Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

Adoration of the Mystic Lamb, Ghent Altarpiece, Belgium, 1432, Hubert van Eyck, Jan van Eyck

All Saints Day

The 23nd Sunday After Pentecost

November 8, 2020

Pastor's Greeting

Invocation: (*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*)

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b*

C: Amen.

Exhortation *Psalm 51:1-4*

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

C: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

P: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

C: Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that you may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The Confession of Sins

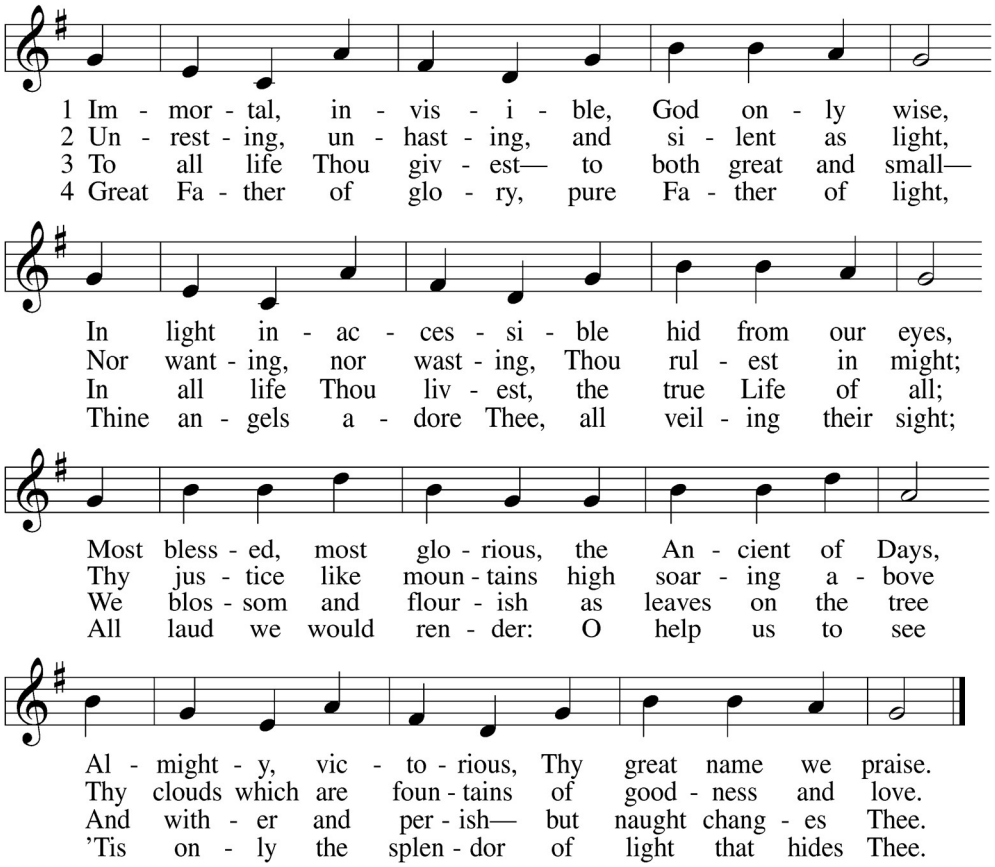
P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

ABSOLUTION *John 20:21*

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE GOD *LSB 802 STZ.1-4*

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INTROIT *Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b*

P: 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.

