

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

All Saints' Day

November 2 & 5, 2023

A Time to Focus on Future Glory

Opening Hymn 880 vv. 1-6, "For All the Saints"

Order of Service..... Setting One, Page 154

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, you have knit your people together into one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who love you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING

Psalm of the Day (*On Insert*)..... Psalm 90D

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Page 161

Gospel Acclamation Verse: *They are before the throne of God */ and serve him day and night in his temple.*

GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day 690, "Blest Are They"

SERMON..... "Blessed Are Those Who Follow in Jesus' Footsteps" Matthew 5:1-12

Offering Hymn 729 v. 3, "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

Nicene Creed Pages 162-163

Communion Liturgy Page 165

Communion Hymn..... 673, "O Lord, We Praise You"

Closing Liturgy Page 170

Closing Hymn 880 vv. 7 & 8, "For All the Saints"

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

St. John's vision lets us see all the saints in heaven so that we might remember the future glory that waits for us.

After these things I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing in front of the throne and of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and with palm branches in their hands. They called out with a loud voice and said: Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb. All the angels stood around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures.

They fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen.

One of the elders spoke to me and said, "These people dressed in white robes, who are they and where did they come from?" And I answered him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me: These are the ones who are coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Because of this they are in front of the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never be hungry or thirsty ever again. The sun will never beat upon them, nor will any scorching heat, for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

In love God the Father adopted us as his children, making us heirs of future glory.

See the kind of love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are! The world does not know us, because it did not know him. Dear friends, we are children of God now, but what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he is revealed we will be like him, and we will see him as he really is. Everyone who has this hope purifies himself just as Jesus is pure.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

Sorrow, hardship, and persecution are temporary. Future glory and eternal blessings are coming, a gift from God to all his saints.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up onto a mountain. When he sat down, his disciples came to him. He opened his mouth and began to teach them. He said these things: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, because theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, because they will be comforted. Blessed are the gentle, because they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, because they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, because they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, because they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, because they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, because theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven. In fact, that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION: Because of the confessional nature of the Lord's Supper which is offered today, we invite forward those who are members of a WELS or ELS congregation. If you have questions about the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor.

HEAD USHERS THIS WEEK: Dean Ebert/Rob Stern; next week: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart.

HEAD USHERS please be reminded that as the inclement weather season is approaching that you are responsible for making sure the steps and walkways are shoveled and/or salted for worship services falling on your respective Sundays. We thank you, in advance, for your help with this.

ORGANISTS!! The **November** schedule is hanging on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please look at your calendars in the near future and sign up for the date(s) you are willing to play for us. Thank you!

CALL MEETING: On **SUNDAY (TODAY)** immediately following the worship service we will be having a Call Meeting for the purpose of calling a teacher for Gr. 4K/5K beginning with the 2024-2025 school year due to the retirement of Mrs. Rebecca Schulz at the end of the current school year. All voters are encouraged to attend!

QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: The following actions took place at last Sunday's Quarterly Voters' Meeting: Membership action included: **Received by Profession of Faith:** Kendra Braun; **Released:** Kevin & Sherrié Pavelka; Logan Wallendal; Dustin Wallendal; Hailey (Wallendal) Weisensel; and Jesse Moldenhauer.

In other business, 1) It was m/s/p to designate this year's **Thanksgiving Day offerings** as follows: **100%** to the **Church Refurbishment Fund**; 2) It was m/s/p to cancel the **Thursday** evening worship service on **December 28, 2023**.

PASTOR BOEHRINGER FREE-WILL OFFERING: **TODAY** we are taking a free-will offering to help offset some of the medical and/or out-of-pocket expenses being incurred by the family of Pastor Luke Boehringer of St. Peter's, Fond du Lac. Pastor Boehringer was recently diagnosed with stomach cancer. Please keep Pastor Boehringer and his family in your prayers as they navigate through this difficult time.

A BIG "THANK YOU" to everyone who helped with making the pizzas from our recent PTL sale! This massive undertaking would not have been possible without all your help! The sale was a great success for our school!

MOVIE NIGHT: Everyone is invited to attend St. Matthew's movie night on **Friday, November 10**, beginning at **6:30 PM** in the **gym**. The movie selection for the evening is **Camp Cool Kids**. *At their summer camp games, Spence and his big brother, Zach, find themselves on opposing teams. It's the dweebs against the bullies. Can Spence make new friends, overcome his fears, stand up to the bullies, and win a trophy in the process?* Popcorn and beverages will be provided, but please feel free to bring any other refreshments you may like for the movie. Please also bring along comfortable seating for you and your family. You are welcome to invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors to attend as well!

INVITATION FROM BETHANY, HUSTISFORD: The women of our congregation are invited to an **Advent By Candlelight** event at **Bethany Lutheran Church, Hustisford**. It is scheduled for **Sunday, November 19**. Doors will open at **1:00 PM** for fellowship with the program starting at **2:00 PM**. The program is entitled, "A Branch Is Growing," and will be presented by the **Branches Band** (Andy & Rachel Braun). Reservations are appreciated by: **November 15**. Please call **Lois Braemer (920-349-3838)** to reserve your spot.

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 18; Sunday: 103

Offerings: \$5,499.70

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$7,239.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$100.00; Christian Aid & Relief: \$10.00



We invite you to support this ministry through financial offerings out of thanksgiving for the Gospel you have received here. Offerings may be placed in the plates located on the tables at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically.

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

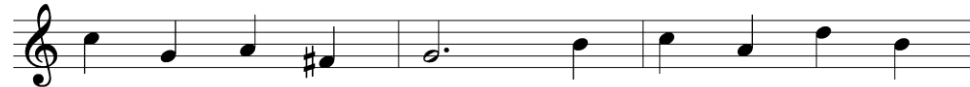
Sunday:	Communion Worship Service..... 9:00 AM <i>CALL MEETING – Immediately following service</i> NO Adult & Teen Bible Class Sunday School..... 10:15 AM
Tuesday:	School Board Meeting..... 7:00 PM
Wednesday:	Nominating Committee Meeting..... 6:15 PM Church Council 7:00 PM
Thursday:	Worship Service..... 7:00 PM Adult Choir 8:00 PM
Friday:	<i>Family Movie Night (in St. Matthew's Gym) 6:30 PM</i>
Sunday:	Worship Service..... 9:00 AM Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School 10:15 AM

90D O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Psalm 90D sts. 1-3



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is your
earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
you are God, to end - less years the same.

Text: Isaac Watts, abr., alt.
Tune: William Croft
Text and tune: Public domain