



**St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church
November 1, 2020
All Saints Day
Communion**

**Worship every Sunday
10:45 AM**

Welcome

We welcome all visitors who come to worship with us today. We are delighted that you have come to share in the prayer and praise of our Lord and invite you to return and add your voice to ours in holy celebration. If you have a special need or prayer write it on the prayer card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Before you leave us today, we ask that you please sign our guest book.

**Pastor: REVS. SCOTT & CAROL CUSTEAD
Church Organist/Choir Director: PATRICIA McCONNELL
Administrative Assistant: Tim Surkovich**

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St. James Mission Statement: To make disciples of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament by the Holy Spirit.

Announcements: If you cannot read the hymns, you can turn to the hymn in the red ELW hymnal in the pew racks.

Prelude: The Souls of the Righteous T.T. Noble
(*We take this time to silently prepare our hearts and minds for worship*)

PLEASE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

An extended silence may be kept.

Merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We Gather

Shall We Gather at the River

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899
Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

*GREETING:

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE Spoken:

In peace, let us pray to the Lord

Lord, have mercy

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

And for the unity of all, let us pray to the pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen, amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: 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

We Listen to the Word

First Reading:

Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

⁹After 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.

¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And 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, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that 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.

¹⁵For 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.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for 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.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹ I will bless the LORD at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

² **I will glory in the LORD; let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

³ Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; let us exalt God's name together.

⁴ **I sought the LORD, who answered me and delivered me from all my terrors.**

⁵ Look upon the LORD and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶ **I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me and saved me from all my troubles.**

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD and delivers them.

⁸ **Taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!**

⁹ Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰ **The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

²² O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

Second Reading:

1 John 3:1-3

A reading from John.

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

***GOSPEL:**

Matthew 5:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then 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 righteousness’ sake, 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. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

***Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Petitions are offered for the Church, the world, the nations, and all who are in need.)

....Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

(after final petition)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

We Offer Our Gifts

*Offering Prayer:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with the gifts we have offered. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

We Share the Feast

* Holy Communion

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling, and strengthen us to run the race that is set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

**Holy, holy, holy Lord. Lord God of power and might.
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we might receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

For it is our Lord Jesus, who in the night in which he was betrayed took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after the supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me".

Lord remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

*The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*Invitation to Communion

P: Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you once revealed yourself to your disciples.

SOLO: Pie ✓ Bob Hench

*Distribution of Communion

*Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

***Prayer after Communion**

P: We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

We Are Sent

*Blessing

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. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Sending Song: For All Your Saints, O Lord
(next page)

ELW 427

*Dismissal

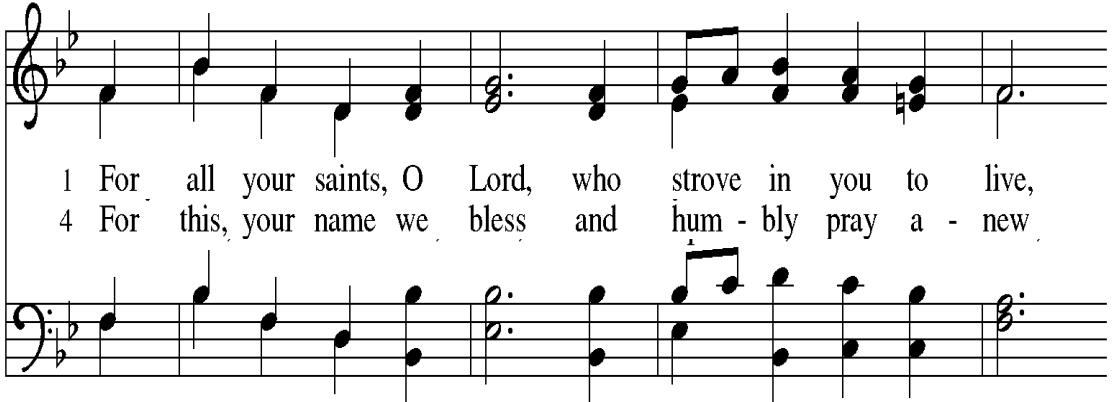
P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

