellowship; 9:00 am Worship/HC

## Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, November 17- 5 pm Thanksgiving Dinner Church.**

**Sunday, November 21-Church Council after Worship.**

**Monday, November 22-December Newsletter Deadline.**

**Monday, November 22-6:30 pm All Boards.**

**Wednesday, November 24-Happy Thanksgiving-No Confirmation, FiA, 6:30 pm Worship or Youth Group.**

**Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>-Thanksgiving meals delivered.**

**Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>-Office closed**

**Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>-First Sunday in Advent**



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**We will be going to Glensheen Mansion on Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please let Mindy (320-469-3774) know if you are interested in going. We will leave the church at 9 am.**

**Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$16 for seniors 62+.**

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We express our Christian sympathy to the family of Don Trott (brother of Jerry Trott). May they know the consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and give them peace.