

"Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

~John 11:40

# St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church All Saints Sunday – November 3, 2024

420 Beaver St., PO Box 411 Mars, PA 16046-0411 www.stjohnchurchmars.org

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning! Know that you are welcome here just as you are.

If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshiping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.

Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.

During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.

At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:



You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Visitor information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.

As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then prefilled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.

A playroom is available downstairs by the elevator for children who need a break from the worship service. An adult must accompany all children in the room. Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

### PRELUDE and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \* GREETING

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

## And also with you.

In holy baptism God makes saints out of sinners. In holy communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In worship today we give thanks for all the saints "who from their labors rest." In the same breath we ask God for the strength to hear and to heed the call of Jesus in today's gospel. Sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Savior's body and blood, we live with joy as God gives us breath, to the praise of God's glory.

#### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## \*GATHERING SONG For All the Saints (ELW 422)

strong. blest.



## \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# \*Canticle of Praise Glory to God





## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

### FIRST READING Isaiah 25:6-9

A reading from Isaiah.

<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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM: Psalm 24**

Read responsively – congregation reads bold printed verses

- <sup>1</sup> The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- <sup>2</sup> For the LORD has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.
- <sup>3</sup> Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD, and who may stand in God's holy place?
- <sup>4</sup> Those of innocent hands and purity of heart, who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by what is false.
- <sup>5</sup> They shall receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of their salvation.
- <sup>6</sup> Such is the generation of those who seek you, O LORD, of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.
- <sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- <sup>8</sup> Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
- <sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- <sup>10</sup> Who is this King of glory?

Truly, the LORD of hosts is the King of glory.

### **SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6a**

A reading from Revelation.

<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,

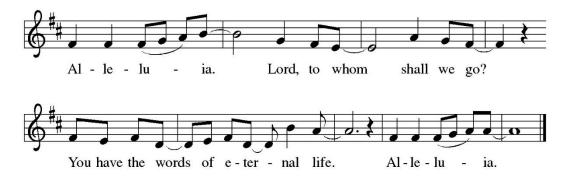
for the first things have passed away."

<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."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*GOSPEL READING: John 11:32-44

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

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 the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON and SERMON

# \*HYMN OF THE DAY O God, Our Help in Ages Past (ELW 632)

(Blue prayer cards are collected)



- 2 Un der the shad ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se cure; 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou-sand a ges in your sight are like an eve-ning gone,



- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

### \*REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

In joyful expectation of the resurrection to eternal life, we remember this day those who have gone before us in faith and who now rest from their labors.

We remember...

...teachers and storytellers who made God's stories come alive for us and

## We give thanks!

We remember...

...choir member, organists, and all the musicians who sang and played your praises and **We give thanks!** 

We remember...

...preachers and lay leaders who led our worship through the years and

# We give thanks!

We remember...

... friends and family who sat with us at worship and lived out their faith all week long and **We give thanks!** 

We remember...

... all those who have held us in love and care and showed us Christ's love in this world and **We give thanks!** 

We remember...

...our ancestors in the faith whose courage enables us to be here today. For our siblings in the faith whose names are remembered only by God **We give thanks!** 

O God, our help in ages past and our hope for years to come:

We give you thanks for all your faithful people who have followed the light of your word throughout the centuries into our time and place. Remembering that, through our baptism, we are bound to Christ in life, death and resurrection, we use the flame from the Paschal candle to light a candle for each name. Three larger candles are also lit for all whose lives on earth have slipped away quietly without the world noticing.

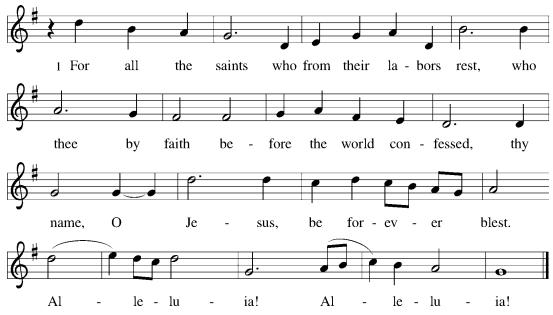
God of life, we remember and give thanks for:

