First Lutheran Church of Strongsville

All Saints Sunday

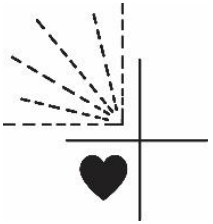
November 1, 2026



Mission Statement

Living God's love through our devotion to service, worship, and one another

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



First Lutheran Church has been serving Strongsville, Ohio for nearly 70 years, ministering to its members and friends and supporting community, as well as regional and world ministries.

First Lutheran is a part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The ELCA pursues God's work in the world with 3 million members in more than 8700 congregations across the United States and in the Caribbean region. The ELCA works with Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, Global Refuge, Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches, schools and colleges, seminaries, camps, and ecumenical and interreligious companions, as well as numerous global church partners and organizations across the world.

We invite you to our website, firstchurchalive.org for more information about First Church.

In addition, we also invite you to download our app by searching for FLC Strongsville in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

And please don't forget to scan the QR code to view our Connections Page where you will quickly find all of our current news and ministry sign-ups.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Canto III" **David Gooding** Lynn Marlow

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN ELW #422

"For All the Saints"

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.

ALL SAINTS LITANY

P We remember the great ancestors of our faith, from Abraham and Sarah, to Paul and Phoebe.

C **Ancestors of the faith, we remember you.**

P We remember the prophets and priests, the ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God.

C Teachers of the faith, we remember you.

P We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles, those who have gone before us in our lifetime:

C Teachers of the faith, we remember you.

P We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren, brother and sisters, husbands and wives and parents whose lives ended too soon:

C Those close to our hearts, we remember you.

P We lift up to you, O God, those we have list in this past year from our lives, knowing that they are with You forever. We remember especially those members of our congregation who have entered the Church Triumphant this year: Audie Kiplinger, Ladimer Kristoff, Steve Gall, Mary Jane Warzel, Marilyn Baker, Claudia Lenarz, Jerry Kreuger, Elise Paine and Rae Alexander.

C Saints 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.

P We give thanks, O God, for all who have gone on to join with you beyond this life. We trust in the hope of the resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ, and know that in our grief and celebration, O God,

C You are with us through it all, and we are not left alone. In the name of Christ, in whom love lives forever, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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. Lord we ask that you would surround us this day as we remember our blessed saints… through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

WORD

FIRST LESSON Revelation 7:9-17

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. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

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, singing,

"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, robed in white, and where have they come from?" 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.

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

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SONG *"All The People Say Amen"*

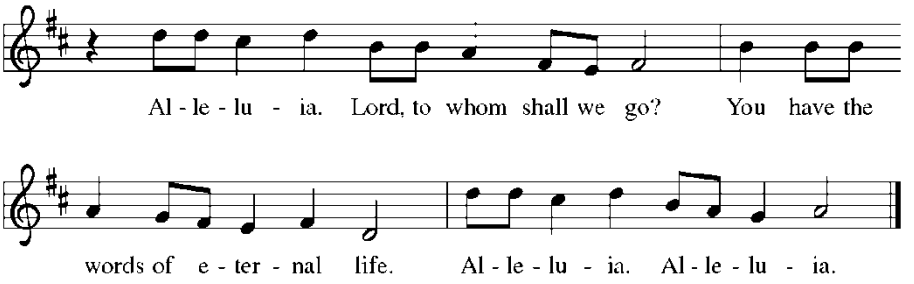
SECOND LESSON 1 John 3:1-3

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. 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. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation



From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

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

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

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

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

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

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

"Blessed are you when people 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 in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SHARING TIME

SERMON

Blessed By God

LITANY FOR LIVING SAINTS

P We are thankful for the living saints who accept us as we are, encourage us to be better than we are, and forgive us when we fall short.

C We thank you, O god, for living saints!

P We are blessed by people who take time to be with us, to teach us how to be more like Christ, and willingly become purveyors of God's grace when we need it most.

C We praise you, O God, for living saints!

P We marvel at people who don't look or act like saints but teach us how to make it in this world, who show us how to get along, and remind us of what is truly important in life.

C We honor you, O God, for living saints!

P We remember the saints we do not see, all those working behind the scenes in quiet and courageous ways, the ones who do not seek public attention and would not call themselves heroes.

