

Why Remember Saints?

As We Gather

Every year on either November 1 or the first Sunday of November, we pause our busy lives to remember the saints. Lutherans teach that saints are sinners baptized into Christ, they are sinners redeemed by the cross of Jesus, and they are sinners who gave us examples of trusting not in their own heroic feats but in the grace and mercy of God in Jesus. Why remember saints? Our Augsburg Confession of 1530 says it clearly: "Our churches teach that the history of saints may be set before us so that we may follow the example of their faith and good works, according to our calling" (AC XXI 1). Why remember the saints? To thank God for their life and witness, to be encouraged in our walk of faith, and to remember and rejoice for God giving us examples of how grace and faith look in the real lives of people we knew.

676 Behold a Host, Arrayed in White

LSB 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-thems 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.

Opening Sentences

P Lord, on this All Saints' Day, we gather in Your name to remember and rejoice.

C We remember the ones we love—ones loved also by You.

P We remember how You embraced them, showed them grace, and filled them with faith.

C We remember with heavy hearts. We remember with thankful hearts.

P We rejoice in the resurrection life promised in and through Jesus.

C We rejoice that Jesus has overcome death forever.

P We rejoice that You are God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—who will never leave us nor forsake us.

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 Brother.**
- P** Today we hear these beautiful words from 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!**

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.

This Is the Feast

Refrain

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*

Final Refrain

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



Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
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.
- 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.

Psalm

Psalm 149

P Praise the LORD!

C Sing to the LORD a new song,
His praise in the assembly of the godly!

P Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

C let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

P Let them praise His name with dancing,

C making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

P For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;

C He adorns the humble with salvation.

P Let the godly exult in glory;

C let them sing for joy on their beds.

P Let the high praises of God be in their throats

C and two-edged swords in their hands,
to execute vengeance on the nations
and punishments on the peoples,

P to bind their kings with chains
and their nobles with fetters of iron,
to execute on them the judgment written!

C This is honor for all His godly ones.

P Praise the LORD!

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

P Alleluia.

C Alleluia.

P Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

C let us look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.

P Alleluia.

C 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.

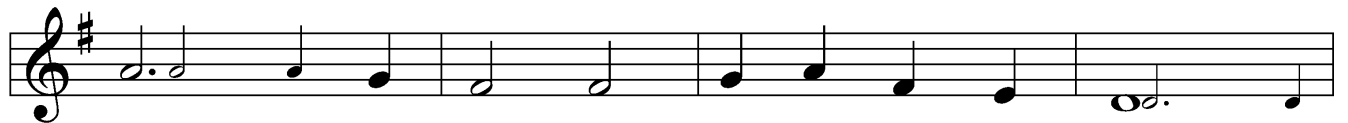
C Praise to You, O Christ.

677 For All the Saints

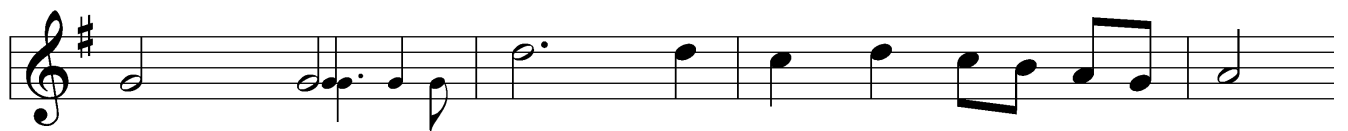
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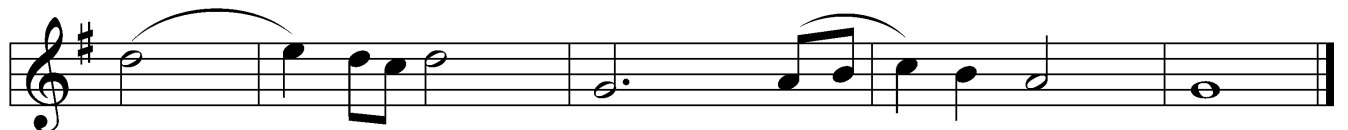
1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might;
3 Oh, may Thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,
4 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!



Who Thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, Thy
Thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
Fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old And
We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; Yet



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
Thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
win with them the vic - tor'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!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.

Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Creed

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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

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 pastors, church workers, and all people of the Church, that they 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 have named and 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.**

Additional bids may be added.

