



**St. James Lutheran Church  
2040 Oakwood Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505**

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**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer  
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**All Saints' Day (Observed)**  
**November 5, 2023**

**The Preservice Music, the Call to Worship, and Welcome**

**Hymn of Invocation:** 670 "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"

**Invocation, Confession and Absolution**

**(p. 203)**

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

**The Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**The First Reading:**

Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup>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, <sup>10</sup>and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>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, <sup>12</sup>saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>"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. <sup>16</sup>They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup>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."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**The Second Reading:**

1 John 3:1-3

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

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**The Gospel Reading:**

Matthew 5:1-12

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

<sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Hymn of the Day:** 644 “The Church's One Foundation” (Congregation sings 1, 3, 5; Choir sings 2 and 4)

**The Sermon** (During the sermon, children who are ages 3 through grade 2 are invited to participate in KIDZ Time. Children can make their way to the back of the sanctuary where the KIDZ Time teacher is waiting. The children will return to the service following the sermon.)

**The Offering** (The Bell Choir will bless us with an arrangement of “For All the Saints”)

### **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 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. Amen.

**A Song:** “Scars in Heaven” (Casting Crowns)

#### **Verse 1**

If I had only known  
The last time would be the last time  
I would have put off all the things I had to do  
I would have stayed a little longer  
Held on a little tighter  
Now what I'd give for one more day with you

#### **Verse 2**

'Cause there's a wound here in my heart  
Where something's missing  
And they tell me that it's going to heal with time  
But I know you're in a place  
Where all your wounds have been erased

And knowing yours are healed is healing mine

### **Chorus**

*The only scars in heaven  
They won't belong to me and you  
There'll be no such thing as broken  
And all the old will be made new  
And the thought that makes me smile now  
Even as the tears fall down  
Is that the only scars in heaven  
Are on the Hands that hold you now*

### **Verse 3**

I know the road you walked was anything but easy  
You picked up your share of scars along the way  
But now you're standing in the sun  
You've fought your fight and your race is run  
The pain is all a million miles away

### **Bridge**

Hallelujah Hallelujah  
Hallelujah for the Hands that hold you now

### **Verse 4**

There's not a day goes by that I don't see you  
You live on in all the better parts of me  
Until I'm standing with you in the sun  
I'll fight this fight and this race I'll run  
Until I finally see what you can see

Mark Hall, Matthew West  
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**[P]**: Hear us, O merciful Father, as we remember in love.

**+Bee Ruble+**

**[P]**: Received into the Church Triumphant on February 9.

**P**: You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all.

**C**: **And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.** (2 Corinthians 3:2-3)

**+Arthur Nacke+**

**P**: Received into the Church Triumphant on March 1.

**P**: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

**C**: **that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.** (Psalm 27:4)

**+Yvonne (Vonnie) Felix+**

**P**: Received into the Church Triumphant on September 20.

**P**: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

**C**: **for his steadfast love endures forever!**

**P**: This is the day that the LORD has made;

**C**: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.** (Psalm 1, 24)

**+Donna Nacke+**

**P**: Received into the Church Triumphant on October 5

**P**: Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!

**C**: **For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.**

**P**: But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me."

**C:** “Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb?”

**P:** Even these may forget,

**C:** Yet I will not forget you.

**P:** Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;

**C:** Your walls are continually before me. (Isaiah 49:13-16)

*(We pause in silence to remember the departed saints who rest in the sleep of death awaiting the resurrection of their body at Christ's Return.)*

**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 eternal light.

**C:** Amen.

**P:** We confess the Christian Faith which our beloved departed sisters and brother were baptized in and which they confessed while they lived on earth.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**Hymn:** 676 “Behold a Host, Arrayed in White”

### **Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** LSB 671, “Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

### **Announcements & Blessing to Online Worshipers**

### **The Service of the Sacrament**

#### **The Distribution**

**A Song:** This is Love (Tribe & Tongue, sung by the Worship Team)

#### **Verse 1**

I cast my mind to Calvary  
Where Jesus bled and died for me  
I see His wounds His hands His feet  
My Saviour on that cursed tree

