

FIRST LUTHERAN  
NOVEMBER 7  
2021



*we remember*



*All Saints Sunday*

Welcome to First Lutheran Church!  
An asterisk \* invites you to stand in body or in spirit.  
You are welcome to sing during worship if you are vaccinated!

## Gathering in God's Presence

**Prelude** — “Deep River” & “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

African American Spirituals

Carrie Stelter, cello

*Deep River. My home is over Jordan. Deep River, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.  
Oh, don't you want to go, to the Gospel feast; that Promised Land, where all is peace?*

*Swing low, sweet chariot coming for to carry me home.  
I looked over Jordan and what did I see, coming for to carry me home,  
A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home.*

### \*Call to Worship

**We remember...**

...teachers and storytellers  
who made God's stories come alive for us and

**We give thanks.**

**We remember...**

...choir members, instrumentalists, directors,  
organists, and all the musicians who sang and  
played your praises and

**We give thanks.**

**We remember...**

...preachers and lay leaders  
who led our worship through the years and

**We give thanks.**

**We remember...**

...parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins,  
siblings, friends who sat with us on Sundays  
and lived out their faith all week long and

**We give thanks.**

**We remember...**

...our church families – this one and others we have  
loved.

We remember all those who have been a part of  
this faith family and

**We give thanks.**

**We remember...**

...our ancestors in the faith  
whose courage enables us to be here today.

For our siblings in the faith  
whose names are remember only by God

**We give thanks.**

\*Gathering Hymn — no. 426

“Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

\*Welcome

## \*Confession and Forgiveness

Our lives are full of mistakes and errors – places where we follow self-generated idols instead of God. We are not alone in these mistakes – all of those who have come before us also were plagued with temptation and separation from God. Let us come before God, just as generations of believers have done, and pray for God’s forgiveness and grace.

Beloved God,  
**who was known to our mothers and fathers,  
and even to our spiritual forebears, have mercy on us.**  
**We do not always love as you would have us love.**  
**We do not always do as you would have us do.**  
**In our stubbornness,**  
**we turn from you when we should turn toward you.**  
**Hold us, dear One –**  
**comfort us when we mourn the passing of friends and family,**  
**and help us to know that they are rejoicing in your presence.**  
**We praise you for the grace you shower on us,**  
**constantly forgiving our errors,**  
**especially the ones that we don’t share with any but you.**  
**Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts.**

*A time of silence*

Friends, hear the good news! Jesus taught through his words and deeds that God has already forgiven us. I share with you the good news that you are forgiven. We and all who have come before us are rightly known as saints – the holy ones of God! Thanks be to God for our Lord’s mercy, grace, and love! Amen

**Musical Meditation** — “Steal Away”

African American Spiritual, Setting by Hal H. Hopson  
Lauren Russell, viola

*Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.  
Steal away, steal away home; I ain't got long to stay here.*

## Prayer of the Day

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Eternal God, hope of all who trust in you,  
in Christ you weep with those who mourn  
even as you cry out in triumph over the grave.  
Unbind us from sin, release us from captivity,  
and with Lazarus, raise us from death to life,  
so that we may join that great crowd of saints  
who forever sing praise to your holy name;  
through Christ, the resurrection and the life, **amen.**

# Hearing & Responding to Scripture

## A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures — Isaiah 25:6-9

6On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.  
7And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
8he will swallow up death forever.  
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the Lord has spoken.  
9It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

## Musical Meditation — "Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

Setting by Anne Krentz Organ  
Handbell Octet

*Jerusalem, my happy home, when shall I with you be?  
When shall my sorrows have an end? Your joys when shall I see?*

## A Reading from the Epistles — Revelation 21:1-6a

1I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,  
"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
4he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."  
5And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6aThen he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

\*Gospel — John 11:32-44

The Gospel of John, the 11th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

32When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” 33When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” 35Jesus began to weep. 36So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” 37But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

38Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” 40Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” 41So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” 43When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — “Unbound and Set Free”

Pastor Steve Kidder

\*Hymn — no. 950, from *All Creation Sings*

“Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In”

1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the  
 2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the  
 3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the  
 4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they  
 5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that

saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that  
 Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that  
 new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that  
 gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that  
 hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that

num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.  
 num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.  
 num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.  
 num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.  
 num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

**\*Affirmation of Faith — Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 Intercession**

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

Creating God, we praise you for abundant harvests and the goodness of creation. Create communities of care for your earth so that all land, water, and soil will be celebrated and cherished by future generations of saints. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of peace, we give you thanks for nations of peace that serve as a refuge for all whose homelands are afflicted with violence. Strengthen those who continue to work for peace and support all veterans who carry the scars of war. Grant wisdom to all who are newly-elected, that they may guide our communities and country with grace and humility. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, we give you thanks for health care workers who labor around the clock to answer cries for help. Bring wholeness to all who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, addiction, and all who long for healing in any way. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of justice, we praise you for the feeding ministries and for all meals that bring people together for nourishment and fellowship. Bless chefs, bakers, servers, dishwashers, communion assistants, food shelf volunteers, and meal ministry coordinators. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, we give you thanks for infants and young children. We remember Laylin Paige Kurth & Hazel Ada Marie Mason, those who have been baptized in the last year.