Roy	Werner
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Mary & Samuel Barill	+ Leland & Helen Hager	Richard &Florence Rounce
Gerald Beatty	Chuck & Annetta Hardt	J T Schmimky
Bert and Jane Ann Bishop	Bucky Hull	Vicki Schmimky
David Bishop	William and Laura	David M. Schuster
Ellie Brenckle	Hespenheide	Samuel & Genieve
Harry & Nancy Bratchie	Gary Kalkbrenner	Scichilone
Reg Brown	Clara Mae Knauff	Benjamin Scott
Frieda Carbo	Mary Lynn	Eugene Siembieda
Alex Christ	Bill Luft	Waldo & Edna Gay
Robert Cole	Marilyn Luft	Smallwood
Larry Collins	William Luft	Dr. CW Standen & Freida
Jean and Jim Crislip	Jim Marshall	Shirley Standen Kelly
Rita Curran	James Martin	Ruth & Harold Stang
Charles and Irene Davidson	Mildred Malewski	Amandus Steigerwalt
Earl Dunmire	Doris and Harold	Michael & Margaret Tully
Francis Kelly English	McCandless	Raymond & Ethel Tully
Loyal & Leona Ferguson	Anne G McCarthy	Frank Tupper
Andrew Foster	George T McCarthy	Bob Utz
Cliff and Dorothy Foster	John & Emma Maguire	Joe Wach
Jeffrey Foster	Tom McKeon	Francis & Margaret Ward
Catherine Franze	Bea Mohr	James Ward
Howard & Anna Mae Fritz	Dolores Nelson	Charles Grant Werner
	Frank and Andrea	Irvine & Imogene Werner
F. D. Gross	Niklewicz	Harry & Elizabeth Weyers
Ben Gross	Elmer Painley	Pete & Hazel Wilson
Chris and Margaret Gurtner	Agnes & Art Pallan	<b>Bob Windhorst</b>
Bud and Peg Hager	Anne & Charles Olescyski	Elmer & Lillian Windhorst

Elmer & Lillian Windhorst

As we remember these your children, strengthen us to follow Christ through this world until we are carried into eternal life, where suffering and death will be no more.



### \*NICENE CREED

Together, with the whole church, with the saints among us today, and with the saints who have died before us in faith, let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

O God of resurrection, you call us by name and raise us to life. Rouse your church from slumber. Where we have held back in fear or shame, unbind us. Embolden us in our proclamation of your good news, that all may know abundant life. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

O God of creation, you have founded your world on rivers and seas. Preserve fresh water sources and the creatures who call them home. Heal places of pollution and nourish places of drought. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer.

O God of the earth, you reign over all nations and peoples. Inspire us with wisdom and discernment as we elect legislators and leaders. May they govern with justice and uphold the dignity of all people. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer.

O God of heaven, you make your home among mortals. Come alongside those who weep this day. Befriend all who are lonely, encourage those in despair, and heal any who are suffering especially Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Katie, Debi, Anne, Karen, Nan, those on our prayer list, all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts and all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. Abide with your faithful ones in love. Merciful God,

## receive our prayer.

O God who serves, you set before us a feast of rich food. Sustain our ministries of fellowship and hospitality. Strengthen the hands and hearts of all who prepare and serve food for our nourishment. Merciful God,

## receive our prayer.

O God, Alpha and Omega, we give thanks for your faithful ones who are now at peace with you. With your saints, we praise you, for you have swallowed up death forever. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

We pray for (*blue prayer cards are read*). We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God. Receive these and the prayers for which we do not yet have words into your holy keeping in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

#### Amen.

#### \*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

## And also with you.

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

### **OFFERING**

## OFFERTORY HYMN Sing with All the Saints in Glory (ELW 426)

Rise on 3<sup>rd</sup> verse



- 1 Sing with all the saints in glo ry, sing the res ur rec-tion song!
- 2 Oh, what glo-ry, far ex-ceed-ing all that eye has yet per-ceived!
- 3 Life e ter nal! heav'n re joic es: Je sus lives who once was dead.



Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry, to the for-mer days be - long. Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead-ing nev - er that full joy con-ceived. Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es! Child of God, lift up your head!



All a-round the clouds are break-ing, soon the storms of time shall cease; God has prom-ised, Christ pre-pares it, there on high our wel-come waits. Life e - ter - nal! Oh, what won-ders crowd on faith; what joy un-known,



in God's like - ness we a - wak - en, know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace. Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e-ter - nal gates. when, a - mid earth's clos - ing thun - ders, saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup,

You offered yourself in love for the world,

And in this meal you nourish us with your life.