C: In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

P: For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

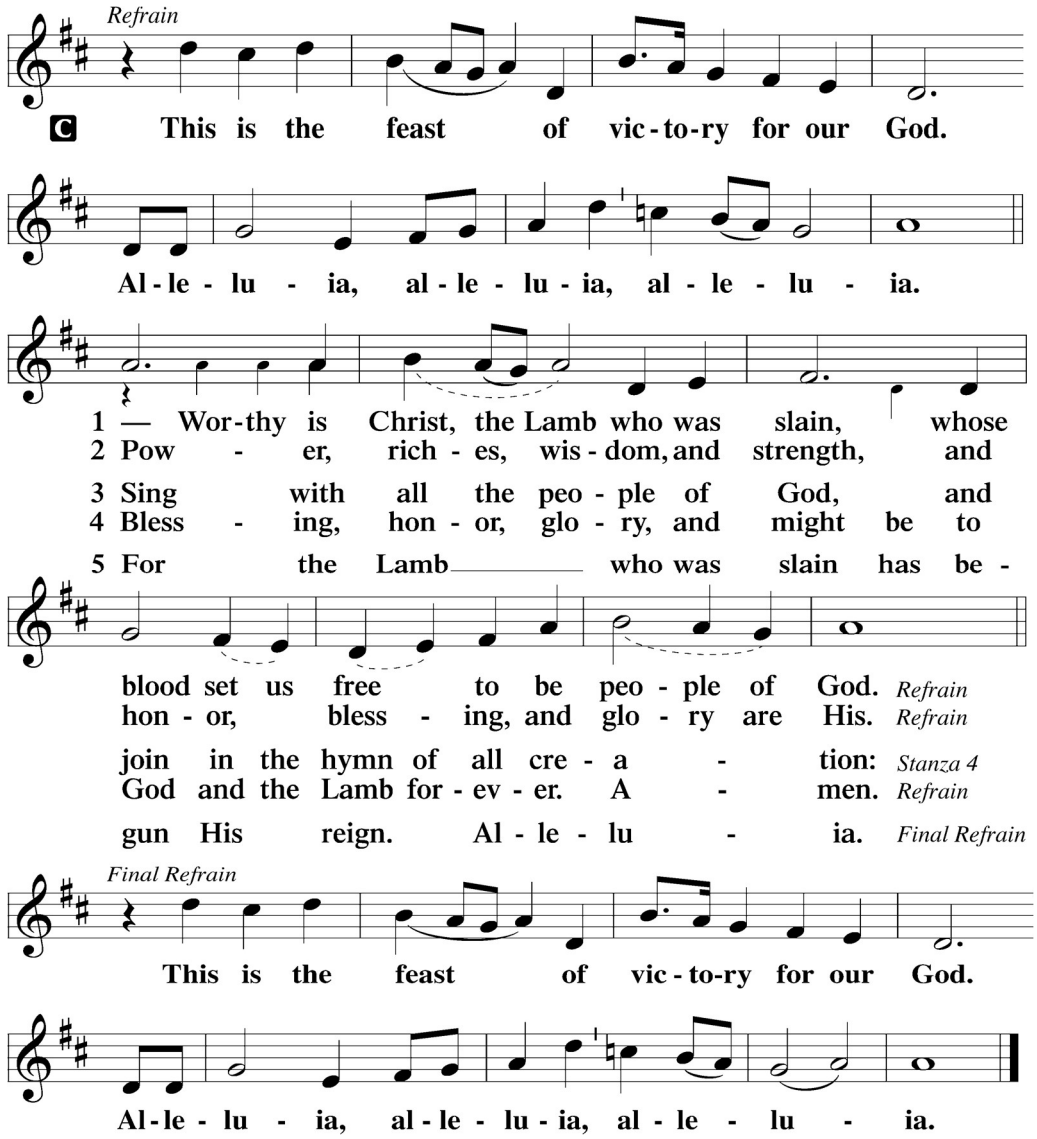
C: Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

All: 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.

All: 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.

THE KYRIE *LSB 186*

C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

HYMN OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST *LSB 155* *Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *Let us pray*. Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION 7:9-17

Reader: After 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, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

And 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, saying, "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, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I 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.

"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. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For 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."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

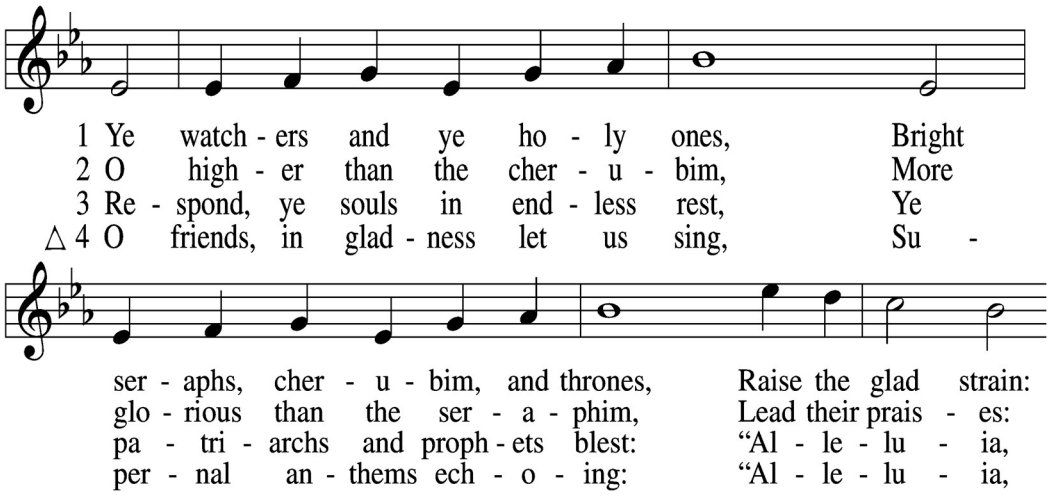
C: Thanks be to God!

