



LORD, KEEP US WATCHFUL  
FOR OUR TRIUMPH

*Saints Triumphant*

*NOVEMBER 15, 2020*

## *Growing Together in Faith*

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome! My name is Pastor Josh Olson and I want to thank you for joining us this morning for worship. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word. We pray that your time with us this morning is edifying and enjoyable. May God bless our worship together this day!

### FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

- **Restrooms** are located down the hallway opposite the entrance to classroom 1, on the right.
- **Ushers** are here to help. Please don't hesitate to ask them if you have any questions.
- **A Cry-Room** is available for parents with infants in the church office. A live audio feed of the service is available in the room.
- **Guest Register-** We ask that our guests sign the worship register on the pedestal near the front doors so that we might have record of who joined us and invite you to upcoming events. Thank you!

**CLOSE COMMUNION- VISITORS, PLEASE *SPEAK WITH PASTOR BEFORE COMMUNING.***

Through the Apostle Paul Jesus gives us specific instructions about this special Supper. He says, **“Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself” (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).** So that this Supper remains a blessing and not a harmful thing to those who partake of it – we feel a loving, God-given responsibility to instruct and train all who wish to receive this Supper prior to their participation. If you haven’t had the chance to receive instruction offered in this congregation or one of our sister congregations, we ask that you speak with the Pastor Olson before taking the Lord’s Supper. Pastor Olson is eager to meet with you. We thank you kindly. And we greatly look forward to celebrating the Lord’s Supper with you.

**PRAYER FOR BEFORE COMMUNION:**

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

**PRAYER FOR AFTER COMMUNION:**

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

## OPENING HYMN

*There Is a Higher Throne* | CWS 727

**1** There is a higher throne  
than all this world has known,  
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue  
will one day come.  
Before the Son we'll stand,  
made faultless through the Lamb;  
Believing hearts find promised grace;  
salvation comes.  
Hear heaven's voices sing;  
their thund'rous anthem rings.  
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies  
their praises rise.  
All glory, wisdom, pow'r,  
strength, thanks, and honor are  
to God our King who reigns on high  
forevermore.

**2** And there we'll find our home,  
our life before the throne.  
We'll honor him in perfect song  
where we belong.  
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye  
as thirst and hunger die.  
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd-King;  
we'll reign with him.  
Hear heaven's voices sing;  
their thund'rous anthem rings.  
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies  
their praises rise.  
All glory, wisdom, pow'r,  
strength, thanks, and honor are  
to God our King who reigns on high  
forevermore.

## INVOCATION

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## CONFESSION AND WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## *The Word*

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### FIRST READING

*Ezekiel 37:15-28*

<sup>15</sup> The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>16</sup> “Son of man, take a stick of wood and write on it, ‘Belonging to Judah and the Israelites associated with him.’ Then take another stick of wood, and write on it, ‘Ephraim’s stick, belonging to Joseph and all the house of Israel associated with him.’ <sup>17</sup> Join them together into one stick so that they will become one in your hand.

<sup>18</sup> “When your countrymen ask you, ‘Won’t you tell us what you mean by this?’ <sup>19</sup> say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim’s hand—and of the Israelite tribes associated with him, and join it to Judah’s stick, making them a single stick of wood, and they will become one in my hand.’ <sup>20</sup> Hold before their eyes the sticks you have written on <sup>21</sup> and say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. <sup>22</sup> I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. <sup>23</sup> They will no longer defile themselves with their idols and vile images or with any of their offenses, for I will save them from all their sinful backsliding, and I will cleanse them. They will be my people, and I will be their God.

<sup>24</sup> “ ‘My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. <sup>25</sup> They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children’s children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever. <sup>26</sup> I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers, and I will put my sanctuary

among them forever. <sup>27</sup> My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>28</sup> Then the nations will know that I the LORD make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever.' "

## SECOND READING

*Revelation 19:1-9*

After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting:

"Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,

<sup>2</sup> for true and just are his judgments.

He has condemned the great prostitute  
who corrupted the earth by her adulteries.

He has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

<sup>3</sup> And again they shouted:

"Hallelujah!

The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever."

<sup>4</sup> The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried:

"Amen, Hallelujah!"

<sup>5</sup> Then a voice came from the throne, saying:

"Praise our God,

all you his servants,

you who fear him,

both small and great!"

<sup>6</sup> Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

"Hallelujah!

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

<sup>7</sup> Let us rejoice and be glad

and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come,  
and his bride has made herself ready.

8 Fine linen, bright and clean,  
was given her to wear.”

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)

9 Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’ ” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”

### VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. They are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple.  
Alleluia.

### GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 25:1-13*

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. <sup>4</sup> The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

<sup>6</sup> “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

<sup>7</sup> “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

<sup>9</sup> “ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

<sup>10</sup> “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

<sup>11</sup> “Later the others also came. ‘Sir! Sir!’ they said. ‘Open the door for us!’

<sup>12</sup> “But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’

<sup>13</sup> “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

1 Jerusalem the golden, With milk and honey blest—  
The sight of it refreshes The weary and oppressed:  
I know not, oh, I know not What joys await us there,  
What radiancy of glory, What bliss beyond compare:  
To sing the hymn unending With all the martyr throng,  
Amidst the halls of Zion Resounding full with song.

2 Oh, sweet and blessed country, The home of God's elect!  
Oh, sweet and blessed country That eager hearts expect,  
Where they who with their leader Have conquered in the fight  
Forever and forever Are clad in robes of white.  
Jesus in mercy bring us To that dear land of rest  
Where sings the host of heaven Your glorious name to bless.

3 The Christ is ever with them; The daylight is serene.  
The pastures of the blessed Are ever rich and green.  
There is the throne of David; And there from care released,  
The shout of them that triumph, The song of them that feast.  
To God enthroned in glory The Church's voices blend,  
The Lamb forever blessed, The Light that knows no end.

SERMON

## **THE NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

*The members of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.*

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

### *The Sacrament*

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P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my  $\mp$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my  $\mp$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

## DISTRIBUTION

*At Shepherd of the Bay, we practice the biblical teaching of close communion. See page 3 of the bulletin for more information. Visitors are asked to speak with Pastor before communing*



**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.**



**Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.**



**He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with**



**shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!**

**P:** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

- P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C: Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

*For All the Saints* | CW 551:1-4

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

**2 You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
You, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight  
And in the darkness drear their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**3 Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold  
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old  
And win with them the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine,  
Yet all are one within your grand design. Alleluia! Alleluia!**