



St. John's Episcopal Church
All Saints' Day
November 1, 2020

Opening Words:

They are before the throne of God, and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. ~ **Revelation 7.15**

Opening Hymn #287 ~ *For All the Saints* (verses 1-4)

For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might:
thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old, and
win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet
all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Word of God

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

The Collect

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I, John, 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. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And 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, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I 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.

"For 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.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

for 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."

The Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rev. John Beach

Invocation of the Saints

Bridegroom of poverty, our brother Francis, follower of Jesus and friend of creation:

Stand here beside us.

John XXIII, Pope and friend of the poor, who longed for the unity of all people:

Stand here beside us.

Peacemakers in the world, Dag Hammarskjold and Nelson Mandela, called children of God:

Stand here beside us.

Harriet Tubman and Fredrick Douglass, and all fighters for freedom:

Stand here beside us.

Visionary and apostle, John of Patmos, resisting the Beast:

Stand here beside us.

Visionaries and poets, Dante, William Blake, and John Bunyan pilgrims of the inner light:

Stand here beside us.

Faithful woman, Mary Magdalene, first witness of the new life:

Stand here beside us.

Johann Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, and all who speak the soul's language:

Stand here beside us.

Witnesses in England, John and Charles Wesley, street ministers:

Stand here beside us.

Reformers and leaders of protest, Amos of Tekoa, Paul of Tarsus, Jan Hus, Martin Luther, and all your companions:

Stand here beside us.

Confessors in chains, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Berrigan brothers, war resisters:

Stand here beside us.

Confessor in Africa, Augustine of Hippo, city-planner for God's people:

Stand here beside us.

Confessor in Russia, Boris Pasternak, poet of reconciliation:

Stand here beside us.

Confessors in America, Henry David Thoreau, Robert Frost and Thomas Merton, hermits and free thinkers:

Stand here beside us.

Innocents of Sharpeville, and Birmingham, and all victims of lynching, in your undeserved deaths:

Stand here beside us.

Innocents of Coventry, Dresden, Tokyo, and all victims of bombing caught up in a sea of fire:

Stand here beside us.

Innocents of Auschwitz, Dachau, and all concentration camps, in your despair and dying:

Stand here beside us.

Innocents of Armenia, Rwanda, and Syria, objects of genocide:

Stand here beside us.

Martyrs of Africa: Perpetua, mother; Felicity, slave; and all your companions;

Stand here beside us.

Martyr in England, Thomas Cranmer, and all who died to renew the Church:

Stand here beside us

Martyrs of Kent State, witnesses to the hopes of the young;

Stand here beside us.

Martyr for America, Martin Luther King, organizer for peace and justice:

Stand here beside us.

Unwed mother, blessed Mary, fair wellspring of our liberation:

Stand here beside us.

Our leader and friend, Jesus the Son of God, bright cornerstone our unity in a new Spirit;

Stand here beside us.

For the precious souls of those who have deeply touched our lives, and for those known to God alone...

John, Grace, and Paul Belyea

Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. Bennett, Jr.

The Rev. & Mrs. Franklin P. Bennett

Olive C. Bennett

Clint Chadsey

Russell Cutter

John Patrick Denahy

Albert, Beatrice, and Susan DiGiacomo

Nina Dobbins

The Gripper Family: Frederick E. & Laura, L. Maude & Frederick T., and Michael

John Guerrera

Kevin Lancaster, Sr.
Kirk Robert Lang
Everett and Muriel Langley
George, Audrey, and Denise LeMay
David Malone
Anna & Peter Manoogian
Douglas Palazzo
George and Kathleen Plummer
Kathleen A. Plummer
Billy Pond
Eugene and Josephine Poti
Christine Foster Senftleben
James & Doris Smith
Evelyn, Norman, and Ralph Soucy
Tamir Teichmann
Gerhard Teichmann
David Walbridge
Barbara Palazzo Witham
Melvin Witham
Departed Members of the Davey, Seaboyer, and Lancaster Families
Deceased members & friends of the Bergeron/Ingram Families
Stand here beside us.

Almighty One, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses: Grant that we, encouraged by the good example of these your servants, may persevere in running the race that is set before us, until at last, with all your saints, we attain your eternal joy.

Confession of Sin

Let us speak the truth about ourselves to our neighbors and to God, acknowledging what we have done and what we have left undone.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that 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.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Anthem during the preparation of the Altar

The Holy Communion

Prayer over the Gifts

Holy and mighty God, we give you thanks for the triumph of Christ in the lives of all his saints. Receive all we offer you this day, and help us, like them, to run our course with faith, that we may come to your eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People **It is meet and right to do so.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; in the multitude of your saints you have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses, that we, rejoicing in their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us, and together with them receive the crown of glory that never fades away. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all who have served you in every age, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

Celebrant As children of one Father and disciples of one Teacher, let us pray as our Master taught us:

People and Celebrant

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The presider invites the following prayer to be said by all.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Behold the living bread come down from heaven: Those who eat of it will never die.

Anthem during Communion

Prayer after Communion

Lord of hosts, we praise your glory reflected in your saints. May we who share at this table be filled with the joy of your eternal kingdom, where Jesus is Lord, now and for ever.

Celebrant Glory to God,
All **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen**

The Blessing

It is not enough that we love our God. For, if that love be *true*, we will also love our neighbors-not sparingly, but earnestly, joyfully, abundantly! Move gently among the people of God, ready to offer them not only the gospel, but your heart and soul and mind and strength. May God bless you and keep you.

Concluding Hymn #625 ~ *Ye Holy Angels Bright*

Ye holy angels bright, who wait at God's right hand, or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command, assist our song, for else the theme too high doth seem for mortal tongue.

Ye blessed souls at rest, who ran this earthly race and
now, from sin released, behold the Savior's face, God's praises
sound, as in his sight with sweet delight ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below, adore your heavenly King, and
onward as ye go some joyful anthem sing; take what he
gives and praise him still, through good or ill, who ever lives!

My soul, bear thou thy part, triumph in God above: and
with a well-tuned heart sing thou the songs of love! Let all thy
days till life shall end, whate'er he send, be filled with praise.

Celebrant Sent to proclaim God's kingdom with power and to serve others with
humility, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Weekly Prayer List

Maureen Burke, Annelies Caggiano, Gia Capello, Carolyn Chadsey, Armand Couture, Jr.,
Jerry Dello Russo, Don DiGiacomo, Oriol Pi-Sunyer, Jim Dockery, Pat & Tim Eldridge,
Claire Errico, Joanne Felci, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Gary Goodwin, Estelle Heath,
Bruce Higgins, Michele Hoelzl, Janet Horrigan, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Dennis Lancaster,
Janet Lancaster, Lisa Lancaster, Shane Maxwell, Matt, Lori M., Harriet Miraglia, Gisela
Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray (and deeply affected families), Debbie
Rossetti, Bill St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Jeanne Seaboyer, Bo Shaw, Ray Shaw,
Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Victoria Smith, Linda Sullivan, Meghan Tapley, Walter T.,
Susan Webb, Rachel W., and Candace Wormstead

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The Rev. John Beach, Bridge Priest
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Stephen Sikorski, Music Director ~ Julia Aston, Worship Leader

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