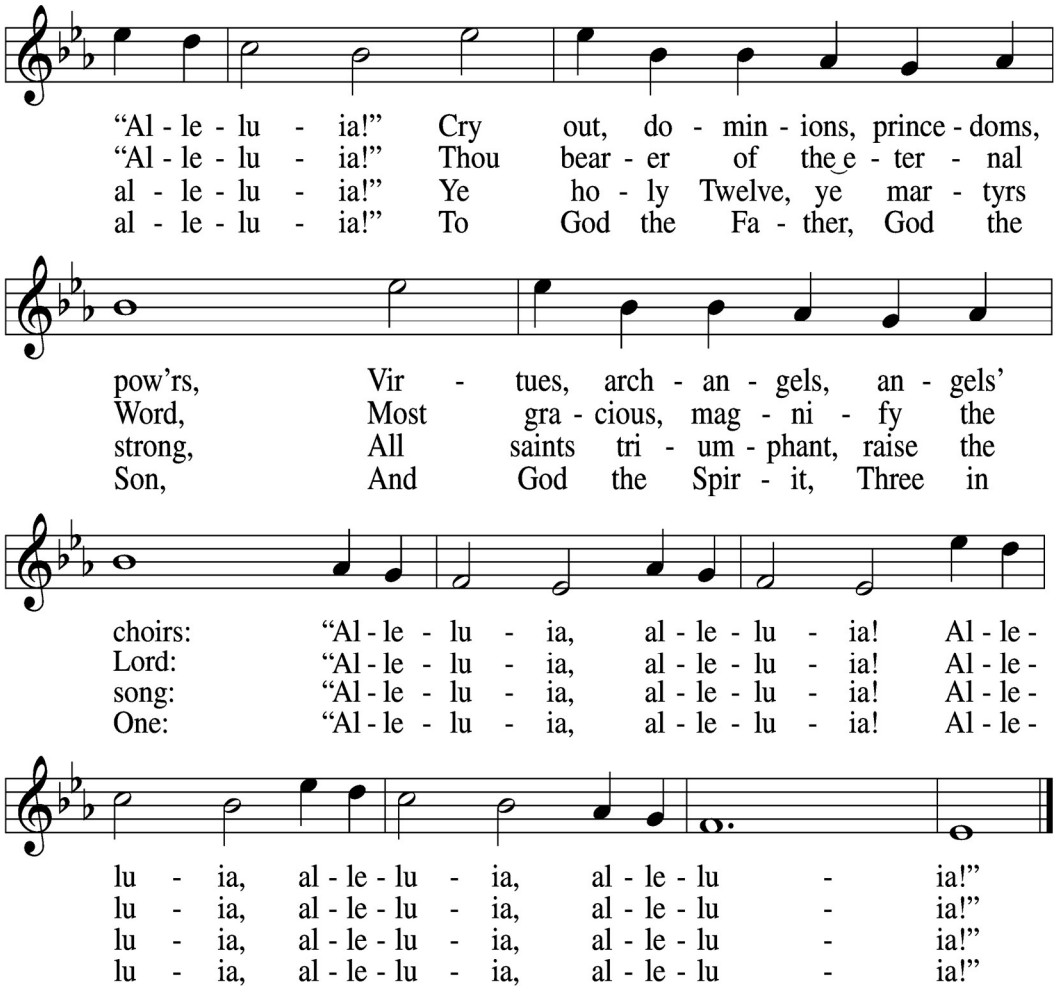
THE GRADUAL *Psalm 48:1a, 12–14a*

P: Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God!

C: Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers, consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever.

