

WASHED IN THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB

AS WE GATHER

The saints remind us that we are not alone. We have been washed in the blood of the Lamb and brought into the fellowship of all the saints through Baptism. We live this new life by faith now, but then we shall see Him face-to-face and know Him as we are known by Him. When lonely or fearful, the company of the saints encourages us, and their devotion to the Lord inspires us to endure to the end that we might be saved. Whether known well or known only to God, the faithful are not forgotten and neither will we be.

OPENING HYMN "BEHOLD A HOST, ARRAYED IN WHITE"

#676



1 Be - hold a host, ar - rayed in white, Like thou - sand
2 De - spised and scorned, they so - journed here; But now, how
3 O bless - ed saints in bright ar - ray Now safe - ly

snow - clad moun - tains bright! With palms they stand; Who
glo - rious they ap - pear! Those mar - tyrs stand, A
home in end - less day, Ex - tol the Lord, Who

is this band Be - fore the throne of light? These are the
priest - ly band, God's throne for - ev - er near. On earth they
with His Word Sus - tained you on the way. The steep and

saints of glo - rious fame, Who from the great af -
wept through bit - ter years; Now God has wiped a -
nar - row path you trod; You toiled and sowed the

flic - tion came And in the flood Of Je - sus' blood
way their tears, Trans - formed their strife To heav'n - ly life,
Word a - broad; Re - joice and bring Your fruits and sing

Are cleansed from guilt and shame. They now serve God both
And freed them from their fears. They now en - joy the
Be - fore the throne of God. The myr - iad an - gels

day and night; They sing their songs in end - less light. Their
Sab - bath rest, The heav'n - ly ban - quet of the blest; The
raise their song; O saints, sing with that hap - py throng! Lift



an - them ring As they all sing With an - gels shin - ing bright.
Lamb, their Lord, At fes - tive board Him - self is host and guest.
up one voice; Let heav'n re - joice In our Re - deem - er's song!

Text: Hans Adolf Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Norwegian, 17th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P God is holy and gracious. This is why we are free to confess our sins to the Lord.

C **Lord, I cry out to You because I continue to sin even though You save me. I have done things which are wrong. I have failed to do things which are good. I deserve nothing but Your anger and punishment. This is why I come to You now, asking You to once again forgive all my sins. I also come asking You to grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit so I may change my sinful life. Grant me a better life, Lord-- a life filled with Your forgiveness, love, and peace. Amen.**

P Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. Jesus suffered the death and punishment we deserve because of our sins. Now, because of Jesus, God considers us to be sinless and pure. He gives us the love and forgiveness Jesus earned by dying on the cross. This why you can be confident that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C **I thank You, Lord Jesus, for being gracious to me. I thank You for Your love and forgiveness. I thank You for strengthening my faith and love. Amen.**

INTROIT

Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b

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

LSB 152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A 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.**
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 154

- A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

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.

FIRST READING

Revelation 7:2–17

²Then 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, ³saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” ⁴And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed,

12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,

12,000 from the tribe of Gad,

⁶12,000 from the tribe of Asher,

12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,

12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,

⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,

12,000 from the tribe of Levi,

12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,

⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,

12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,

12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

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 ones coming 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.

EPISTLE

1 John 3:1–3

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And 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.

VERSE

Hebrews 12:1a, 2a

Alleluia. Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us [look] to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1–12

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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 the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “FOR ALL THE SAINTS”

#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 feeblely 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!

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!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.
Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, we offer before You our common supplications for the well-being of Your Church throughout the world. So guide and govern it by Your Holy Spirit that all who profess themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Send down upon all ministers of the Gospel and upon the congregations committed to their care the healthful spirit of Your grace that they may please You in all things. Behold in mercy all who are in authority over us. Supply them with Your blessing that they may be inclined to Your will and walk according to Your commandments. We humbly ask Your abiding presence in every situation that You would make known Your ways among us. Preserve those who travel, satisfy the wants of Your creatures, and help those who call upon You in any need that they may have patience in the midst of suffering and, according to Your will, be released from their afflictions; through Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

P Holy Scripture says in Psalm 116:15: “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.” On this All Saints’ Day, we remember and give thanks and praise to God for the life and for the death of His saints. We rejoice with those who rejoice, and that includes rejoicing with those whose happiness now knows no end in the kingdom of glory. During the past year, families in our congregation and our extended church family have been impacted greatly by the death of ones we love. As those who trust in Jesus Christ, we do not grieve as the rest of the world grieves. We grieve in hope, we pray with confidence, and we live with certainty that those who have died in Christ are secure in His presence. We also rejoice that one day we shall join them in their heavenly joy, which knows no end.

We honor the life and give thanks to God for these His saints:

Names of congregational members who have died in Christ during the past year may be mentioned here. A single bell will toll after each name is read.

Sallyann Bacchiere

Richard Schweigel

Rev. James Zimmerman

P . . . and all others dear to our hearts who have entered into everlasting rest with the Lord Jesus.

Let us pray.

Merciful Father, whose dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, rose victoriously over death and the grave, we remember with thanksgiving Your faithful people who have trusted in Christ, whose tears are gone, and whose sorrows You have turned to joy. We humbly implore You to strengthen us in the confident hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

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.**

BENEDICAMUS

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

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.

CLOSING HYMN “REJOICE, O PILGRIM THrong”

#813 *sts. 1, ref. 3, 6-7*



1 Re - joice, O pil - grim throng! Re - joice, give
3 With all the an - gel choirs, With all the
6 At last the march shall end; The wea - ried
△ 7 Praise Him who reigns on high, The Lord whom



thanks, and sing; Your fes - tal ban - ner
saints on earth Pour out the strains of
ones shall rest; The pil - grims find their
we a - dore: The Fa - ther, Son, and



wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
home at last, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.
Ho - ly Ghost, One God for - ev - er - more.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–91, alt.

Tune: Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
- C** Thanks be to God.

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