

All Saints Day – Spiritual Communion  
November 1, 2020

The Hymnal 1982 - #286 Who are these like stars appearing

1 Who are these like stars ap - pear - ing, these, be - fore God's  
 2 Who are these of daz - zling bright - ness, these in God's own  
 3 These are they who have con - tend - ed for their Sa - vior's  
 4 These are they whose hearts were riv - en, sore with woe and  
 5 These, like priests, have watched and wait - ed, of - fering up to

1 throne who stand? Each a gold - en crown is wear - ing;  
 2 truth ar - rayed, clad in robes of pur - est white - ness,  
 3 hon - or long, wres - tling on till life was end - ed,  
 4 an - guish tried, who in prayer full oft have striv - en  
 5 Christ their will, soul and bo - dy con - se - crat - ed,

1 who are all this glo - rious band? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 robes whose lus - ter ne'er shall fade, ne'er be touched by  
 3 fol - lowing not the sin - ful throng; these, who well the  
 4 with the God they glo - ri - fied; now, their pain - ful  
 5 day and night they serve him still. Now in God's most

1 hark, they sing, prais - ing loud their heaven - ly King.  
 2 time's rude hand? Whence comes all this glo - rious band?  
 3 fight sus - tained, tri - umph by the Lamb have gained.  
 4 con - flict o'er, God has bid them weep no more.  
 5 ho - ly place, blest they stand be - fore his face.

Words: Theobald Heinrich Schenck (1656-1727); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt.  
 Music: *Zeuch mich, zeuch mich*, melody from *Geistreiches Gesang-buch*, 1698; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

Glory to God in the highest,  
*and peace to his people on earth.*

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
*we praise you for your glory.*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
*have mercy on us;*  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
*receive our prayer.*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

God be with you.  
*And also with you.*  
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **A Reading from Revelation 7:9-17**

After this I, John, 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 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. "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."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches  
*Thanks be to God*

## **Psalm 34:1-10,22**

I will bless the LORD at all times; \*  
*his praise shall ever be in my mouth.*

I will glory in the LORD; \*  
*let the humble hear and rejoice.*

Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; \*  
*let us exalt his Name together.*

I sought the LORD, and he answered me \*  
*and delivered me out of all my terror.*

Look upon him and be radiant, \*  
*and let not your faces be ashamed.*

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

The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, \*  
*and he will deliver them.*

Taste and see that the Lord is good; \*  
*happy are they who trust in him!*

Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, \*  
*for those who fear him lack nothing.*

The young lions lack and suffer hunger, \*  
*but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.*

The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, \*  
*and none will be punished who trust in him.*

## **A Reading from 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches

*Thanks be to God*

## **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Then 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 righteousness' sake,  
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."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **Sermon All Saints Day Pastoral letter from Bishop Deon Johnson**

### **The Nicene 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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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.*

### **The Prayers of the People**

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Deon our Bishop, Sujanna our Interim Rector and all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.  
Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **Blessings and Announcements**

#### **Birthdays: Jerry Benner, Amber Benner, Wendell Folks and Bob Richardson**

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **The Spiritual Communion**

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*  
*my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.*

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
*that I might behold your power and your glory.*

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*  
*my lips shall give you praise.*

So will I bless you as long as I live \*  
*and lift up my hands in your Name.*

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*  
*and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,*

When I remember you upon my bed, \*  
*and meditate on you in the night watches.*

For you have been my helper, \*  
*and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.*

My soul clings to you; \*  
*your right hand holds me fast.*

### **As our savior Christ has taught us we now 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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*therefore let us keep the feast.*

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;  
*death no longer has dominion over him.*

Christ has been raised from the dead;  
*the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

In union, O Lord, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. *Amen.*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our  
creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show  
forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by  
walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom,  
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.

*Amen.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all evermore.

*Amen.*

Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ

*Thanks be to God.*

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The flowers are given in the Glory of God by

Elizabeth Folks in thanksgiving for

Wendell Folks Birthday



O God, the King of saints, we praise and magnify thy holy Name for all thy servants who have finished their  
course in thy faith and fear; for the blessed Virgin Mary; for the holy patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and  
martyrs; and for all other thy righteous servants, known to us and unknown; and we beseech thee that,  
encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers, and strengthened by their fellowship, we also may be  
partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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For an Election:

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United  
States (or of this community) in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration  
and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Hymnal 1982 - #293 I sing a song of the saints of God



1 I sing a song of the saints of God, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, there are



pa - tient and brave and true, who \_\_\_\_\_ toiled and \_\_\_\_\_ fought and \_\_\_\_\_  
 his love \_\_\_\_\_ made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right, for \_\_\_\_\_  
 hund - reds of thou - sands still, the \_\_\_\_\_ world is \_\_\_\_\_ bright with the



lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And \_\_\_\_\_  
 Je - sus' sake, the \_\_\_\_\_ whole of their good lives long. And \_\_\_\_\_  
 joy - ous saints who \_\_\_\_\_ love to do Je - sus' will. You can



one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a shep -  
 one was a sold - ier, and one was a priest, and one was \_\_\_\_\_ slain  
 meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains,



herd - ess on the \_\_\_\_\_ green: they were all of them saints of \_\_\_\_\_  
 by a fierce wild \_\_\_\_\_ beast; and there's not an - y rea - son -  
 or in shops, or at tea, for the saints of \_\_\_\_\_ God are just



God— and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.  
 no, not the least, why I should - n't be one too.  
 folk like \_\_\_\_\_ me, and I mean to be one too.