- P** For all the households of this congregation, that they be havens of peace and lively places of faith in Jesus. 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** In remembrance of all those who have died in the communion of Your Church:

Read the names of those who have died. Toll a bell for each name.

Robert Chudy

Raymond Wirsing

- P** With thanks and praise, along with heavy hearts, we remember these loved ones. 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 - We Thank the Lord with the Offering

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.**

Proper Preface

- 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:

Sanctus

LSB 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** God of grace and glory, in love You created us and all living creatures.
- C** You called Abraham and Sarah to follow Your guidance in a confusing world.

- P** You fed the Israelites in the wilderness.
- C** You fed Elijah the prophet in a time of drought.

- P** Now, in the fulness of time, You sent Jesus, our Lord, who now feeds us with His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.
- C** Thank You, Lord.

- P** We give You thanks for this gift of Christ's body and blood, shared at this altar with angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven. Feed our faith, fill us with Your grace, and guide us by Your Spirit.
- 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.

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.

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

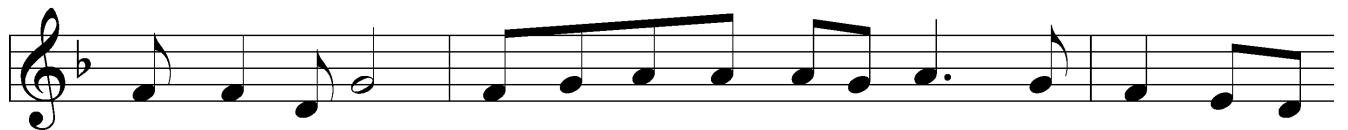
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

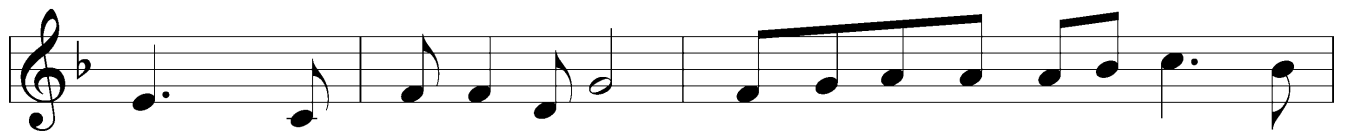
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C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



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

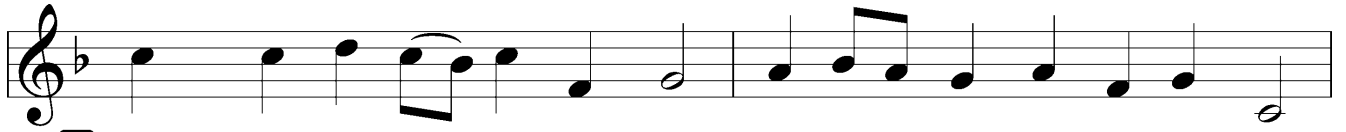


sin of the world; grant us peace.

Organ Music during Distribution

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



C 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.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Closing Sentences

P Blessed are you

C when we are poor in spirit.

P Blessed are you

C when we mourn.

P Blessed are you

C when we are meek.

P Blessed are you
C when we hunger and thirst for righteousness.

P Blessed are you
C when we are merciful.

P Blessed are you
C when our hearts are right within us.

P Blessed are you
C when we struggle to make peace.

P Blessed are you
C when we are reviled for trusting in Christ.

P Blessed are you.
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the kingdom of God!
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.

677 For All the Saints

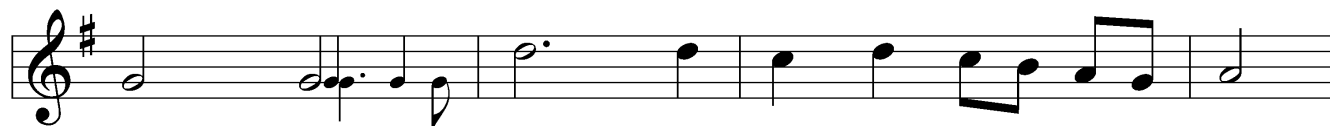
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5 And when the fight is fierce, the war-fare long,
6 The gold - en eve - ning bright-ens in the west;
7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glo-rious day: The
△ 8 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, Through



Steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, And
Soon, soon to faith - ful war - riors com - eth rest;
saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; The
gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,



hearts are brave a - gain, and arms are strong.
 Sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.
 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!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.

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