ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

See What God Has Prepared

Rev. José R. Argueta | All Saints' Day | Sunday, November 1, 2026

First Lesson

Revelation 7:9–17 (ESV)

The saints by faith are blessed in heaven in God's presence.

9 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, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the
throne, and to the Lamb!” 11 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, 12 saying, “Amen!
Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and
ever! Amen.” 13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from
where have they come?” 14 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. 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. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike
them, nor any scorching heat. 17 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.”

The Epistle

1 John 3:1–3 (ESV)

God loves us and sanctifies us to be like His Son. Therefore, throw off the former sinful self and live as a child of God by His power.

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

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12 (ESV)

Blessed are the saints in the faith.

1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And 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. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for
so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

SERMON SUMMARY

See What God Has Prepared

All Saints' Day • Sunday, November 1, 2026

CENTRAL THEME

Through Jesus Christ, we are God's beloved children, blessed by His grace, sustained in our suffering, and promised eternal life.

What does it mean to be a saint? We often think of extraordinary heroes of faith who lived near-perfect lives. But when we look in the mirror, we know our own failures, doubts, and struggles. This All-Saints' Day, Pastor shared a comforting truth: **You are not a saint because you have made yourself worthy; you are a saint because, through Jesus Christ, God has made you His own.**

Three Profound Assurances

- **1. The Saints Belong to Christ (Revelation 7:9–17):** John sees a great multitude from every nation, tribe, and tongue standing before God's throne. Their robes are white not because they never sinned, but because they have been washed in the blood of the Lamb. Salvation is entirely by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, who unites us all.
- **2. We Are Children of God Right Now (1 John 3:1–3):** Our identity isn't defined by past mistakes or earthly accomplishments. Right now, God calls us His beloved children. Through Word and Sacrament, He continually assures us of His unchanging love, giving us hope even when we experience weakness or grief.
- **3. Jesus Calls the Unlikely Blessed (Matthew 5:1–12):** In the Beatitudes, Jesus turns worldly logic upside down. He calls the poor in spirit, those who mourn, and the meek "blessed." God's promises are tailored specifically for those who recognize their need for Him. Suffering and sorrow do not have the final word—Christ does.

Key Takeaways

Grace-Based Identity
Good works don't make us saints; they flow naturally from the identity Christ has already freely given us.

Hope in Sorrow
Grief and hardship are real, but temporary. Our Shepherd promises a day when God Himself wipes away every tear.

Living as Saints Today
Secured in Christ's love, we are freed to serve neighbors, extend mercy, and face the future with joyful confidence.

> *"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are."*
>
> — 1 JOHN 3:1

In the Holy Name of Jesus. Amen.
Pastor José R. Argueta

RESUMEN DEL SERMÓN

Mira lo que Dios ha preparado

Día de Todos los Santos • Domingo 1 de noviembre de 2026

TEMA PRINCIPAL

Por medio de Jesucristo, somos los hijos amados de Dios, bendecidos por Su gracia, sostenidos en nuestro sufrimiento y prometidos vida eterna.

¿Qué significa ser un santo? A menudo pensamos en héroes extraordinarios de fe que vivieron vidas casi perfectas. Pero cuando nos miramos al espejo, conocemos nuestros propios fracasos, dudas y luchas. Este Día de Todos los Santos, el Pastor compartió una verdad reconfortante: **No eres santo porque te hayas hecho digno; eres santo porque, a través de Jesucristo, Dios te ha hecho suyo.**

Tres Profundas Garantías

- **1. Los Santos Pertenecen a Cristo (Apocalipsis 7:9–17):** Juan ve una gran multitud de cada nación, tribu y lengua de pie ante el trono de Dios. Sus túnicas son blancas no porque nunca hayan pecado, sino porque han sido lavadas en la sangre del Cordero. La salvación es enteramente por gracia a través de la fe en Jesucristo, quien nos une a todos.
- **2. Somos Hijos de Dios en Este Momento (1 Juan 3:1–3):** Nuestra identidad no está definida por errores pasados ni logros terrenales. En este momento, Dios nos llama Sus amados hijos. A través de la Palabra y el Sacramento, Él continuamente nos asegura de Su amor inmutable, dándonos esperanza incluso cuando experimentamos debilidad o dolor.
- **3. Jesús Llama a los Improbables Benditos (Mateo 5:1–12):** En las Bienaventuranzas, Jesús pone la lógica mundana patas arriba. Llama a los pobres en espíritu, a los que lloran y a los mansos "bendecidos". Las promesas de Dios están hechas específicamente para quienes reconocen su necesidad de Él. El sufrimiento y la tristeza no tienen la palabra final: Cristo la tiene.

Puntos Clave

Identidad Basada en la Gracia

Las buenas obras no nos hacen santos; fluyen de la identidad que Cristo ya nos ha dado gratuitamente.

Esperanza en el Dolor

El dolor y las dificultades son reales, pero temporales. Nuestro Pastor promete un día en que Dios mismo secará cada lágrima.

Viviendo como Santos Hoy

Seguros en el amor de Cristo, somos libres para servir a nuestro prójimo, extender misericordia y esperar el futuro con alegría.

> *"Vean qué clase de amor nos ha dado el Padre, para que seamos llamados hijos de Dios; y así somos."*
>
> — 1 JUAN 3:1

En el Santo Nombre de Jesús. Amén.
Pastor José R. Argueta