

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 7, 2021

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska

Rev. Jonathan Jensen, Transitional Minister, 402-768-3665

(Your offerings can be left in the offering plate found at the back of the church either before or after worship. Noisy offering will be taken at Children's Message time.)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 146)

P: Happy are those whose hope is in God, maker of heaven and earth--

C: for God keeps faith forever!

P: God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food for the hungry.

C: God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

P: God lifts up those who are bowed down.

C: God watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow.

P: People of God, sing praise to the One who is your help—

C: for God keeps faith forever!

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 --

- Ronald Weiss
- Ervin Parde
- Jeanne Garrels
- Garold Blaker
- David Mortensen
- Charlene Hippen
- Terry Siefkes

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.

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.

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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.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16

⁸The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, ⁹“Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” ¹⁰So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹²But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” ¹³Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.” ¹⁵She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28

²⁴Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *(Noisy offering is taken at this time.)*

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

GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44

³⁸As [Jesus] taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

⁴¹He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Jensen

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Soon and Very Soon" #191(OSB)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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 power of 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

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.

We give you thanks for social ministries of the church around the world and for every ministry that heals, lifts up, and empowers those who are poor, oppressed, abused, abandoned, or ignored. Build up your ministries and prosper all works of mercy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for the bounty of creation and a world of abundance. Protect the earth from all who would devour its resources. Create and strengthen sustainable communities who honor your creation with loving care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for leaders who seek peace for all nations and lead efforts toward greater justice. Accompany all who suffer the wounds of war, with veterans who carry battle scars from the past, and all who promote peace today. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for plentiful harvests and generous hearts. Send needed resources and caring neighbors to all those in need. We pray for refugees, orphans, widows, those unemployed, those suffering abuse, and all who are in need. Restore to health all who are sick in any way, especially Helen, Dustin and Janice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for missionaries who share your love in new communities and bring compassion for all. Continue to raise up missionaries for lives of service in your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks for the saints of this congregation who have inspired, challenged, loved, and taught us, including Bill McLaughlin, Ronald Weiss, Ervin Parde, Jeanne Garrels, Garold Blaker, David Mortensen, Charlene Hippen, and Terry Siefkes. Comfort all who grieve and lead us by their example until you gather us in your heavenly home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the blessedness of your saints you have given us a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling; that, moved by their witness and supported by their fellowship, we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and with them receive the unfading crown of glory. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: (spoken) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

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

COMMUNION HYMN: **"Lamb of God", p. 72**

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 HYMN: **"When the Saints Go Marching In"**

1. I am just a lonely trav'ler, thru this big wide world of sin; want to join that grand procession when the saints go marching in. Oh, when the saints go marching in, oh, when the saints go marching in. Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.

2. All my folks have gone before me, all my friends and all my kin. But I'll meet with them up yonder, when the saints go marching in. Oh, when the saints go marching in, oh, when the saints go marching in. We will meet them all up in heaven, when the saints go marching in.

3. Come and join me in my journey, 'cause it's time that we begin; and we'll be there for that judgement, when the saints go marching in. Oh, when the saints go marching in, oh, when the saints go marching in. And we'll be there for that judgment when the saints go marching in. Oh, when the saints, go marching in, oh, when the saints go marching in. Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.

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SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

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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!

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Helen Fritzen, Dustin Fritch, Janice Uecker, our shut-ins.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Bill McLaughlin who passed away Sunday October 31. Bill's Funeral was at American Lutheran on Thursday November 4. We commend Bill to God's care and ask His blessing's on his family and friends.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Marlie Fritzen, Jeremy Smith, Tony Vrtiska (Nov. 7), Mycaha Antons, Gemma Crosier (Nov. 8), Kenya Keedy Nov. 9), Lenhart Fritzen, Jordan Workman (Nov. 10), Rosetta Remmers, Brian Weyers (Nov. 11), Ethan Garrels, Virgil Jobman (Nov. 13).

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to Lenhart Fritzen who will celebrate his 95th birthday on November 10 and to Rosetta Remmers who will celebrate her 89th birthday on November 11.

TODAY IS ALL SAINTS DAY: During the opening hymn, all are invited to come forward to light a candle in honor of those who have gone before us in faith as we remember them in love. This is a reminder that in holy baptism God unites all the faithful into the one holy catholic and apostolic church: the church on earth and the church in heaven.

WE ESPECIALLY REMEMBER TODAY these Saints that have passed away during the past year: Ronald Weiss (10-27-20), Ervin Parde (11-20-20), Jeanne Garrels (4-26-21), Garold Blaker (8-16-21), David Mortensen (9-4-21), Charlene Hippen (9-17-21), Terry Siefkes (10-18-21).

STONE BARN MEETING TODAY Following worship. Everyone is invited to attend.

MERCY MEALS Will be held December 6 from 4-6 pm at Odell Community Building. Sign up sheet will be in the back of church.

RECOGNITION OF VETERANS will take place at our worship service NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, at 9:30 a.m.

SECOND ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE: The council is asking all members to participate in the Thanksgiving Food Drive Challenge again this year. Please check your October Newsletter for the calendar of food items that we will be gathering. You can bring all your items to church on November 21 or before - we will display all the items donated and then deliver them to the Community Food Pantry for distribution to those in need. If you need a calendar page, there are extras in the back of church. Thank you for participating in this ministry!

FOR THE 2ND YEAR we have qualified for a \$500 grant from Thrivent, if we can gather 500 cans of food during October 24th through November 21st. Our church has selected Beatrice Community Food Pantry as the recipient. Please pick up your calendar and boxes and let's do it again. Let's give with a gracious heart and help others.

SUNMART RECEIPTS: Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! SunMart/Spartan Nash Co. supports a fundraising program called "Support Our Schools and Churches." All you have to do is save your SunMart cash register receipt tapes and put them in the box in the Fellowship Hall (or give to a council person). When we have collected \$150,000 in receipt tapes Spartan Nash Company awards us a check for \$1000. We have reached our goal of \$150,000 two times so far and are starting over again with a balance of about **\$65,000.00**. You can also ask your check-out person if they have any extra receipts. They save the ones that people don't want and give them out - first come, first serve. Thank you to everyone who is helping with this ministry!

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



BULLETIN ITEMS are due by Tuesday evenings. Please call or text Britan Meints at (308)-730-0599 or email her at britanrace@gmail.com

BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND 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 Britan at britanrace@gmail.com with your email address.

COMING UP:

Every Wednesday – BeLoved/Confirmation, 4:00-5:30 p.m. (no classes on Nov. 24, Dec. 22, Dec. 29)
Sunday, Nov. 7 – All Saints’ Sunday – recognition of those who have passed away
Sunday, Nov. 21 – Thankoffering Sunday
Sunday, Nov. 28 – First Sunday in Advent
Monday, Dec. 6 – Mercy Meals

WORSHIP HELPERS:

Transitional Minister – Pastor Jonathan Jensen, 402-768-3665

Council – Dave Norton-President (402-520-3555), Virgil Jobman-Vice President (402-310-6339), Carol Frerichs-Secretary (402-223-7919), Brenda Hippen-Treasurer (402-688-4466), Linda Searcey-at large (402-223-8237).

Reader: Danelle Lenners

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen

Accompanist: Sandy Mahler

Fellowship: Pat Jobman