C We are grateful, O God, for living saints!

P We rejoice, for on this day we are able to honor the saints who live among us, and nurture our relationship with the risen Christ. May we, also, become saints for others and love as deeply as God first loved us.

C Bless our efforts, O God, to be numbered among the saints!

SONG *"No Longer Slaves"*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

After each portion of the prayers:

P God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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

C Amen.

Altar flowers are given by the Bailey Family in celebration of Gabe and Chase Dittman's birthday's and by the Wojciehowski Family in loving memory of Jack Wojciehowski

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please scan the QR code for the option to give online.

MUSIC

"Father of Light" **Chancel Choir** Craig Courtney

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



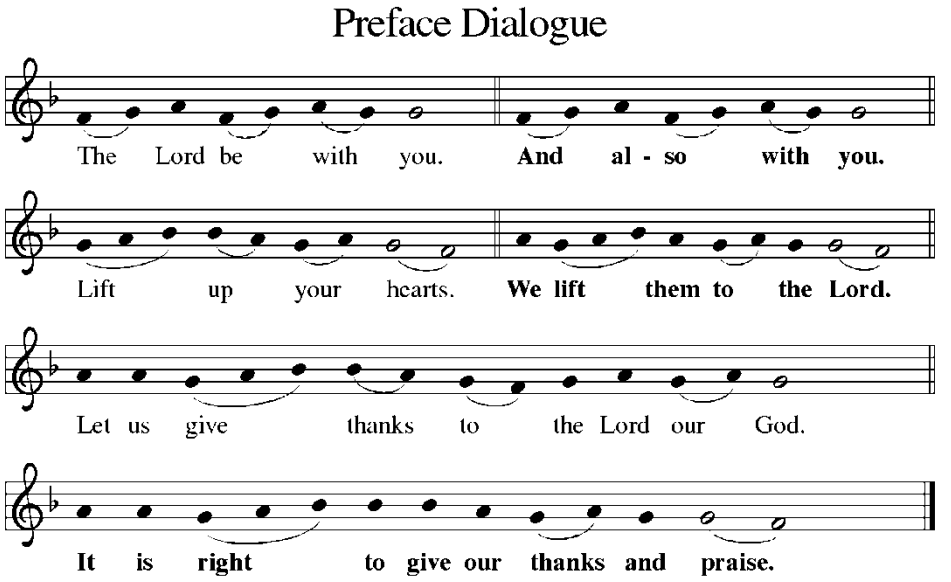
Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

P Eternal God, 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.

C Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

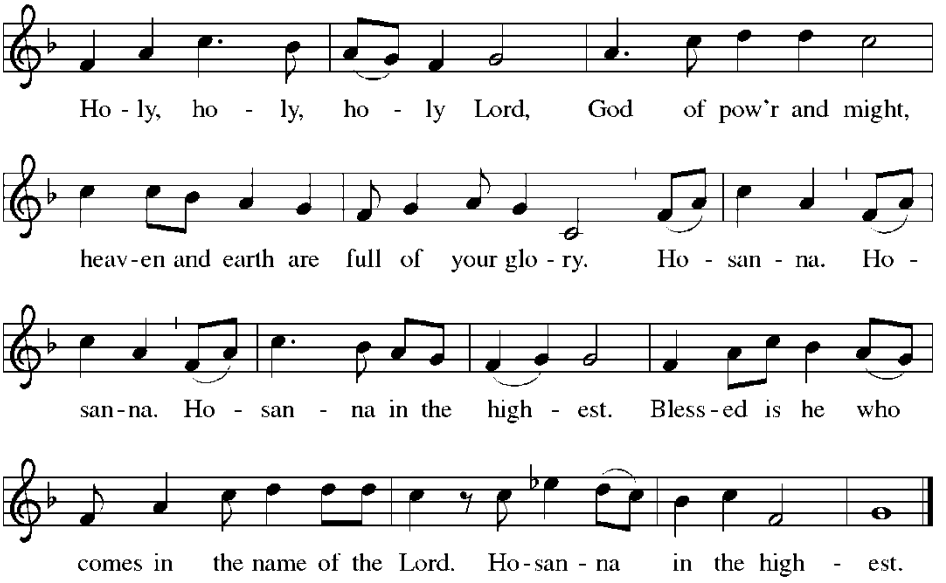


From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #_____.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus 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 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.

