# Grow ... Go ... Gather November 7, 2021



# ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

2040 Oakwood Avenue N.E. Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

# Pastor Glenn E. Schaeffer

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# All Saints' Day (Observed) The Order of Service (DS 4)

# The Preservice Music, The Call to Worship and Welcome

**The Opening Hymn:** LSB 670 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

- Ye watchers and ye holy ones, Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain: "Alleluia!" Cry out, dominions, princedoms, pow'rs, Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs: "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"
- O higher than the cherubim, More glorious than the seraphim, Lead their praises: "Alleluia!" Thou bearer of the\_eternal Word, Most gracious, magnify the Lord: "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"
- 3 Respond, ye souls in endless rest, Ye patriarchs and prophets blest: "Alleluia, alleluia!" Ye holy Twelve, ye martyrs strong, All saints triumphant, raise the song: "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"
- O friends, in gladness let us sing,
   Supernal anthems echoing:
   "Alleluia, alleluia!"
   To God the Father, God the Son,

# And God the Spirit, Three in One: "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

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#### Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### **Exhortation**

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(Kneel as you are able.)

- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

(Stand)

#### The Service of the Word

#### The Introit

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

P: In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

C: In your righteousness deliver me.

P: For you are my rock and my fortress;

C: And for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

P: Into your hand I commit my spirit;

C: You have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God. ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

# C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

**A Hymn of Praise**: LSB 680 "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise"

- 1 Thine the amen Thine the praise
  Alleluias angels raise
  Thine the everlasting head
  Thine the breaking of the bread
  Thine the glory Thine the story
  Thine the harvest then the cup
  Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.
- Thine the life eternally
   Thine the promise let there be
   Thine the vision Thine the tree
   All the earth on bended knee
   Gone the nailing gone the railing
   Gone the pleading gone the cry
   Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.
- Thine the truly Thine the yes
  Thine the table we the guest
  Thine the mercy all from Thee
  Thine the glory yet to be
  Then the ringing and the singing
  Then the end of all the war
  Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.
- 4 Thine the kingdom Thine the prize
  Thine the wonder full surprise
  Thine the banquet then the praise
  Then the justice of Thy ways

Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

5 Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

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# The Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

C: Amen.

The First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

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, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God

who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 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, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" 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. "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. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 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 eves."

# The Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

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

# The Alleluia Verse (Spoken)

All: Alleluia. Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us [look] to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Alleluia.

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"**Blessed** are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"**Blessed** are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

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

"**Blessed** are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

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

"**Blessed** are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

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

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

# The Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life (+) everlasting. Amen.

(Remain standing)

# The Hymn of the Day: LSB 677, "For All the Saints"

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,

Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;

Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;

Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 Oh, may Thy 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 in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
 Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
 And hearts are brave again, and arms are

strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 The golden evening brightens in the west; Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest; Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:

The saints triumphant rise in bright array;

The King of Glory passes on His way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

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#### The Sermon

**The Offering** (During the Offering we will sing, LSB 671, "Sing with All the Saints in Glory")

- Sing with all the saints in glory,
   Sing the resurrection song!
   Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,
   To the former days belong.
   All around the clouds are breaking;
   Soon the storms of time shall cease;
   In God's likeness we awaken,
   Knowing everlasting peace.
- Oh, what glory, far exceeding
   All that eye has yet perceived!
   Holiest hearts for ages pleading
   Never that full joy conceived.
   God has promised, Christ prepares it;
   There on high our welcome waits.
   Ev'ry humble spirit shares it,
   Christ has passed the eternal gates.
- 3 Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices: Jesus lives who once was dead. Shout with joy, O deathless voices!

Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders
Crowd on faith; what joy unknown,
When, amid earth's closing thunders,
Saints shall stand before the throne!

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# The Remembrance of the Faithful Departed

P: You, Christ, are the King of glory.

C: The eternal Son of the Father.

P: You overcame the sting of death.

C: And opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

P: You are seated at Your Father's right hand in glory.

C: We believe that You will come to be our Judge. Come, then, Lord, and deliver Your people, bought with the price of Your own blood; and bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting.

P: Hear us, O merciful Father, as we remember in love:

#### +Sandy Harper+

P: Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.