Fill us with your abundance,

That we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger,

Trusting in your name.

Amen.

### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

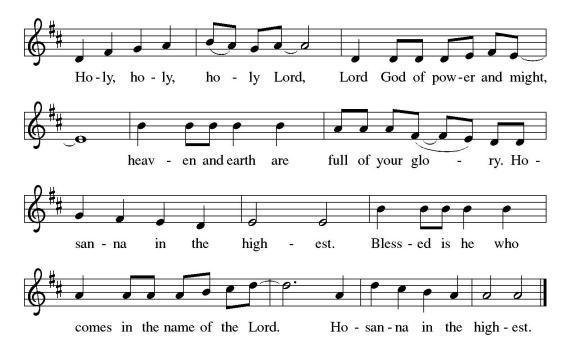
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.

Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.

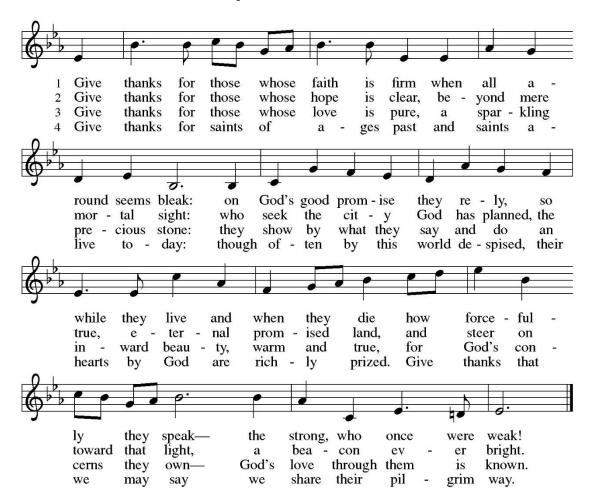
Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.

# **COMMUNION SONG** Lamb of God

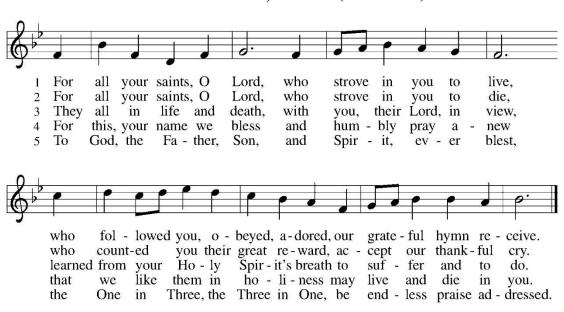


## **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

# **COMMUNION HYMN Give Thanks for Saints (ELW 428)**



# COMMUNION HYMN For All Your Saints, O Lord (ELW 427)



### \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace. **Amen** 

#### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

#### \*BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.** 

## \*SENDING SONG Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In (ACS 950)



### \*DISMISSAL

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord say, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?'

And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'"

Isaiah 6:8

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

**Assisting in worship today:** 

**Assisting Minister: Denise H** 

Acolyte: Ava N Ushers: Larry W

**Greeters:** 

Offering: Anna K & Nathan K

Attendance last week: 55 + 4 zoom

## Notes for the day's texts:

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.

## Today's Music

For All the Saints. Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958. Public Domain. O God, Our Help in Ages Past. Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., Music: William Croft, 1678-1727. Public Domain. Sing with All the Saints in Glory. Text: William J. Irons, 1812–1883, alt., Music: William Bradley Roberts, b. 1947. Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

Give Thanks for Saints. Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, b. 1962, Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918. Kevin Mayhew Publishers / Public Domain.

For All Your Saints, O Lord. Text: Richard Mant, 1776–1848, alt., Music: William H. Walter, 1825–1893. Public Domain. Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In. Text: African American spiritual, Music: African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version. Augsburg Fortress.

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# **Next Week's Readings**

1 Kings 17:8-16 God feeds Elijah and the widow at Zarephath Psalm 146 The Lords lifts up those who are bowed down Hebrews 9:24-28 The once for all sacrifice of Christ Mark 12:38-44 A widow's generosity reveals the hypocrisy of the scribes