

First English Lutheran Church

1311 E. 18th St.
Spencer, IA 51301
www.spencer-church.com



November 4, 2018
8:00 a.m. Communion Service
Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl, Jr., Pastor
Bonnie Kabrick, DCE

First English Lutheran Church

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Spencer, Iowa 51301

8:00 a.m. Service

Paul Kaldahl, Pastor
Bonnie Kabrick, DCE
Kristin Kaldahl, Organist

All Saints Day
November 4, 2018
Phone: 262-5598

AS WE GATHER

We stand in the company of a mighty host who has left us a legacy of faithfulness. This day we call to mind those who have lived and died in the faith. We gratefully recall those who in their ministry made significant contributions to our Biblical and confessional heritage. We remind ourselves of our opportunity and responsibility to hand on a legacy of faithfulness.

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELLS

OPENING HYMN – LSB #677 vs 1-2 "For All The Saints"

WELCOME AND SHARING OF THE PEACE

INVOCATION

P: We make our beginning in the name of God the Father

C: Who creates and sustains us

P: In the name of God the Son

C: Who in loving-kindness shed His blood that we might live

P: In the name of God the Holy Spirit

C: Who creates and sustains living faith in us that we might never die

P: Indeed, God's children never die

C: We will live in His kingdom forever with the great saints of the past.

P: The patriarchs and heroes of faith live though they have died

C: They stand before the presence of God in heaven. They served our God in their time, and their faithfulness has made it possible for us to serve God today. We now remember them with profound gratitude for their legacy of faith.

P: Among these patriarchs and heroes recorded in the Bible are Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses and Aaron, Joshua, Rahab, Samuel, Ruth, King David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Elijah, and Elisha. There are Peter, James, and John and the rest of the apostles. There are Paul and Priscilla.

HYMN – LSB #677 vs 4,5 "For All The Saints "

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, whose people are knit together as one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord, grant us to follow Your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the unspeakable joys which You have prepared for those who love You, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: We are grateful for all those saints and heroes who have preceded us and who have left for us a legacy of faithfulness. On this day we remember particularly those who since the Reformation have kept for us the treasure of the Scriptures and the truths we profess in our confessions. It has been over 500 years since Dr. Martin Luther posted the 95 theses on the Castle Church door in Wittenburg. Among those Scriptures that gave focus and direction to his ministry was Psalm 46.

PSALM 46

P: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

P: Though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

P: God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

C: Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

P: The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

C: Come and see the works of the LORD, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

P: He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire.

C: "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

P: The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

HYMN – AGPS #51 "A Mighty Fortress"

OLD TESTAMENT – Revelation 7:9-17 ^{ESV}

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels were standing 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 saying, "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, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

EPISTLE – 1 John 3:1-3 ^{ESV}

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 5:1-12 ^{ESV}

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he opened his mouth 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 shall be comforted. ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ "Blessed are you when others 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 so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

HYMN – LSB #677 vs 6-8 "For All the Saints"

SERMON

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN – LSB #676 "Behold a Host, Arrayed in White"

PRAYER AND REMEMBRANCE OF THE SAINTS

P: These are Your saints, Lord. We are grateful for the gift that You have given us in these loved ones, and the gift that You are to these dearly departed. You are for them and for us the true bridegroom.

C: Alleluia!

P: We pray Your comfort and compassion upon those who mourn. May Your arms continue to encircle them. May they be sustained by Your love through the whole communion of saints.

C: Alleluia!

P: We pray for heroes of faith, reformers of the Church and saints for our day so we may be sustained by the legacy of faithfulness. And Lord, should You choose us to be those who contended for the truth, to be faithful witnesses of the Gospel in a faithless day, grant us courage, wisdom, endurance, and faith. Bless us so we may continue the legacy of faithfulness.

C: Alleluia!

P: We ask Your forgiveness, Lord, for those times we have been so disrespectful of those who sacrificed so much for us, (*a time of silence*), have been unconcerned about those who follow us (*a time of silence*) and contributed through selfishness or indifference to the loss of the legacy of faithfulness. It is only through You, O Lord, that we can find forgiveness, it is through Your word that we know truth. Assure us of forgiveness. Give us truth. Empower us for living a legacy of faithfulness.

C: Alleluia!

P: Watch over those who are called upon by You for great faithfulness these days, particularly those that are ill, especially the sick, the shut-in, and the hospitalized... (*special needs*), those that mourn, those that suffer for Your name's sake. They are our brothers and sisters. They are Your saints.

C: Alleluia!

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

C: 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.

NICENE CREED – inside back cover of LSB hymnal

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

ALL: O Almighty God, merciful Father, I poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry from them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER

P: Almighty God, we thank You that in Your great love You have given us a foretaste of Your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all Your saints, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

LSB #618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

LSB #743 "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

LSB #941 "We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God"

LSB #628 "Your Table I Approach"

PRAYER

P: Almighty God, by whom we are graciously knit together as one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of Jesus Christ, our Lord, grant us so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those unspeakable joys which you have prepared for those who love you; through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN – LSB #878 "Abide With Me"

† † † HOLY COMMUNION † † †

We ask our visitors to note that our Lutheran understanding of Holy Communion is different than that of most other churches. We have always believed that Christ's body and blood are present, in a very real way, in, with, and under the bread and wine. (*"This is my body . . . This is my blood."* Matt. 26:26,28) We also believe that this eating and drinking of Christ's body and blood forgives our sins and the strengthens our faith.

By communing together we become united, not only in saving faith, but also in belief regarding the scriptural teachings of the Lord's Supper. Expressions of unity we feel should be honest. We love and respect other Christians who believe differently, and welcome all to worship with us. ***Because of our understanding of communion fellowship, we invite only members of First English Lutheran church and those who are members of the Lutheran Church Missouri synod (LCMS) to commune here.***

If you are a member of the LCMS, please follow the four steps of preparation for Holy Communion, which are printed out on the white cards found in the rack on the pew in front of you. When you attend Holy Communion, please register by filling out one of the white cards and pass them to the inner aisle during the offering so that the ushers can collect it.

For those who prefer, the cup in the center of the communion tray is grape juice with a drop of wine. If you do not feel secure taking the individual cup from the tray, please hold out your hand to indicate your concern and the cup will be handed to you. Small children are invited to accompany their parents if they desire to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

† † VISITORS and MEMBERS † †

Sometime during the service we ask that everyone fill out one of the cards found in the pew racks so that we might have a record of your worship with us today. For our visitors we ask that you please sign our Guest Register on the table next to the front door as you leave. We are pleased to have you join us this morning as we praise our great God, and encourage you to visit us again when possible.