All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Introduction to the day

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

At this time, we will remember and honor those who have died and now at rest with our Lord for the past year. As I call out the name of those who have died, I invite family members to come forward and light a candle on their behalf.

Let us remember:

Valeda Bertha Ziebarth – October 30, 2025
Eldon Adolph Ziebarth – November 5, 2025
Betty Beatrice Weiland – November 29, 2025
August Herbert Reinert – December 5, 2025
Barbara Anne Ferguson – January 31, 2026
Delmer Elmer Byers – January 26, 2026
Randolph Mervin Schroeder – February 7, 2026
Laura Elaine Scott-Thomas – March 3, 2026
Karen Grace O'Day – March 22, 2026
Jack Buder – April 23, 2026
Janet Lois McIntyre – May 2, 2026
Keith Andrew Weckwerth – May 17, 2026
Caroline Evelyn Louise Schroeder – July 16, 2026
Douglas James Sell – September 27, 2026

Jane Ann Margaret Hunt – January 20, 2026
Maureen Meta Hoffman – February 28, 2026
Maureen Ernestine Ott – March 26, 2026

May the light of their memory continue to shine in our lives.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22
Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD; for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. *(Ps. 34:9)*

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3
A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12
In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

GOSPEL MESSAGE - ALL SAINTS DAY - The Church Triumphant

Today the church remembers those who are now in the realm of God, at rest from their earthly labors. Their baptism is complete, and they feast eternally at Jesus' welcome table.

As we speak or hear the names of deceased loved ones today, let us give thanks for the ways in which they shared the gospel with us. None of us would be following Jesus now without a faithful saint or two who told us their favorite Bible passages and stories, shared their favorite hymns with us, and exemplified faithful witness and service. Who was most instrumental in your faith development? Thank them today or, if they have died, offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their enduring legacy of faith.

Jesus prepares a place of inexpressible joy for us. Only good things await beyond the door we call death. Abundant blessings are in store for those who once were poor in spirit, mourning, or meek; for those who longed for justice and righteousness; and for the peacemakers and pure of heart. These saints are wrapped in the love of God for all eternity. They no longer experience hunger, thirst, tears, pain, suffering, or sorrow. The former things have passed away. All things have been made new!

While here we grieve the death of our beloved ones, we also take heart, knowing that one day we will join the church triumphant and unite our voices with the faithful of every time and place. Alleluia, thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Fill your church with mercy and humility as we proclaim the gospel in our worship and witness in the world. Renew and inspire all who preach and teach among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restore all lands suffering from ecological degradation. Protect soils and waterways. Point us toward innovative ways of living in harmony and joy with creation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Unite the nations in their actions toward justice and peace. Raise up leaders who listen deeply for the needs of their communities, and surround the election process with wisdom and discernment. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring comfort and care to all who are in need, especially all who mourn this day. Sustain any who are weary, experiencing loneliness, or struggling with chronic illness especially Chris Burchat, Natasha Gagnon-Burchat, Claude Jeannotte, Glenda Panke, Joanne Robinson, Bernadette Schueneman, Heather Schruder, Linda Schruder, Harold Warlich, Roy Zadow, and those in long term care facilities and senior residences. In this moment of silence, we name out loud or in the quiet of our hearts, those who need your healing touch. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture programs and communities that support elders and those who are homebound. Bless caregivers, nurses, chaplains, social workers, and hospice staff. Guide this congregation's ministry with seniors and their families. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With grateful hearts we remember all who have died and now rest from their labors Fill us with songs of praise until we too are gathered at your side. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

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Announcements:

Sunday, November 1st- All Saints Sunday
10:30 AM – Grace – Holy Communion
Our Helpers: Greeter: Janice Nagora
Reader: Donna Freitag; Head Usher: Barry Nagora
Elevator Operator: Ed Byers; Bell Ringer: Sheldon Tiegs
Communion Assistants: Donna Freitag and Stacey Lance
Altar Guild: Margaret Felhaber and
Angie & Marc Mercier

Monday, November 2nd
9: 00 AM to 3:00 PM - Grace Quilters
4:00 PM – Confirmation Class

Tuesday, November 3rd
10:00 AM – Bible Discussion Group
Today, we are studying Matthew 25:1-13
1:30 PM – Ladies Aid

Wednesday, November 4th
7:00 PM – Community Choir

Thursday, November 5th
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM – ToyBus
10:00 AM – Grace Choir

Sunday November 8th - Pentecost 24
10:30 AM – Grace – SOW
Our helpers: Greeter: Janice Nagora
Reader: John Yakabuski; Head Usher: Barry Nagora
Elevator Operator: Ed Byers; Bell Ringer: Sheldon Tiegs
Following worship – Coffee Time in the Fellowship Hall