GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

918 Garfield Avenue, Albert Lea, Minnesota
www.gracealbertlea.org • Facebook.com/GraceAlbertLea

All Saints Sunday **November 1, 2026**

**Denotes to stand if able.*

Prelude: I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ ..... **BWV 639**
J.S. Bach, arr. Ferruccio Busoni

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn:** For All the Saints (verses 1,2,3, & 7) ..... **ELW 422**

*Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
A: Amen.
L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Holy God,
A: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.
We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.
We trust the voice of our shame and fear,
which keeps us from entering fully
into relationship with you and others.
We are not awake to the coming of your reign.
Rouse us and rescue us,
that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.
L: Inherit the riches of God's grace.
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.
A: Amen.

*Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
A: And also with you

*Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray. Almighty God,
A: 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

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all
tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with
palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"
11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they
fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing,
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they
come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who
have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the
Lamb.
15 For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,
17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L: The word of the Lord
A: Thanks be to God

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

L: 1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
A: 2 My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.
L: 3 O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together.
A: 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.
L: 5 Look to him, and be radiant,
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
A: 6 This poor soul cried and was heard by the Lord
and was saved from every trouble.
L: 7 The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him and delivers them.
A: 8 O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.
L: 9 O fear the Lord, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.
A: 10 The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.
L: 22 The Lord redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is
what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we
are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this:
when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. 3 And all who have this
hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L: The word of the Lord
A: Thanks be to God

***Gospel Acclamation**



L: The Gospel according to Matthew.
A: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples
came to him. 2 And he began to speak and taught them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.
11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil
against you falsely on my account.
12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted
the prophets who were before you.

L: The gospel of the Lord!
A: Praise to you, O Christ!

Children's Message: Deacon Jessie Camp

Sermon: Pastor Shane Koepke

***Hymn of the Day:** Blest Are They..... **ELW 728**

*Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends with the words:

L: God, in your mercy,
A: hear our prayer.

Remembering of the Saints

L: We remember the great ancestors of our faith,
From Abraham and Sarah, to Paul and Phoebe:
A: Ancestors of the faith, we remember you.

L: We remember the prophets and priests,
The ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God:
A: Teachers of the faith, we remember you.

L: We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles,
Those who have gone before us in our lifetime:
A: Family of our faith, we remember you.

L: We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren,
Brothers and sisters, husbands and wives and parents
Whose lives ended too soon:
A: Those close in our heart, we remember you.

L: We lift up to You, O God,
The names of those we have lost in this past year from our lives,
Knowing that they are with Your heart forever.
As we read these names, a tone will follow their name as a reminder of the music they place in our lives.

Muriel Hoeg, Truman Throndl, Thayne Nordland, Melissa Cichon, Sue Barber, Duane Odson, Raymond Pedersen, Ron Holtan, and Marlene Vogelsang

L: We celebrate the lives of those we have named, O God,
And lift up many more names in our hearts.

We also lift up the names of those who have been baptized in our midst in the last year. We celebrate their lives and will follow the reading of their names with a tone, celebrating the music their lives add to the story of God's creation.

Wallace Wacholz, Maeve Kelly, Quinn Everett

L: Family of God, we remember you, and we honor you.
We know you are with us in the spirit of worship,
And you will not be forgotten.

We give thanks, O God,
A: For all the Saints who you rest in your care through death and for the joy brought to us in the newly baptized. Give us courage to carry the story of you forward with justice and love for all God's creation, now and forever.
Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
A: And also with you.

Offering

Song: A Song Without Words, Op. 30, No. 3 ..... **Felix Mendelssohn**

***Offertory Song:** Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring (verse 1) ..... **ELW 691**

Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring
to place upon your table.
We do not worship as we ought
but only as we're able.

***Offering Prayer**

L: Let us pray. Eternal God,

A: our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Holy Communion**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

L: The Lord be with you.
A: And also with you.
L: Lift up your hearts.
A: We lift them to the Lord.
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Words of Institution

*Reflection at the Table

L: The Empire wanted them frightened, divided, and alone.
A: Christ wanted them together at the table.
L: How many fish had they caught? How many weddings had they attended? How many loaves had they multiplied?
A: How many meals had they shared, just like this one?
L: At this table, Christ continues to gather us.
When we come to this meal, we remember. More than that, we are re-membered – joined again to Christ and to one another as the Body of Christ.
A: Every time we practice community and seek connection, we re-member the body of Christ.
L: The promise given in bread and wine is proximate, as near as my blood to yours. And this promise is universal, for everyone and without condition.
A: Forgiveness is uniquely for you and for everyone else, too.
L: It's just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine. Yet in these simple gifts, Christ is fully present, gathering us in and giving us what we need to live.
A: Christ wants us together at the table.
L: Come to remember and be re-membered.
A: Many voices raised to One God, the Living Voice of Creation.

From Living Voice of Creation. Nourishing Vocation Project, Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

***Lord's Prayer**

A: 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.

Distribution

As you come to receive communion you are invited to light a candle in thankfulness.

Hymns: Now We Join in Celebration ..... **ELW 462**
Shall We Gather at the River ..... **ELW 423**
I Am the Bread of Life ..... **ELW 485**

Post-Communion Blessing

***Prayer after Communion**

L: Let us pray. Holy God,
A: we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

***Blessing**

L: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.
A: Amen.

***Sending Hymn:** Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones ..... **ELW 424**

***Sending**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Sonata in C major, K. 159 ..... **Domenico Scarlatti**

THANK YOU for joining in worship at Grace Lutheran!

Welcome to all members and visitors! May God bless this time of worship with joy and peace. If you're seeking a church home, we invite you to join the Grace family—please speak with the pastor or deacon for more information.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

WORSHIP LEADERS: Pastor Shane Koepke and Deacon Jessie Camp
MUSIC: Aaron Bartz
SCRIPTURE READER: Steve Thompson
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Lowell & Barb Peterson
COMMUNION BREAD & WINE: Given in memory of Mary Lou Jacobson by the Jacobson family.