SONG

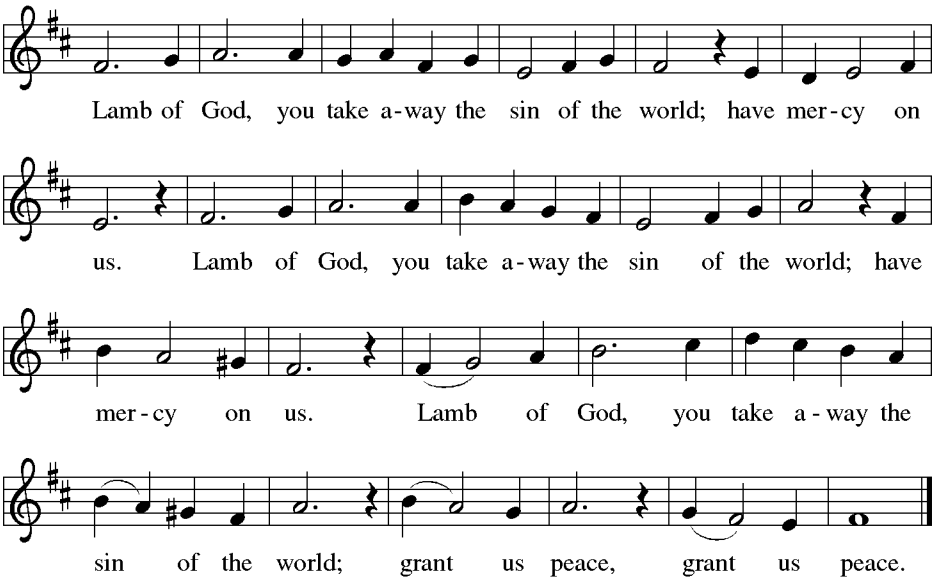
"The Lord's Prayer"

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may respond: **Amen**

All are welcome to share in the Lord's meal

Lamb of God



From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #_____.

HYMN

ELW #873

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

SENDING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P Holy God, 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.

C Amen

BLESSING

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You" **Chancel Choir** Peter Lutkin

SONG *"Jesus Saves"*

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Canto VII" **David Gooding** Lynn Marlow

Reprinted from Sundays and Seasons v.20240102.1159 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB176674

WELCOME TO ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Lutherans celebrate All Saints' Day, typically observing it on November 1st or moved to the first Sunday of November.

The day focuses on thanking God for the “communion of saints” – both historical figures and ordinary believers, including family members and congregation members who have died in the faith. Thus, why services will often feature the reading aloud of the names of parishioners who passed away during the previous year, accompanied by the tolling of a church bell, the lighting of memorial candles, special hymns, and the white liturgical color.

It’s important to remember that in Lutheran theology, a saint is not just a specially canonized hero or martyr, nor someone with a higher spiritual rank. Following the biblical definition (like St. Paul's letters), a saint is any person who has been made holy through baptism and faith in Christ. Lutherans hold to the phrase simul justus et peccator—meaning every saint is simultaneously a sinner, saved purely by God's grace.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Lutheran Church Staff

Rev. Kathleen L. Kluck

Zack Richards	Music Director
Andrea Cassidy	Contemporary Band Leader
David Gooding	Organist
Justin Lauschin	AV Specialist
Brenda Jacob	Controller
Vanessa Smith Whitford	Office Manager
Barb Nalette	Talents Coordinator
Gloria Reichert	KIDS HOPE USA, Director
Madi Snyder	KIDS HOPE NEXT USA, Director

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

June Zakrajsek	Dawn Zima
Ken Holda	Tom Newbould
Lindee Flater	Janet Kaiser
Margaret Bewie	Ellen Kolman
Ron Uline	Kathleen Kluck
Brenda Jacob	

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Ellen Kolman	Beth Hartman
Mary Walters	Carolyn Roman
Sandy Treudler	Linda Browning
Pat Sauernheimer	Maureen Shorts
Monika Mueller	Ryan Hartman
Deb Brighter	Kathleen Kluck

19419 Royalton Road Strongsville, OH 44149 | firstchurchalive.org
440.238.7890 | firstchurchalive@hotmail.com