HYMN YE WATCHERS AND YE HOLY ONES *LSB 670 STS.1-4*





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THE EPISTLE READING FROM HEBREWS 12:1-6

Reader: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and .is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be God

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 156*

C: **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

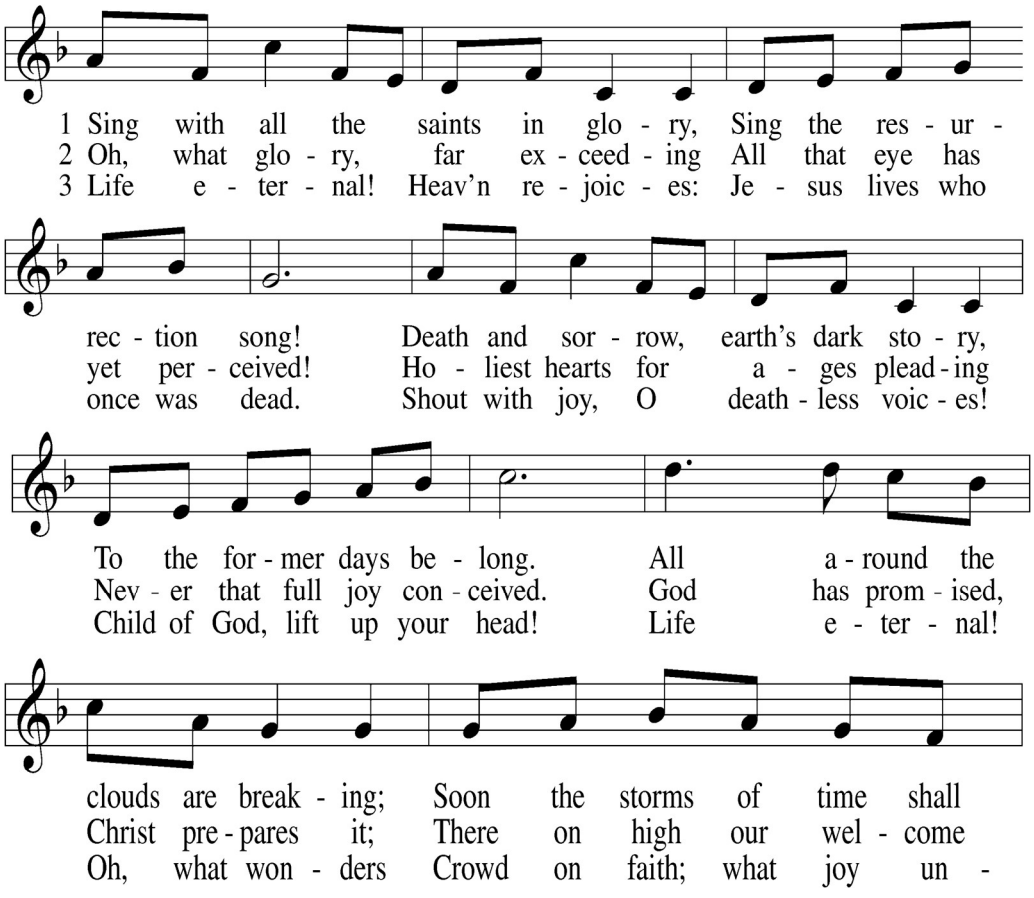
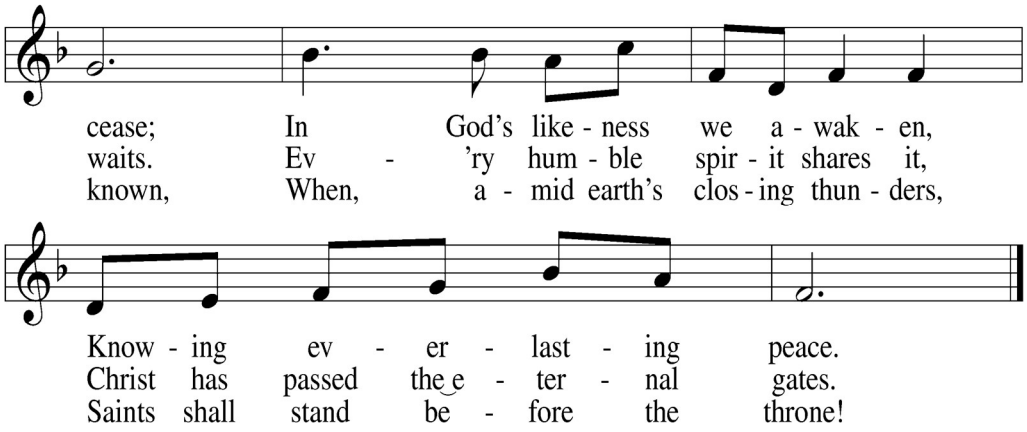
P: The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:1-12

C: Glory to You O Lord!

P: Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him. And He opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are you when others 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 so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ!

SERMON HYMN SING WITH ALL THE SAINTS IN GLORY *LSB 671 STS.1-3*



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SERMON

THE 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.