## **Verse 2**

His body bound and drenched in tears  
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb  
The entrance sealed by heavy stone  
Messiah still and all alone

## **Chorus**

O praise the Name of the Lord our God  
O praise His Name forevermore  
For endless days we will sing Your praise  
Oh Lord oh Lord our God

## **Verse 3**

Then on the third at break of dawn  
The Son of heaven rose again  
O trampled death where is your sting  
The angels roar for Christ the King

## **Verse 4**

He shall return in robes of white  
The blazing sun shall pierce the night  
And I will rise among the saints  
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

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**Distribution Hymn: 678 “We Sing for All the Unsung Saints”**

## **Post-Communion Collect**

## **Benedicamus**

## **Benediction**

**Hymn to Depart: 677 “For All the Saints”**

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## This Week at St. James

Today (11/5) .....	Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM <b>Communion Service (Mites Sunday) – 9:30 AM</b> Bible Study – 11:00 AM LWML Meeting – 6:00 PM
Monday (11/6) .....	<b>Communion Service</b> – 6:30 PM
Wednesday (11/8) .....	Darrell Bible Study – 10:00 AM
Thursday (11/9) .....	Dorcus Meeting -1:00 PM Adult Bells – 6:00 PM Adult Choir – 7:15 PM
Saturday (11/11) .....	Men’s Breakfast and Bible Study – 8:30 AM
Today (11/12) .....	Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM <b>Worship Service - 9:30 AM</b> Bible Study – 11:00 AM F.I.F Meeting -11:00 AM

## Looking Ahead

### Serving Today (11/5)

Officiant .....	Pastor Glenn Schaeffer
Lector.....	Charles Kirt
Organist.....	Beth McKay
Deacon(s) .....	Bryan Ensing / Jerry Talen
Ushers.....	Sherry Schmidt
Video/Sound/Recording.....	Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss
November Altar Guild.....	Butler Family
KidzTime .....	Sandra Schaeffer

### Serving Next Sunday (11/12)

Lector.....	Cindy McAuliffe
Organist.....	Beth McKay
Deacon(s) .....	Dave Hood
Ushers.....	Dale & Grace Rosema
Video/Sound/Recording.....	Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss
November Altar Guild.....	Butler Family

## Financial Discipleship: October 29 & 30, 2023

General Fund	\$2,110.00
<i>Needed each week for budget \$5,769.00 (-\$3,629.00)</i>	
<u>Tessaro Ministry (Nigeria Mission)</u>	<u>\$30.00</u>
<b>TOTAL Contributions</b>	<b>\$2,140.00</b>

### Announcements

**Sign-ups:** The Lector and Usher sign-ups are on the table outside the church office in the lobby. Please prayerfully consider serving the church in this way. We are always in need of volunteers.

**Dorcas Ladies:** The November Dorcas meeting will include a presentation about Online Giving by congregation treasurer, Jim Spears. Learn about this opportunity to share your gifts via this platform. If you already use this, please come and share your experience. This will be an opportunity to learn about this and ask questions, especially if you are thinking about giving in this way. Date is Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm in the Gathering Room.

**Focus Group for ISJ:** ISJ Academy is conducting a focus group on November 14th at 5:00 p.m. in the gathering room. We invite anyone to come out and join in a discussion about ISJ. If you are a parent of a current student or a relative of a former student (or former student), we want to hear from you! If you are someone who is interested and committed to the ministry of ISJ Academy, we want to hear from you. Light refreshments will be provided. Please use the QR code to RSVP.



**2023 Trunks of Treats recap:** Last Saturday 20 cars and 30 participants welcomed 250 children and 180 adults on a sunny autumn afternoon with candy and lots of smiles! Thanks to Thrivent's Action Team grant we offered and distributed @250 take-home crafts and passed out 100 adult tracts, as well as 200 children's tracts! Friends in Faith once again funded, and served, donuts and cider also! These are just a few of God's many blessings at St. James Lutheran Church. THANKS TO ALL! And God willing, October 2024 will be the 10th year of Trunks of Treats, so start planning!!

## A Statement on Holy Communion

**We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper** as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, "*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 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual who comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

**NOTE:** We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcoholic grape juice. Just let the Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.