

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
305 Livingston St, Filley, NE
Pastor LuRae Hallstrom
All Saints Sunday
November 1, 2020

PLEASE MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING.

Radio frequency will be announced. Facebook @ American Lutheran Church - Filley, NE
Financial contributions can be brought to Sunday morning worship or can be forwarded to American Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 66, Filley, NE 68357. You may also do on-line giving at www.filleylutheranchurch.com.

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

We gather together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 34)

P: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

C: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

P: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

C: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!

REMEMBRANCE OF SAINTS:

P: O God of the pilgrim's way, we give thanks for those in generations past who have been examples for us of God's love at work in the world. As we pray, we know that we are surrounded by this great, rejoicing cloud of witnesses. Yet even as we name these holy ancestors, we thank God for others whose names we never knew or have forgotten, who showed us the meaning of life in Christ.

We remember at this time these saints who were much loved by their families and community --

- Edus Harder who will be remembered for her sweet, gentle personality and beautiful smile.....
- Keith Hippen who loved digging in the dirt with his landscape company and interacting with other people, especially through team sports.....
- Cerella "Sally" Hawley who enjoyed gardening and birdwatching.....
- John Fritzen who enjoyed visiting with friends and nightly facetime with his granddaughter.....

For these saints and all others who have gone before us,

C: We give thanks.

P: Holy God, we honor these, our ancestors in faith and members of our family. Thank you for the sacrifices made by those who have gone before us. Bless the memories of your saints. May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love. And in time, bring us to our eternal home of peace and joy.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Shall We Gather at the River"

Lighting of candles in memory of the saints who have touched our lives. Ushers will indicate when you can go forward. (Words printed for meditation/reflection only - no singing.)

1. Shall we gather at the river where bright angel feet have trod. With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.

Chorus: Yes, we'll gather at the river. The beautiful, the beautiful river. Gather with the saints at the river; that flows by the throne of God.

2. On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray. We will walk and worship ever all the happy golden day. *Chorus.*

3. Ere we reach the shining river; lay we every burden down. Grace our spirits will deliver and provide a robe and a crown. *Chorus.*

4. Soon we'll reach the shining river. Soon our pilgrimage will cease. Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. *Chorus.*

© Public Domain . Robert Lowry

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 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 and self-examination)

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray...

C: On this day we remember all the saints who now live in your glory. We remember, and give thanks for, the disciples and apostles, the reformers and teachers, the pastors and faithful servants who have planted and preserved your church. We remember, and give thanks for, all who have nourished our own faith. We honor the saints among us who follow the teachings of our Lord and live in his grace. Teach us how we too can be blessed to be a blessing, to be saints, in our time. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(Children are excused to go downstairs for Sunday School.)

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

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.”

SECOND READING: I John 3:1-3

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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

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.”

MESSAGE

Pastor Terry Cosier

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Blest Are They”

(Words printed for meditation/reflection only - no singing.)

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God. Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled. Rejoice, and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you! Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

4. Blest are they, who seek peace; they are the children of God. Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. Rejoice, and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you! Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

“Blest Are They,” words and music by David Haas, arr. David Haas and Michael Joncas, ©1985 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-715997.

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need. Lord of all the saints, we praise you for evangelists and martyrs whose sacrifices witness to your gospel across time and space. Inspire us by their courage to carry our faith to new people and places around us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of every nation, guide this country—red states and blue states, rural voters and urban voters, young and old—as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of every blessing, your Son's blessing came to those living with poverty, grief, hunger, thirst, and persecution. Shape our vision of the saints to match his own. Awaken in us your call to serve all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt, especially ... Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort us as we grieve those who have died in the past year, Edus Harder, Keith Hippen, Sally Hawley, and John Fritzen and those we name in our hearts. In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: 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.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit; in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Now together, let us join the countless numbers across the centuries who have prayed as our Lord instructed us to pray. . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 DISTRIBUTION

As Pastor says: "The body of Christ, given for you", you are invited to eat the bread.

As Pastor says, "The blood of Christ, shed for you", you are invited to drink the grape juice.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

All: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May He look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Permission to reprint/podcast/stream portions of this service obtained from One License with license #A-724367, CCLI with license #2497574 and Augsburg Fortress License #13855-L. Excerpts of this service are taken by permission from "Worship Resources, Making it Work in the Parish" by Rev. Jerry Nelson.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! It's wonderful to gather as the body of Christ to worship and give thanks to God! Thanks be to God for all of you here in person, in the parking lot and on-line!

OUR THANKS to Pastor Terry Cosier for being our worship leader this morning.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Michelle Scott, Pastor LuRae & Bob Hallstrom, Henry & Ann Lenners, Scott & Dayna Anderson, Delores Baehr, Dustin Fritch, our shut-ins.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Ron Weiss who passed away Tuesday, Oct. 27. Ron's funeral was at American Lutheran yesterday, Oct. 31. We commend Ron to God's care and ask His blessings on his family and friends.

WE ESPECIALLY REMEMBER TODAY these Saints that have passed away during the past year: Edus Harder (4-9-20), Keith Hippen (7-4-20), Cerella "Sally" Hawley (8-8-20), and John Fritzen (10-19-20).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Larry Weyers (Nov. 1), Gayle Robinson, Renee Vogel (Nov. 2), David Kagy (Nov. 5), Marlie Fritzen, Jeremy Smith, Tony Vrtiska (Nov. 7).

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Jordan & Amber Workman (11-2-19).

VETERANS DAY is Wednesday, November 11. All our veterans, whether in person, in the parking lot, or through facebook will be recognized next Sunday, November 8.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School begins each Sunday after the Children's Sermon and is held from approximately 9:45-10:30 a.m. Classes will be divided between Preschool-1st grade and Second-Fifth grade. We are looking for two teachers for each Sunday and would prefer to have parents of students. **Please sign the sheet in the narthex for the Sundays that you are willing to help.**

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS - Please send your weekly November sermon notes either to: norton_dan@yahoo.com or American Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 66, Filley, NE 68357.

FOOD DRIVE: The competition is on!! The council is asking all members to participate in the Thanksgiving Food Drive Challenge. The kickoff was October 22. Each participant will be given an empty box and a calendar page listing a food item to be placed in your box for each of the following 30 days. On November 22, we would ask for you to bring the filled box back to church, when we can display the boxes before delivering to the Community Food Pantry for distribution for those in need. Please contact a council member to get your box and calendar page.

AN ADDED BONUS TO THE FOOD DRIVE is that we have qualified for a \$500 grant from Thrivent if we can gather 500 cans of food before the end of November. Our church has selected Beatrice Community Food Pantry as the recipient of the grant if we reach the goal set by then. (Thrivent is only giving out 50 of these grants for the entire state). We will be able to use the items collected from the Food Challenge for the Thrivent grant.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH has a brand new "Chromebook" for sale, purchased in September. Paid \$299 and would sell for \$275. Contact a council member if interested.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA: Please bring your Thankoffering boxes on Sunday, November 22.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS for the remainder of November need to be in to Sandy by Saturday, Nov. 7. Please call Sandy or email them to her at smahleris@gmail.com

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE: You can find our church website at www.filleylutheranchurch.com or by scanning this QR code:



BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND on Facebook and on our website, filleylutheranchurch.com. Bulletins are also being sent out by email to everyone that we have an email address for. If you are not receiving the bulletin by email and would like it, please email Sandy at smahleris@gmail.com with your email address.

WORSHIP HELPERS:

Council - Norm Flesner, Tanner Schmidt, Carol Frerichs, Dave Norton, Linda Searcey

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video – Brad Frerichs

Accompanist – Sandy Mahler