C: In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

P: And if I go and prepare a place for you,

C: I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

#### +Donald Bidelman+

P: I am the resurrection and the life;

C: He who believes in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live!

### +Sandy Ryke+

P: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law,

C: But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

# +Shirley Genther+

P: My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

C: And I give them eternal life.

(Pause to remember departed saints for whom you are thankful.)

P: O Lord, we place these dear departed sisters and brother in Christ into Your hands; sinners by their own sin, but saints cleansed of that stain by the blood of the Good Shepherd. Enfold them in the arms of Your mercy, in the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and in the glorious company of the saints in light.

C: Amen.

The Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

A Hymn: LSB 676, "Behold A Host, Arrayed in White"

Behold a host, arrayed in white, 1 Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright! With palms they stand; Who is this band Before the throne of light? These are the saints of glorious fame, Who from the great affliction came And in the flood Of Jesus' blood Are cleansed from guilt and shame. They now serve God both day and night; They sing their songs in endless light. Their anthems ring As they all sing With angels shining bright.

2 Despised and scorned, they sojourned here: But now, how glorious they appear! Those martyrs stand, A priestly band, God's throne forever near. On earth they wept through bitter years; Now God has wiped away their tears, Transformed their strife To heav'nly life, And freed them from their fears. They now enjoy the Sabbath rest, The heav'nly banquet of the blest; The Lamb, their Lord, At festive board Himself is host and quest.

3 O blessèd saints in bright array Now safely home in endless day, Extol the Lord, Who with His Word Sustained you on the way. The steep and narrow path you trod; You toiled and sowed the Word abroad; Rejoice and bring Your fruits and sing Before the throne of God. The myriad angels raise their song; O saints, sing with that happy throng! Lift up one voice; Let heav'n rejoice In our Redeemer's song!

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# Announcements/Blessing for Online Worshippers

#### The Service of the Sacrament

#### The Preface

Preface LSB 208

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on

us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### The Sanctus

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

#### The Words of Institution

#### The Pax

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

## The Agnus Dei

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,

### Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

**The Distribution:** (You are invited to sing: LSB 672, "Jerusalem the Golden" and LSB 673, "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" and LSB 679, "Oh, How Blest Are They")

#### 672 Jerusalem the Golden

- 1 Jerusalem the golden, With milk and honey blest— The promise of salvation, The place of peace and rest— We know not, oh, we know not What joys await us there: The radiancy of glory, The bliss beyond compare!
- Within those walls of Zion Sounds forth the joyful song, As saints join with the angels And all the martyr throng. The Prince is ever with them; The daylight is serene; The city of the blessèd Shines bright with glorious sheen.
- 3 Around the throne of David, The saints, from care released, Raise loud their songs of triumph To celebrate the feast. They sing to Christ their leader, Who conquered in the fight,

Who won for them forever Their gleaming robes of white.

O sweet and blessèd country,
 The home of God's elect!
 O sweet and blessèd country
 That faithful hearts expect!
 In mercy, Jesus, bring us
 To that eternal rest
 With You and God the Father
 And Spirit, ever blest.

Text: Public domain

# 673 Jerusalem, My Happy Home

- 1 Jerusalem, my happy home, When shall I come to thee? When shall my sorrows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
- O happy harbor of the saints,
   O sweet and pleasant soil!
   In thee no sorrow may be found,
   No grief, no care, no toil.
- 5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there Around my Savior stand; And soon my friends in Christ below Will join the glorious band.
- 6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare For that bright home of love That I may see Thee and adore With all Thy saints above.

Text: Public domain

### 679 Oh, How Blest Are They

- Oh, how blest are they whose toils are ended,
  Who through death have unto God ascended!
  They have arisen
  From the cares which keep us still in prison.
- We are still as in a dungeon living, Still oppressed with sorrow and misgiving; Our undertakings Are but toils and troubles and heartbreakings.
- 3 They meanwhile are in their chambers sleeping, Quiet and set free from all their weeping; No cross or sadness There can hinder their untroubled gladness.
- 4 Christ has wiped away their tears forever; They have that for which we still endeavor. By them are chanted Songs that ne'er to mortal ears were granted.
- 5 Come, O Christ, and loose the chains that bind us; Lead us forth and cast this world behind us. With You, the Anointed, Finds the soul its joy and rest appointed.

