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The Rev. Thomas R. Marcis Jr. – Senior Pastor  
Ben Ramthun – Vicar  
Kristin Nistler – Director of Family Ministry

Liturgy/Sermon: Pastor Marcis  
Organist: Evelyn Orth

## ALL SAINTS' DAY

Comfort and Joy  
November 1, 2020



### AS WE GATHER

At Christmas is sung “God rest you merry, gentlemen,” with “tidings of comfort and joy.” Those tidings were made because our Lord had entered human history. We will finally realize those tidings for ourselves when we join the saints in eternal glory, they who are seen in the vision we will read from Revelation. In the meantime, in these mean times, we rely on hope to get us through each day, as St. Paul writes in the Epistle. That hope is based on our being God’s adopted children, brothers and sisters of our risen Lord Jesus. It is both comforting and joyful, no matter our circumstances. As Jesus proclaims in the Gospel’s Beatitudes, people with such hope are blessed indeed!

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### HYMN

“Children of the Heavenly Father” *LSB 725*

- 1 **Children of the heav’nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e’er was given.**
- 2 **God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.**
- 3 **Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.**
- 4 **Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne’er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.**

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#### INVOCATION

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People:** Amen.

#### WELCOME

**Pastor:** Today we are celebrating All Saints’ Day, on which we give thanks “for all the saints who from their labors rest,” those who have gone before us in faith. By definition, a saint is anyone looked on as holy by God, and we who have faith in Christ here on earth are already declared by God to be His saints. Indeed, He calls us His children. Knowing the eternal “end of the story” gives us hope in our daily walk through life. That hope is summarized in today’s short Epistle.

## EPISTLE

1 John 3:1–3

(We are already God's children.)

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Confident of salvation, let us confess our sins to our loving, heavenly Father.

People: **We confess that we have not lived as Your children, Father in heaven. In our thinking, speaking, and acting, we have not demonstrated to the people around us the kind of love You have shown us. Forgive us for these our sins. Open our eyes of faith that we may anticipate seeing You in the eternity that awaits us. Then move us toward purity of living that will give You the glory each day until You return.**

Pastor: Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, we are God's children now because of the hope God has poured into us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## ☩ WORD ☩

## HYMN

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Sts 1, 4 *LSB* 686

- 1 **Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
Fills my heart with joy and love,  
Teach me ever to adore Thee;  
May I still Thy goodness prove.**
- 4 **Oh, that day when freed from sinning,  
I shall see Thy lovely face;  
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,  
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!  
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;  
Take my ransom'd soul away;  
Send Thine angels soon to carry  
Me to realms of endless day.** Text: Public domain

## KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For heaven-sent peace and the hope of salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: For global peace and the Church's growth in faith and hope, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who here return thanks to God for the hope within them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Christ, have mercy, now and forever. Amen.**

## SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: **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;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

*Revelation 7:2–17*

(Saints around God's throne know eternal salvation after having endured persecution.)

Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: 12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad, 12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh, 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar, 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed. 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."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 5:1–12*

(Jesus' followers are blessed now because of His sure promises.)

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."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” LSB 575

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. *Refrain*

*Ref:* On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

3 His oath, His covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! *Refrain*

Text: Public domain

#### SERMON

“Fix Your Hope”  
1 John 3:1-3

#### ZION'S 2020 CONFIRMANDS

Evan Anderson  
Sara Anderson  
Jessie Bean  
Caylin Kraft  
Cambrya Kraft  
Jada Hinrichs  
Cassidy Kemnitz  
Riley Kummer

Adrianna Payne  
Olivia Puliafico  
Brett Puliafico  
Isaiah LaMontagne  
Julio Matthews  
Gage Thiel  
Megan Vadner  
Hayden Zacher

#### CONFIRMATION EXAMINATION QUESTIONING ON THE SIX CHIEF DOCTRINES OF SCRIPTURE

- I. The Ten Commandments
- II. The Apostles' Creed
- III. The Lord's Prayer
- IV. The Sacrament of the Holy Baptism
- V. The Office of the Keys and Confession
- VI. The Sacrament of the Altar

#### CREED and AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

*(Drawn from the Six Chief Parts)*

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, “whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

Pastor: Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your baptism?

*Confirmand: Yes, I do.*

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil?

*Confirmand: Yes, I renounce the devil.*

Pastor: Do you renounce all his works?

