

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church
E.L.C.A.



All Saints Sunday

On All Saints Day we celebrate the victory won for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah's feast to come.

Sunday, November 3rd, 2024
Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.

Bulletin Donated: Happy Birthday Corwin!

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 3rd, 2024

Ministers:

You, All Members of G.A.

Pastor:

Jaime Decker

+++++

Prelude Music

Welcome/Announcements

Gathering

Call to Worship

L: We gather in the name of the Creator,

C: inviting us always to risk the unknown.

L: We gather in the name of the Christ,

C: fully human, fully divine, full of gift and mystery.

L: We gather in the name of the Spirit,

C: unveiling for us what feels long-hidden. Amen.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

L: We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of baptism,

C: For this water, crisp and cold, inviting us to shake off the cobwebs of all we had thought to be true.

L: We give you thanks, O God, for gift of baptism,

C: For this water, warm and inviting, reminding us of your comfort and embrace.

L: We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of baptism,

C: For lakes and rivers, oceans and creeks,

L: For waters that foam and rage, for those that drip and trickle,

C: For waters that teem with life.

L: We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of baptism,

C: For waters that hide dangers yet unknown,

L: For waters that remind us to be born anew,

C: For all the waters across your wide creation.

L: We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of baptism!

C: Alleluia! Amen

Remembrance of All Saints

L: Let us remember all the saints before God. We praise and bless you, O holy Trinity. You have taught your church that it is an ageless communion of saints. We thank you for gathering those who faithfully waited in hope for the redemption you promised, and now for adding us who celebrate the love of Christ for the redemption of the world. Prepare a place for us among those who are already with you. Help us remember them as an encouragement to saintly living, exciting us to love, in anticipation of an eternal reunion. As we pray, we know that we are surrounded by this great, rejoicing cloud of witnesses. Yet even as we name these holy ancestors and newly baptized, we thank God for others whose names we never knew or have forgotten, who showed us the meaning of life in Christ.

(At this time a candle will be lit in honor and remembrance of each person who died or was baptized in the past year)

L: For blessed: (name of saint)

C: We give thanks.

L: Holy God, we honor these, our ancestors in faith, our newly baptized brothers and sisters in Christ, and members of our family. We, too, seek to do your will: **C: guide us.**

L: We, too, desire to be your servants: **C: strengthen us.**

L: We, too, long to know you clearly: **C: teach us.**

L: And in time, bring us to our eternal home of peace and joy. **C: Amen.**

L: Jesus says, Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart,
C: And you will find rest for your souls.

L: For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. **C: And you will find rest for your souls.**

Gathering Hymn

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

ELW #543 vs.1

Greeting:

L: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

C: O God, we gather to honor and remember the saints who have gone before us. Help us to recognize how their faith, hope, and love have shaped our community and our faith journey. May we be empowered by their examples to let our own faith rise and spread, bringing your Kingdom to fruition in our lives and in all your creation. Teach us to be vessels of your grace, sowing seeds of kindness and compassion in our daily interactions. Amen.

Word

Reading

Luke 13:18-21

¹⁸ He said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? ¹⁹ It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches." ²⁰ And again he said, "To what should I compare the kingdom of God? ²¹ It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." P: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Message

Hymn of the Day

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

ELW #543 vs.2

Kindergarten & 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

L: On behalf of Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church, it is my joy and privilege to present you with a Bible. When you read it, remember how deeply you are loved by God and all of us. You do not only read these words on your own. You also come to God's Word in the context of a community.

All: We hope that as you read the Bible, you will bring not only your faith but also your questions and your doubts to Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church to find a loving, supporting, listening, and teaching community. We want to grow with you in faith and knowledge.

L: As you read the Word in the family of God, you also read it as part of your earthly family.

Parents/Guardians: We promise to read these words with you, to listen to your questions, to share our ideas, and be honest about our doubts. We want to grow with you in faith and knowledge.

(Distribute Bibles to each student)

L: Proverbs 3:1,2,5,6 (NRSV) King Solomon advised his son, "My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

L: Receive the Word of God. Learn its stories and study its words. Its stories belong to us all, and these words speak to us all. They tell us who we are. They tell us that we belong to one another, for we are the people of God.

ALL: We rejoice in this step in your journey with God. We pray God will guide you, your family, and us as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your church school classes, and in our worship. We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word.

L: Let us pray together for the blessing of the Holy Spirit on these young people as they encounter the Word of God.

ALL: Good and Gracious God, make yourself known to these students as they read your Word. Bless their lives. Bless their families. Bless our congregation because of their presence. Watch over them always. And by the power of your Holy Spirit, guide them along the paths that will lead to full life in you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

***The Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Response: **Receive Our Prayer.**

Sharing the Peace

Offering

***Offering Song**

Give Thanks

Gray #170

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. (Repeat)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong!" Let the poor say, "I am rich" because of what the Lord has done for us! (Repeat)

Give thanks.

*** Offering Prayer**

C: God of every good thing, you provide for us in every season of our lives. Help us to open our hands, open our lives, to your whole creation, that we might prioritize justice over wealth, truth over reputation, people over profits. Amen.

Meal

Holy Communion

*Words of Institution

Pg. 207

*Lord's Prayer

Pg. 208

***Invitation to Communion**

P: This table is set for you, you who are seeking and you who rest in the illusion that you have all the answers, you who speak up in the face of injustice and you who struggle to find your voice, you who understand that we are both/and, sinner/saint, from beginning to end. Come. Share in God's meal of grace.

Communion Distribution (All Are Welcome to Receive Communion Here at GA Church)

*Post Communion Blessing

*** Post Communion Prayer**

P: O God, you have fed us with a meal beyond our imaginations— a meal of grace, and delight, and freedom. Send us forth from your table now, bearing good news for the whole world. **C: Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

L: May God bless you with the curiosity to continue growing into your own self.
May God keep you steady in the face of all that is unknown.
May God’s face shine on you as you seek new answers to old questions being born anew.
C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

ELW #543 vs.3

***Dismissal**

P: Go now in peace with open hearts and minds, seeking justice and truth in all things.
C: To Share the Good News of God’s Word and to serve the community and the world.
Thanks be to God.

*Postlude

Mission Statement of Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church (Adopted in 2022)
To share the Good News of God’s Word and to serve the community and the world.
Matthew 22:39 ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’
Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

++++
We celebrate weekly Holy Communion. We welcome all who believe in the Risen Christ and who find in the sacrament our Lord’s real presence for the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life. If you receive communion in your home congregation, you are invited to receive it here at G.A. Red wine and white grape juice will be offered to you in Christ’s name. You may choose your preference. If you are unable to receive wheat bread, or wine, be sure that in a single element you receive the Presence and all the gifts of the sacrament. *From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and live streamed by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #35904. CCLI# 3138595 and #21256999*

©Church Anew: Sermon Resources Overview The Good Book- Summer Series in a Box Vol 1 (2024)
An Order for the Presentation of Bibles to Children - UMC Discipleship Ministries
Bible Presentation Liturgy - Rev. Heather Prince Doss of Eliot Presbyterian Church, MA