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# **The Post-Communion Prayer**

#### The Benedicamus and Benediction

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.
- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
  The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
  The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace.
- C Amen.

**The Closing Hymn**: LSB 678, "We Sing for All the Unsung Saints"

- We sing for all the unsung saints, That countless, nameless throng, Who kept the faith and passed it on With hope steadfast and strong Through all the daily griefs and joys No chronicles record, Forgetful of their lack of fame, But mindful of their Lord.
- 2 Though uninscribed with date or place, With title, rank, or name, As living stones their stories join To form a hallowed frame Around the myst'ry in their midst: The Lamb once sacrificed, The Love that wrested life from death, The wounded, risen Christ.
- 3 So we take heart from unknown saints Bereft of earthly fame, Those faithful ones who have received A more enduring name: For they reveal true blessing comes When we our pride efface

# And offer back our lives to be The vessels of God's grace.

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Events of the Week: November 8-14**

**TODAY:** 6:00 p.m. LWML Meeting

Monday: 6:30 p.m. Communion service

7:30 p.m. Bylaw Committee meeting

Tuesday: 7:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study

**Wed:** Noon: Devotional Boost w/ Pastor on

Facebook

10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Darrell

Thursday: 6:00 p.m. Bells

7:15 p.m. Adult Choir

**Saturday: 8:30 a.m.** Men's Breakfast/Bible study **Sunday: 8:00 a.m.** Gizmo Devotions on FB

9:30 a.m. WORSHIP

11:00 a.m. Bible Study in-person

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: October 31, 2021

General Fund \$3,706.00 Study Guide 52.00 Plate Collections 925.00

Total: **\$4,683.00** 



All Women are invited to the LWML meeting TONIGHT. Sandra Schaeffer will share her second address around the theme "Christ Lives in Me!" This address was recorded as a banquet address for the Lutheran Women's

Missionary League Canada convention that was held this past July. In the address, Sandra weaves together personal stories with the promises of God. Come to be encouraged! Come to get to know Sandra better! Come to fellowship with your sisters in Christ! The presentation is a 40-minute video recording which will be shown in the sanctuary beginning at 6:00 pm. We hope you will join us!

**Thank you to all** who served the supper at NECM this past Tuesday. Watch for future opportunities to serve our Lord.

Men's Breakfast/Bible study: Saturday, November 13, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. All men are welcome!

**Voter's Meeting:** Sunday, December 5 following the service. Among several things we will be discussing will be St. James' 2022 Mission and Ministry Budget. This meeting will NOT be made available virtually.

**Thanksgiving Eve Service:** We will be gathering on Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for our Thanksgiving Eve worship service. Please join us as you thank God for His bountiful gifts.

**Wreath Sale**: The ISJ Academy Wreath Sale will begin **October 29** and run **through November 11**. The students are selling 22" decorated and undecorated wreaths, 21" door swag and wreath hangers. Be on the lookout for ISJ students with their order forms at church or call the school office (363-0505) to place an order.

# **Assisting in our Divine Service today:**

**Lector:** Cindy McAuliffe

**Deacons:** Bryan Ensing and Craig Popma **Ushers:** Jim and Nancy, Grace and Orlin **Altar Guild:** Sherry and Jennie Schmidt **Media:** John Weiss and Nate Urbanski

**Organist:** Beth McKay

# **New and improved Dorcas Society!**

• A new direction for our beloved Dorcas Society was approved. We are inviting all women of our congregation to gather on the second Thursday of each month. No business meetings, no membership commitment, no hostesses or dues. We gather to socialize, develop new friendships, strengthen old friendships, be encouraged and blessed through devotions. Activities could include gathering for lunch, game afternoon at church, or watching a favorite movie. Activities will be planned on a month-by-month basis by those who attend. Join us when you have time and are interested in the activity for the month.

Thursday, November 11, we gather for lunch at Mr. Burger on Northland Dr at 1 pm. Contact Rachel Palmer with questions, 616-883-6949.