*Confirmand: Yes, I renounce all his works.*

Pastor: Do you renounce all his ways?

*Confirmand: Yes, I renounce all his ways.*

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

*Confirmand: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.*

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord?

*Confirmand: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.*

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

*Confirmand: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*

## **RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

Pastor: Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

*Confirmand: I do.*

Pastor: Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

*Confirmand: I do.*

Pastor: Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

*Confirmand: I do, by the grace of God.*

Pastor: Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

*Confirmand: I do, by the grace of God.*

Pastor: Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

*Confirmand: I do, by the grace of God.*

Pastor: We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

*Confirmand: Amen.*

*The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing and passage of Holy Scripture that is to be their life's motto and memory verse. The pastor places his hands on the head of the catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:*

Pastor: the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and the Holy Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

*Confirmand: Amen.*

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith which ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ's Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord's Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear their cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **HYMN**

"For All the Saints" St. 1-2 LSB 677

**1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**2 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!** Text: Public domain

## **COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

Pastor: On this Day of All Saints, we remember with thanksgiving those of our parish who have gone before us with the sign of faith. They were created by God to offer Him praise forever, redeemed by Jesus, God's Son, and filled with the Holy Spirit through Baptism, where God gave them new life. They have been nourished in the company of His people through the Lord's Supper and the Word, and in His mercy God has summoned them to His presence that they may continue in joyful service to Him forever. We especially remember this day:

### **+ THE ROLL-CALL OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED +**

**+ ELAINE BAUER +  
entered life February 6, 2020**

"Let not your hearts be troubled.

**Believe in God; believe also in me."**

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

**No one comes to the Father except through me."** *John 14:1, 6*

**+ WALTER SCHRAMM +  
entered life February 20, 2020**

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,

**and all these things will be added to you."** *Matthew 6:33*

**+ BURT SIEMS +  
entered life March 16, 2020**

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,

**and all these things will be added to you."** *Matthew 6:33*

**+ LAVERNA KNAPP +  
entered life March 20, 2020**

“The LORD is my shepherd;  
**I shall not want.”** *Psalm 23:1*

**+ RODGER BUCHHOLZ +  
entered life March 31, 2020**

“But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

**Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”**

*1 Timothy 6:11, 12*

**+ DOLORES ROSIN +  
entered life April 21, 2020**

“And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.

**But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”** *Joshua 24:15*

**+ ELMER EISEMAN+  
entered life May 14, 2020**

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

**The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.”** *1 John 3:1*

**+ MARLENE TSCHAEKOFKSKE +  
entered life June 17, 2020**

“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

**nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”** *Romans 8:38-39*

**+ ROBERT MEHRER +  
entered life July 2, 2020**

“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

**She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”** *John 11:25-27*

**+ DUANE BOHRER +  
entered life August 6, 2020**

“Be faithful, even to the point of death,  
**and I will give you the crown of life.”** *Revelation 2:10b*

**+ DAVID SCHLECHT +  
entered life August 8, 2020**

“For everything there is a season,  
**and a time for every matter under heaven.”** *Ecclesiastes 3:1*

**+ PATRICIA SWANSON +  
entered life September 25, 2020**

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures."** *Psalm 23:1-2*

**+ GREGORY FRANKLUND +  
entered life September 30, 2020**

"I am the good shepherd.

**The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."** *John 10:11*

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, who by Your death have taken away the sting of death: Grant to us Your servants so to follow in faith where You have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in You, and awake after Your likeness; to You, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all glory in the Church now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

#### **HYMN**

"For All the Saints" St. 8: *LSB 677*

**Δ 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!** Text: Public domain

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

#### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY**

"Take My Life and Let It Be" *LSB 783 vs 1, 4, 6*

**1 Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**4 Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use  
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.**

**6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee.** Text: Public domain

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

**BENEDICTION***Romans 15:13*

Pastor: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

People: **Amen.**

**HYMN***"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" LSB 685 vs 1 & 4*

**1** Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
Follow His example pure,  
Through a world that would deceive us  
And to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in His footsteps treading,  
Pilgrims here, our home above,  
Full of faith and hope and love,  
Let us do the Father's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide;  
I shall follow where You guide.

**4** Let us also live with Jesus.  
He has risen from the dead  
That to life we may awaken.  
Jesus, You are now our head.  
We are Your own living members;  
Where You live, there we shall be  
In Your presence constantly,  
Living there with You forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be,  
Life eternal grant to me.

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