God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints of this congregation who have inspired, challenged, loved, and taught us. We remember those who have died in the past year:

Robert Peterson

Charles Hendrickson

Mort Eliason

Dorothy Eliason

Paul Baumgartner

Marie Benson

Eunice Amos

Barbara Ylinen

Mary Lee Denley

Tom Stenson

Bob Isenberg

Marion Peterson

Wipe away our tears and lead us by their example until we feast together on your holy mountain. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our protection and strength, remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray:

**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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Offering

*Music at the Offering*

“Give Me Jesus”

Traditional Spiritual, Setting by Lance Bastian  
Vocal Octet, Lauren Russell, viola; Sharon Malm, piano

Please leave an offering in the basket outside the sanctuary, mail a check to the office, or give online: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=283020>.

# Departing to Serve God’s World

## Announcements

\***Sending Hymn** — no. 808

“Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”

## \***Blessing**

For all the saints who went before us  
who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your fire,  
**we praise you, O God, and we remember.**

For all the saints who live beside us  
whose weaknesses and strengths are woven with our own,  
**we praise you, O God, and we remember.**

For all the saints who live beyond us  
who challenge us to change the world with them,  
**we praise you, O God. Amen, and we remember.**

## \***Dismissal**

Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\***Postlude** — “Wayfaring Stranger”

African American Spiritual, Setting by Stephen DeCesare  
Lauren Russel, viola; Carrie Stelter, cello

*I am a poor wayfaring stranger, while journeying through this world of woe,  
and there's no sickness, toil, nor danger, in that bright land, to which I go.*

*I'm going there to see my Savior, I'm going there, no more to roam,  
I'm only go, going over jordan, I'm only go, Going over home.*

## Acknowledgements

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“Litany for All Saints” written by Rev. Susannah DeBenedetto. Adapted. Posted on LiturgyLink. <https://www.liturgylink.net/2014/10/29/all-saints-litany/>  
“Confession and Assurance for All Saints” Rev. Lucus Keppel, Ancho Community & Corona United Presbyterian Churches, New Mexico. Adapted. Posted on LiturgyLink. <https://www.liturgylink.net/2013/11/11/awareness-and-reconciliation-for-all-saints-day/>  
“All Saints Day Prayer” from the PCUSA website. [https://www.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/prayers\\_for\\_all\\_saints\\_day.pdf](https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/prayers_for_all_saints_day.pdf)  
“Prayer” (Blessing) by Janet Morley. Posted on the RevGalBlogPal’s A Place for Prayer. [http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/2012/04/thursday-prayer\\_26.html](http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/2012/04/thursday-prayer_26.html)

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### Worship Assistants

Interim Pastor: Bill Nelsen  
Director of Music: Emily Bruflat  
Audio/Video: Leif Hammer  
Musicians: Carrie Stelter, Lauren Russell, Handbell Quartet, Vocal Octet

Readers: Mary Spear, Dan Polzin  
Ushers: Tom Thorkelson, John Nadeau

## Announcements

- Kathryn Christenson is requesting prayers for her daughter, Abigail, as she changes from oral chemo to IV chemotherapy.
- We pray for Renee, the sister of Becky Otterness; Renee’s house in Seattle recently burned down.
- We renew our prayers for Erika Schuldt who is recovering from a hospital stay.
- Altar Flowers are given today by Sharon and John Malm in memory of Evelyn Malm, who would have been 113 years old on November 9.
- Register online for the December 3 Friday Forum sponsored by the Social Justice Committee. Guest speaker will be from ISAIAH.

## Prayers

We pray for Mary Pieklo, mother of Bob & Rhoda Stenson’s daughter-in law.

We pray for Betty Thompson’s sister Nancy Maag who is recovering from surgery.

We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Gwen Weldon, Tom and Deb Johnson, Tom Michels, Abigail Christenson, Betty Gustafson, Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glen Stryker, and Urusla McRostie; and we pray for for all those families continuing to adjust to the loss of loved ones, including the families of Tom Stenson, Mary Lee Denley, Marion Peterson, and Bob Isenberg.