

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801

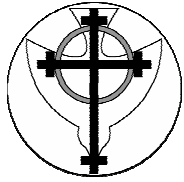
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The Festival of All Saints' Day

2 November Anno † Domini 2008

(Observed)

Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House this morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for the Lord comes to you here in this place to give you His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through His precious means of grace – His Holy Word and Sacraments. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you as you receive these Divine gifts. Please take the time to fill out the **Record of Fellowship form** that is in the pew. If you are visiting with us this morning, we want you to know that we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by signing the guest book that is in the hallway on the left as you leave the sanctuary. The Lord be with us in Divine Service this morning!

Holy Communion Practice

- The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. In preparation for receiving this blessed Sacrament, you may refer to Martin Luther's "Christian Questions with Their Answers" found on pages 329-330 in *LSB*.
- Communicants at this altar are to be in full confessional fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the LCMS are asked, out of love and Christian responsibility, to refrain from partaking with us this morning. If you have any questions regarding Holy Communion, you are invited and encouraged to speak with the pastor before or after the Service.
- See Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Our Mission Statement

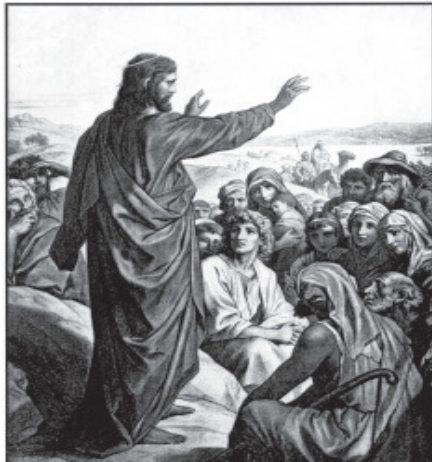
The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.



"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." (Rev. 7:9)

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*“Blessed are you
who believe in
Me . . . Rejoice
and be glad,
because great
is your reward
in heaven.”*

LSB DIVINE SERVICE 1, PAGE 151

The Service of Preparation

(Upon entering the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Preparatory Prayers

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

The Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

(The congregation stands at the Ringing of the Bells and faces the processional cross. It is customary to continue facing the cross as it is processed in, and to bow your head and make the sign of the cross in reverence and admiration to the Lord as it passes your pew. The same applies for the recessional as Service concludes.)

The Processional Hymn: 677 “For All the Saints” (*stanzas 1-4*)

The Confession and Absolution (p. 151)

The Words of Our Lord (p. 162)

The Proclamation of Christ (p. 162)

The Lord’s Prayer (pp. 162-163)

The Pax Domini (p. 163)

The Agnus Dei (p. 163)

Distribution Hymns

678 “We Sing for All the Unsung Saints”

676 “Behold a Host, Arrayed in White”

674 “Jerusalem, O City Fair and High”

The Post-Communion Canticle is “Nunc Dimittis” (p. 165)

The Post-Communion Collect (p. 166)

The Benediction (p. 166)

The Recessional Hymn: 677 “For All the Saints” (*stanzas 5-8*)

The Postlude

Soli Deo Gloria!



*“Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!” (LSB 677:4)*

P We pray especially for those members of our fellowship here at Peace who are suffering or recovering from illness or injury, and for all those who have requested our prayers:
for _____;

Visit them with Your peace, comfort, and strength, and restore them according to Your will;

C **Come, O Lord, and help Your people.**

P With all Your saints, of heaven and earth, of today and ages past, we pray:

C **“Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”**

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

(We take time to remember those saints who were called home to the Lord since All Saints' Day, 2007)

P Lord God, heavenly Father, receive our thanks this day for the lives of all Your servants who were washed in Holy Baptism, taught Your Word, and fed with Christ's precious Body and Blood, who now rest from their labors and rejoice in Your presence. We give You thanks, that in Your mercy and grace, You have not called home any of Your children among our fellowship here at Peace in the past year, but we take time this day to remember our family members and friends who were not members of this congregation, but who died in the one, true faith.

(A time of silence is observed to remember our departed loved ones)

P: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the lives of these your saints and ask you to keep us in fellowship with them, and all Your saints, and to bring us at last to Your heavenly Kingdom when we breathe our last; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, to all ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Offerings are gathered for the Lord's work (p. 159)

(If you have not done so already, please sign and share the Fellowship folders in the pews to assist us in keeping accurate attendance records. Thank you.)

The Offertory (pp. 159-160)

The Service of the Sacrament

(Please read the statement regarding Holy Communion on the back of the bulletin)

The Preface and Proper Preface (pp. 160-161)

The Sanctus (p. 161)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving (p. 161)

The Service of the Word

The Entrance Hymn: 670 “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”

The Kyrie (pp. 152-153)

The Hymn of Praise: 941 “We Praise You . . .” (*Stz. 3 without organ*)

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 156)

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.

The First Reading

Revelation 7:2-17

²Then 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, ³saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” ⁴And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad, ⁶12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh, ⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar, ⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

⁹After 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, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹And 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, ¹²saying, “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, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” ¹⁴I 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.

¹⁵“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. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For 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.”

The Gradual

Rev. 7:14b; Ps. 84:5

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.

**Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,*
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

The Epistle

1 John 3:1-3

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

The Alleluia and Verse (Common - p. 156)

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he opened his mouth 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 shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others 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 so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Nicene Creed (p. 158)

The Hymn of the Day: 672 “Jerusalem the Golden”

The Sermon

The Prayer of the Church

P O most gracious and holy Lord God,
You have deigned to bestow Your holiness upon Your people, declaring us to be saints before Your throne.
For Your holy church, the gathering of the saints in heaven and on earth;
for the congregations and pastors which faithfully serve the ministry of Word and sacraments;

C **With the glorious company of apostles we praise You.**

P For Your glorious creation and all the gifts which we find there;
for the governments of the earth, instruments of Your justice and providence;

C **With the noble fellowship of prophets we praise You.**

P For those who, because of their confession of Your holy name, are being slandered, ridiculed and persecuted;
for those in peril for the sake of Your truth and Your Word;

C **With the white-robed army of martyrs we praise You.**

P For the merciful good works done in Your name which You accomplish in us;
for the saints who are before Your throne and serve You day and night in the temple.

C **Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim You.**

P Mercifully grant that in Christ Your saints may find love, hope, justice, and peace.
For these and all gifts,

C **Let us give thanks to the Lord.**

P As Your saints, we intercede for the whole world:
for all rulers and magistrates,
for schools and educators,
for artists and scientists,
for those in business and services,

C **Come, O Lord, and help Your people.**

P We pray for all sorts and conditions of people:
to those in doubt, grant certainty;
to those in distress over their sins, grant forgiveness;
to those who are weary and burdened, grant rest;
to those who struggle with depression, grant purpose;
to those in difficult relationships, grant forbearance;
to those in the bondage of others, grant strength and freedom;
to the shamed, grant restoration;
to the sick, grant healing;
to the chronically ill, grant patience;
to the dying, grant peace;

C **Come, O Lord, and help Your people.**

P We pray your mercy and aid on all those whose world and lives have been destroyed by the natural disasters which have occurred this year.
Help them and us to see these catastrophic events as foreshadowings of Your coming judgment and, thus, to turn in repentance and faith to You.
And enable us to open our hearts in prayer, and our hands in aid as we are able, sharing our resources in the recovery efforts so badly needed for this great disaster.

C **Come, O Lord, and help Your people.**