

WORSHIP NOVEMBER 1, 2020
ALL SAINTS' DAY



This is All Saints' Day, the day we remember and give thanks for all the saints "who from their labors rest," and now know the fullness of God's promises. We gain our strength from the same well of grace they did: From God's living Word, from the gift of fellowship, and from one another. Recalling that we have been sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Savior's body and blood, we keep on keeping on as God gives us breath, to the praise of God's glory.

Welcome to worship in November. This is the last month of the church year, moving to the great Sunday of Christ the King, the day that lifts up the final culmination of all God's promises in His eternal Kingdom, under the rule of Christ. This year may hearing the Word, our prayer and praise remind us So, come, sing His praise, and hear His own promises: the Kingdom of God is here, among us, and will be forever, until the fullness of time.! We are one family of faith even as we worship in-house and wherever we are sheltering in place. Let us gather together in heart and spirit, encouraging, praying and caring for one another.

GATHERING : Announcements and time for prayer and preparation.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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

Faithful God, **have mercy on us.**

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,

and turn us again to life in you

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,

and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own.

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 + Son and Holy Spirit.
Live in freedom and peace to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

GREETING

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

Let us pray: - *Silence*- 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, our Savior and Lord, **Amen.**



THE READINGS

The first reading is from Revelation, the 7th chapter.

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.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Silence for Reflection

The Psalm is read responsively by verse.
The congregation's response is in **bold** type.

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²**I will glory in the LORD;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God's name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.**

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.

⁸Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

²²O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished. **Amen.**

Silence for Reflection

The second reading is from 1st John, the 3rd chapter.

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. The Word of

the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Alleluia! Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving and honor be to our God!
Blessing and glory, power and might be to our God forever and ever! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel, Matthew 51-12: is read. It concludes:

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.”

The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Teaching the Word/Sermon

CONFESSON OF FAITH & PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

In confidence and trust, let us confess our faith:

**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 CHURCH

With the church celebrating salvation and Reformation, in trust and hope let us join our hearts in prayer for the Spirit to move in healing and renewing power in the church and for all in need.

Silence for reflection

Holy One, you have called us by name. Be with us day by day that our words and actions proclaim the daily joy of living in Christ that we may draw others to your church. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help us, God of creation, strengthen us to be disciples who long to be saints, trusting in your love and living in your grace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who now rest from their labors and dwell in your eternal light. Hear us, as we remember and give thanks for family, friends, neighbors, all in whose memory these lights shine, who now dwell with all your saints at the eternal feast of the Lamb.

(Silence as the bells toll)

May their memory stir our faith and deepen our hope of sharing with you the endless feast of victory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, you are the same from generation to generation. Increase our trust, that we can lay before you our every need and hope, our every sin and struggle, and find peace. Hear us as we pray for:

all who need medical treatment from any and every cause,
and those unable to access or receive care...

all who mourn, living with fear and loss and grief...

families working to meet the needs of work and home...

those struggling and anxious for health in body, mind and finances....

Hear our needs, and the needs known only to You. Be our strength to meet the days ahead. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Guide and rule and re-form your church forever, Lord Jesus, so that it walks steadily in times peaceful and quiet, and boldly in challenging times, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you!**

However you are joining in worship at this moment, pause to share Peace with those around you in body or spirit, and offer thanks for God's gifts that sustain and bless us. Offerings can be made online by going to the website christpipersville.org, or using the QR code with your smartphone. Offerings can also be gathered and mailed.



We are grateful for your continuing support of our mission and ministry! Then continue:

Let us pray. *Silence* God of mercy and grace,
the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things from Your Word, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

A Brief Silence

Praise and thanks to you, holy God,
for by your Word you made all things:
you spoke light into darkness,
called forth beauty from chaos,
and brought life into being.
For your Word of life, O God, **We give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel
to tell of your wonderful gifts:
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey,
a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.
For your Word of life, O God, **We give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh,
you speak to us and call us to witness:

forgiveness through the cross,
life to those entombed by death,
the way of your self-giving love.
For your Word of life, O God, **We give you thanks and praise.**

Lord, now let your your servant go in peace
according to Your word.

**For mine eyes have seen Your salvation;
Which you have prepared before the face of all people;**

A light to reveal You to the nations,
And the glory of Your people Israel.
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.**

Let us pray in the words Jesus taught us:

**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 God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

We give thanks to God that we are able to gather in-house and wherever we are sheltering in place, and for your faithful support as we move forward serving one another and out community.

POSTLUDE



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