SONG OF PRAISE "JESUS NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES"

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Jesus, loving shepherd
Vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, Wonderful counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, living Word.

OFFERTORY

As we celebrate the holy gifts and blessings God has given to us, please pray concerning your first fruits offering of thanksgiving to our Lord for all His benefits to us.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (please email either Pastor or Betty with prayer requests)

P: Standing with the great multitude of saints before the throne of God and the Lamb, let us join in prayer, praise and thanksgiving to the God of our salvation.

Mighty and eternal God, we remember before You the saints and martyrs of every generation, who trusted in You in the face of terror and threat. Grant that when facing persecution and trial in our own day, we may be steadfast in faith. Deliver those whom You have washed in Baptism, granting the new life that death cannot overcome. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Mighty and eternal God, we give You thanks for the faithful pastors who have spoken to us Your Word and the church workers who have served us in Your name. Grant that we may continue to receive their ministry of Word and Sacrament with willing ears and open hearts. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bless our president, the Congress, our governor, the legislature and all local officials, that pursuing the path of justice they may act with humility and honor for the good of all people. Give wisdom to all who vote this week, and bless its result, that our nation may elect our leaders peacefully and orderly. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Mighty and eternal God, we rejoice that You have rescued us from the power of death and raised us in Christ to dwell with Him in everlasting life. Give to those who grieve the comfort of the promise of the resurrection of the dead and eternal life, and bestow Your peace upon the dying, that they may fall asleep here and awaken in Your glory. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Mighty and eternal God, You have made us Your children, and You continue to guard us as Your own possession. According to Your will, give healing to the sick, calm to the troubled in mind, and patience to those facing sorrow and struggle. Give health and peace to our nation. Hear us especially on behalf of Gerri, Inge, Betty's brother Larry, Victoria, Caroline, at the death of her sister in law, my Niece Lisa struggling with an inflection, Nick Wirtz healing of an eye virus, Carrie, and all those we name silently in our hearts:_____

_____

Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Let us remember those who had been set apart by God through the waters of baptism and adopted into your eternal kingdom. *(List)*
Lord, You cleansed by the blood of your beloved Son,

P: Mighty and eternal God, show forth Your kindness to the poor and Your compassion to those who suffer injustice. Deliver us from the scourge of racism and prejudice and help us to acknowledge our common life from Your creative power and our common redemption in Christ, our Savior. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Mighty and eternal God, bring us to that day when every tear shall be wiped from our eyes and we shall hunger and thirst no more. Knowing You now by faith, we yearn for the day when we shall know You face to face. Until the dawn of that eternal day, keep us in Your faith and fear through our Good Shepherd and Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Taught by our Savior we are bold to pray:

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.

CLOSING COLLECT

P: *Let us pray*: For just as rain and snow fall from heaven and do not return without watering the earth, making it bud and sprout, and providing seed to sow and food to eat, so Your Word proceeds will not return to You empty, but it will accomplish what You purposed it for, and it will prosper. Grant that Your word would strengthen our faith and enliven our love for You and our neighbor, producing the fruits of faith according to Your will.

