

All Saints Day (1st November, 2020)

Pastor Peter Ghalayini

M: God has made Christ the head over all things for the church,

All: **which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.**

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Opening Hymn- For all the saints *LHS 213*

- 1. For all the saints
who from their labours rest,
who Thee, by faith
before the world confessed,
Thy name O Jesus,
be for ever blessed.
*Hallelujah, hallelujah.***
- 2. Thy wast their rock,
their fortress and their might,
Thou, Lord, their captain
in the well-fought fight,
Thou in the darkness, drear
their one true light.
*Hallelujah, hallelujah.***
- 3. O blest communion,
fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle,
they in glory shine,
yet all are one
in Thee, for all are Thine.
*Hallelujah, hallelujah.***
- 4. The golden evening
brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful
warriors cometh rest;
Sweet is the calm**

of Paradise the blest:
Hallelujah, hallelujah.

5. **But yonder breaks
a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant
rise in bright array;
the King of glory
passes on his way.
*Hallelujah, hallelujah.***
6. **From earth's wide bounds,
from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host,
singing to Father,
Son, and Holy Ghost:
*Hallelujah, hallelujah.***

*Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958;
Words: William Walsham How 1823-97 alt.
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M: See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.
So let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us;

C: **We confess to you, almighty God,
before the whole company of heaven, and to each other,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, by our own fault.
Have mercy on us, for Jesus' sake, forgive us all our sins,
and bring us to eternal life.
Amen.**

M: As a called and ordained servant of the Word I announce the grace of God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by his command, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: I will bless the Lord at all times;
Lord have mercy,

C: **Lord have mercy,**

L: his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
Christ have mercy,

C: **Christ have mercy.**

L: I will glory in the Lord;
Lord have mercy,

C: **Lord have mercy.**

M: The Lord be with you,

C: **And also with you.**

M: Almighty God,
you bring your people together
in one holy church,
the body of our Lord.
Lead us to follow your saints
and to know the inexpressible joys
that you have prepared
for those who love you.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First Reading – Revelation 7:9-17

Saints around the throne of God

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." ¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength

be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!" ¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come 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 'Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; 'he will lead them to springs of living water.' 'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'"

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 34:1-10,22 (*Spoken responsively*)

M: ¹ I will extol the Lord at all times;
his praise will always be on my lips.

All: ² **I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.**

M: ³ Glorify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.

All: ⁴ **I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.**

M: ⁵ Those who look to him are radiant;

All: **their faces are never covered with shame.**

M: ⁶ This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;
he saved him out of all his troubles.

All: ⁷ **The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.**

M: ⁸ Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

All: ⁹ **Fear the Lord, you his holy people,
for those who fear him lack nothing.**

M: ¹⁰ The lions may grow weak and hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

All: ²² **The Lord will rescue his servants;
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.**

Second Reading – 1 John 3:1-3

We are God's children

¹ See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

L: Alleluia, alleluia.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

All: **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 5:1-12

(Spoken) Glory to you, O Lord,

The beatitudes

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them. He said: 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 be shown 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 because

of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: (*Spoken*) **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Lord Jesus, thank you for your great love.
Help us to love God completely, and to love others
as we love ourselves.**

Amen.

Gospel Hymn – How sweet the name of Jesus sounds *LH 161*

- 1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
 In a believer’s ear!
 It soothes his sorrows,
 heals his wounds,
 And drives away his fear.**
- 2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,
 And calms the troubled breast;
 'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
 And to the weary, rest.**
- 3. Dear name, the rock on which I build,
 My shield and hiding-place;
 My never-failing treasury, filled
 With boundless stores of grace.**
- 4. Jesus! My shepherd, Saviour, friend,
 My prophet, priest, and king,
 My Lord, my life, my way, my end,
 Accept the praise I bring.**
- 5. Weak is the effort of my heart,
 And cold my warmest thought;
 But when I see Thee as Thou art,
 I’ll praise Thee as I ought.**

6. **Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name
Refresh my soul in death.**

*Music: A.R. Reinagle 1799-1877 (1830);
Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.
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Sermon

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again
from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God,
the Father almighty,
from thence he will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Offering Hymn – Blest are the pure in heart *TIS 448*

1. **Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;**

**the secret of the Lord is theirs,
their soul is Christ's abode.**

- 2. The Lord, who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with men,
their pattern and their King;**
- 3. Still to the lowly soul
he doth himself impart,
and for his dwelling and his throne
chooseth the pure in heart.**
- 4. Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be;
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple meet for thee.**

<p><i>William Henry Harvergal (1793-1870)</i> <i>John Keble (1792-1866)</i> <i>In Public Domain</i></p>

L: Thank you, holy God,
for sending Jesus as our high priest,
whose blood makes us pure and holy.
Inspire us by the great love you have shown, so that we may love you
more than anything else, and serve you by loving other people.

All: Amen.

All Saints Commemoration

M: We remember members of this congregation and our friends and
relatives whom our heavenly Father has called out of this life.
We remember them and thank God for the gifts he has given us through
them.
We invite you to now light a candle in memory of your own loved ones.

Prayer of the church

**All: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

M: May the God of peace,
who raised from the dead our Lord Jesus,
provide you with every good thing you need
in order to do his will;

Go in peace, to love and serve the living God.

All: Thanks be to God.

M: 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 favour,
† and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Closing Song – In the house of God AT10

*I will live with you for ever,
I will live inside your shelter.*

**1. Your love surrounds me
like a tent around me
On a dark and stormy night.
Tho' fear is creeping
as the darkness deepens,
I will stay beside this light.**

Chorus:

***I will live with you for ever,
I will live inside your shelter.
I will live with you for ever
In the house of God.***

- 2. When death was coming,
I was helpless, running,
But I had no place to hide.
O, Jesus heard me cryin',
Jesus saw me dyin',
He came to my side.**

Chorus:

***I will live with you for ever,
I will live inside your shelter.
I will live with you for ever
In the house of God.***

- 3. You left your father, O, my baby brother,
For the manger and the cross.
Your death is life for me,
you killed my enemy,
O, death has fin'lly lost.**

Chorus:

***I will live with you for ever,
I will live inside your shelter.
I will live with you for ever
In the house of God.***

- 4. The broken people,
and the poor and feeble
find a place of shelter here.
There's room for more to come
and join the Father's Son,
His love will take your fear.**

Chorus:

***I will live with you for ever,
I will live inside your shelter.***

***I will live with you for ever
In the house of God.
In the house of God.***

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