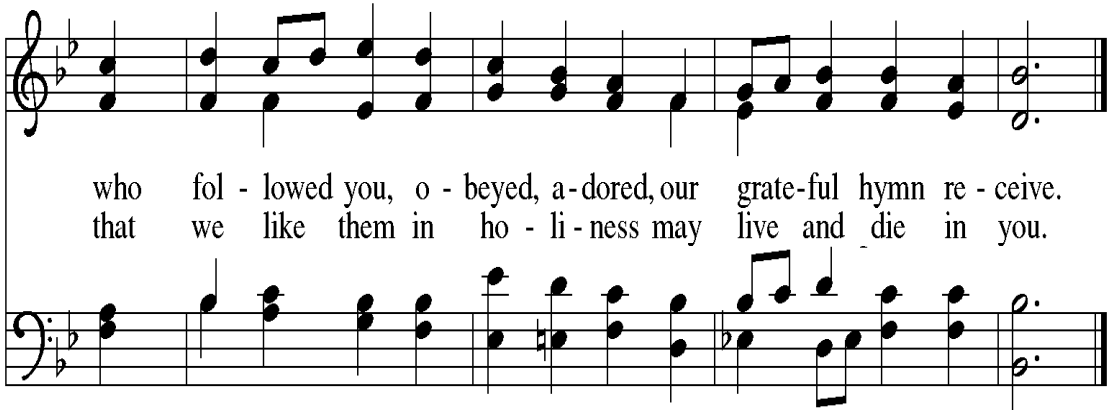
*Postlude: For All the Saints

arr. S. Burtonwood

For All Your Saints, O Lord



1 For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live,
4 For this, your name we bless and hum - bly pray a - new



who fol - lowed you, o - beyed, a - dored, our grate - ful hymn re - ceive.
that we like them in ho - li - ness may live and die in you.

Text: Richard Mant, 1776–1848, alt.
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

**OTHERS WEAR A
FACE COVERING
TO PROTECT YOU.**



**PLEASE
WEAR YOUR
FACE COVERING
TO PROTECT
OTHERS.**

Announcements

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastors Scott & Carol Custead

Phone: 814-254-3072 Email: scustead@atlanticbb.net or ccustead@atlanticbb.net

The church office email is stjamesaltoona@gmail.com The church's website is www.stjamesaltoona.org

On Facebook—St. James Lutheran Church—Altoona, PA

REMINDER AND IMPORTANT

BULLETIN ADDITIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY AT 10:30 AM.

For corrections, please contact the church office secretary Tim Surkovich, I'm in the office Monday-Thursday 9-1.

*******IF AN ARTICLE FOR THE KIRCHENBLATT CANNOT BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH, PLEASE CALL AND RESERVE A SPACE FOR YOUR ARTICLE SO THAT THE KIRCHENBLATT CAN BE FORMATTED AHEAD OF TIME TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR ALL THE CONGREGATIONAL NEWS.*******

Our Prayer List:

Tim Surkovich

Carol Weaver

Edith Trinks

(Names for inclusion on our parish prayer list can be submitted to the church office. The name will remain on the list for one month. At the end of that period please advise the church office, if you would like the name to be continue for another month.)

Those serving in our military

Graystone Manor//Bellmeade

Robert Civils

Homewood

Sylvia Malsatzki

Allegheny Lutheran Home:

Janet Kauffman

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck

John Wiederkehr



Announcements and Upcoming Events

**Worship will happen on Sundays at 10:45 AM,
following the guidelines in recognition of the
continuing coronavirus pandemic.**

**All other activities and events are cancelled
until further notice.**

*As we worship during this ongoing Covid19
pandemic, please remember these things to help
keep us all as safe as possible:*

- Wear a face mask, and keep the 6 foot social distance and refrain from shaking hands.
- Sit in the pews marked with the blue tape.
- Leave your bulletin where you have been sitting in order to help the janitor to know where to disinfect.
- The offering plate is in the back. Please leave your offering there. The ushers will not be collecting it.
- We will not be sharing the peace with each other during the service.
- Thank you for your patience and understanding.



Harvest Home

“So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.”

-Galatians 6:9

A Tradition of Sharing

Many years ago, Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries (ALSM) appealed to all congregations for “gifts of fresh, canned and dried fruits and vegetables as well as for other edibles...” These donations reduced the amount of food that needed to be purchased. In 1978, the PA Department of Health regulations changed, and our senior living communities could no longer accept fresh or home canned food donations.

Harvest Home continues to be celebrated during this season of Thanksgiving as a way to share our bounty with those who are in need. Through your generosity, you help ALSM fulfill its mission and touch the lives of those we serve throughout our eight-county region.

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Checks may be made payable to your congregation with the memo portion indicating your gift designation for **Harvest Home**. You may also make your gift directly to ALSM online at alsm.org/donate or by mail to 998 Logan Boulevard, Altoona, PA 16602.

Thank you for your support.



**ALLEGHENY LUTHERAN
SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

We Touch Lives



Christmas Poinsettias

Bless our Sanctuary and your home this Christmas with a beautiful red poinsettia! For each \$7.75 you contribute to the St. James Flower Fund, a flower will be placed in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve and will be available for you to take with you following our Christmas Eve Service. If you would rather donate the flower for a shut-in or friend of St. James, you may indicate that choice on this order form.

Please complete the form and return it to the church. **The deadline for poinsettia orders and payments is Sunday, November 29, 2020.** Thank you for your generosity in this endeavor!

Your Name _____
(as you wish it to appear in the bulletin)

This donation is made:

In Honor of: _____

Or

In Memory of: _____

Amount of Contribution: _____

Number of Christmas Poinsettias: _____

Envelope Number: _____

Please check one:

_____ Yes, I do want to take the poinsettia (s) home with me.

_____ No. I don't want to take the poinsettia (s). I would like them to be given to a shut in or friend of St. James

*St. James Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.