All: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS *LSB 218*

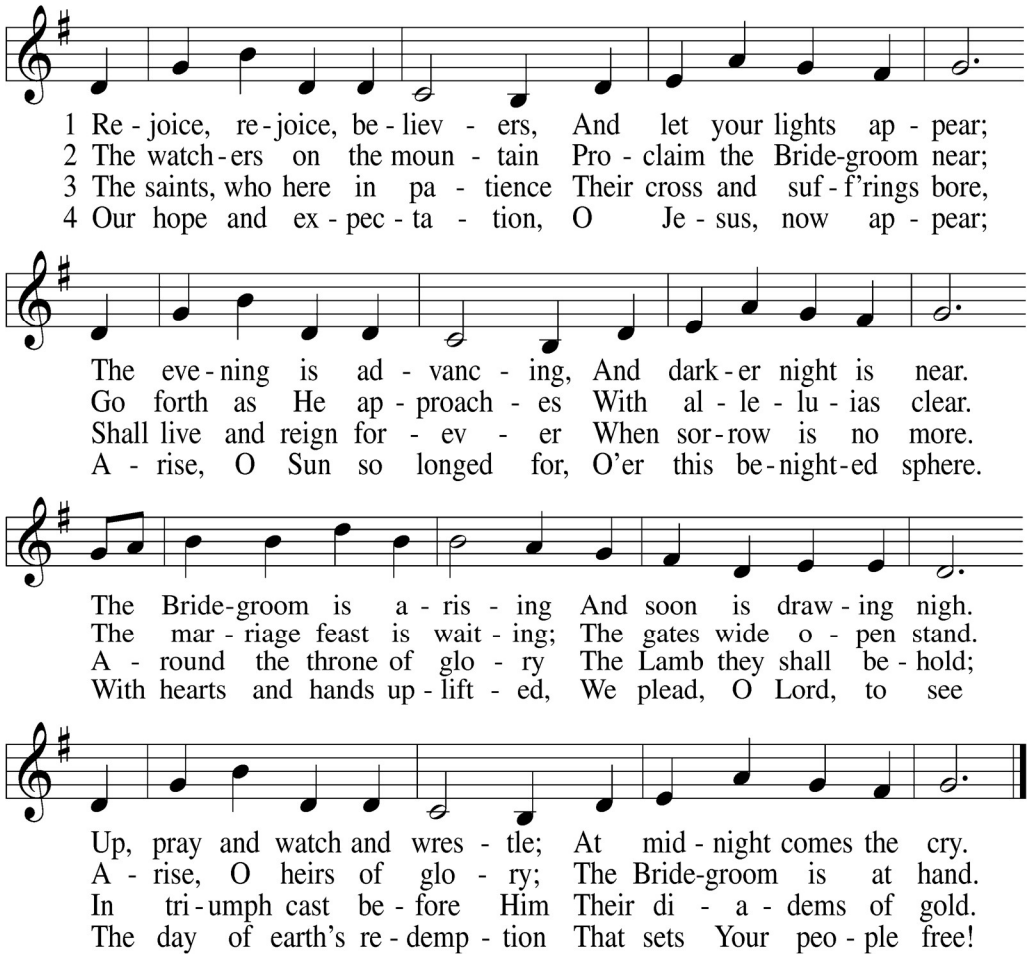
P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *LSB 228*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN **REJOICE, REJOICE BELIEVERS** ***LSB 515 STZ.1-4***

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Anyone desiring to contact Rev. Fred H. Gerlach may do so by **Cell Phone** at 609-751-2546 or by **E-mail** at fred_gerlach@hotmail.com.
You may also contact the Church at 480-759-4047.

Pastor is available upon request for:

- Individual Confession and Absolution.
- A home visit with the Pastor (if someone is ill or in the hospital, call to arrange a visit).
- For communion or a prayer.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study on the book of Leviticus, chapters 5 and 6, on Friday morning at 6:30 AM, available in person at the Church and also available via Zoom. Email Pastor for Zoom link.

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:
familyofchristaz@gmail.com

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Remembering Saints Who Have Gone Before Us

November 7, 2020

From Dave Von Tersch – remembering:
My wife, Jeannie Von Tersch, who entered her eternal rest on March 6, 2017

From Pastor and Lenore Gerlach – remembering:
Pastor's parents Theresa M. Gerlach, called to her eternal rest July,29, 2002
and Gottfried P. Gerlach called to his eternal rest June, 21, 1994
Pastor's Sister and Brother in law, Joan Gerlach called to her eternal rest
May 23, 2006 and John Schmid called to his eternal rest October 10, 2020
Lenore Parents Elia Cuomo, called to her eternal rest June 3, 2001and
Frank Cuomo - Called to his eternal rest August 15, 2008

From Christina Anderson – remembering:
My grandmothers Joanne Bartlett and Margaret Anderson

From Inge Kiley – remembering:
My husband Vin

From Pam Stewart – remembering:
My mom and dad, Jean and Woody Willson

From Kam and Tim Pebler – remembering:
Jim and Dellores Marsh (Kam's parents)
Bill and Marian Pebler (Tim's parents)

From Family of Christ – remembering:
Diane Olson

From Melanie Wempe – remembering:
My Mom, Delores Zander
My Zander Uncles Arthur, Edgar, Monroe and Gilbert (my Godfather)
My Godmothers Evelyn Popp and Betty Zander
My Grandparents Richard and Agnes Zander and Christine and Fritz Buerger

From Don Eidenger – remembering:
My wife, Shirl and my son, Gary

From Dick Arnold– remembering:
My wife, Barb

From Judith Enns – remembering:
My husband, Robert-called to eternal rest January 4, 2020

From Gerri Koski – remembering:
My husband Les

From Dave and Debbie Anderson – remembering:
Margaret Anderson
Eveyln Asendorf
Calvin Asendorf

From Family of Christ – remembering:
Frank and Darlene Hooper, who are
singing with all the Saints!