



Prelude

Prelude on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" organ

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

Welcome

Pastor Andrew Vander Maas

## Silent meditation

"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand."

-John 10:28

All Saints' Day occurs on November 1 and is observed on the first Sunday in November. This day draws our attention to the communion of saints as we express our gratitude for the faithfulness and gifts of those who have died.... -ReformedWorship.org

How does a Reformed Christian celebrate All Saints' Day if we view all Christians as saints? It is a day that we can remember and praise God for those who have traveled before us, both those who have made great marks on the church and those who have made great marks on our lives [even if they died before they were born]. -"A Reformed View of All Saints' Day" by Brian Dennert

#### GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

# Call to Worship Revelation 21:22–27

Elder Jerry Stutzman

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

<sup>\*</sup> God Himself Is With Us Trinity Hymnal 382

**Invocation** concluding with the Prayer for All Saints' Day, responsively

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!"

Let us give thanks for brothers and sisters in Christ to whom God has granted rest from their labors.

We remember family and friends who have gone before us.

Those whose lives were long or short, and those who lived only within the womb.

We remember those of our congregation you called home over the past two years:

Wilma Greening (12-30-23)

Nella Kreuzer (4-24-24)

Ray Fuller (7-15-24)

Carolyn De Haan (9-6-24)

Deann Stankey (12-13-24)

Dan Vander Ark (1-11-25)

Eric Karloski (1-11-25)

Joey Rooks (1-18-25)

Denny Arndt (3-24-25)

Bert Froysland (5-1-25)

Chuck Stankey (5-5-25)

Almighty God, we give you thanks for these your servants whom we remember today. Bring us, with them, to those things no eye has seen, nor ear heard, which you have prepared for those who love you.

Give us faith to look beyond touch and sight, and seeing that we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, enable us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

Bring us at last to your eternal peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

<sup>\*</sup> For All the Saints Trinity Hymnal 358

### GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

### Call to confession Romans 16:19b-20

...I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil. The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**Prayer of confession** followed by a time of silent confession

# **Declaration of Forgiveness** II Timothy 4:18

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

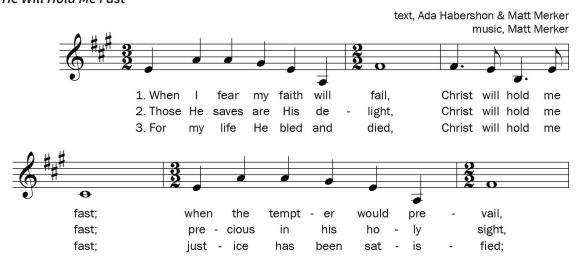
8:30 service On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 5- year-olds are invited to the foyer

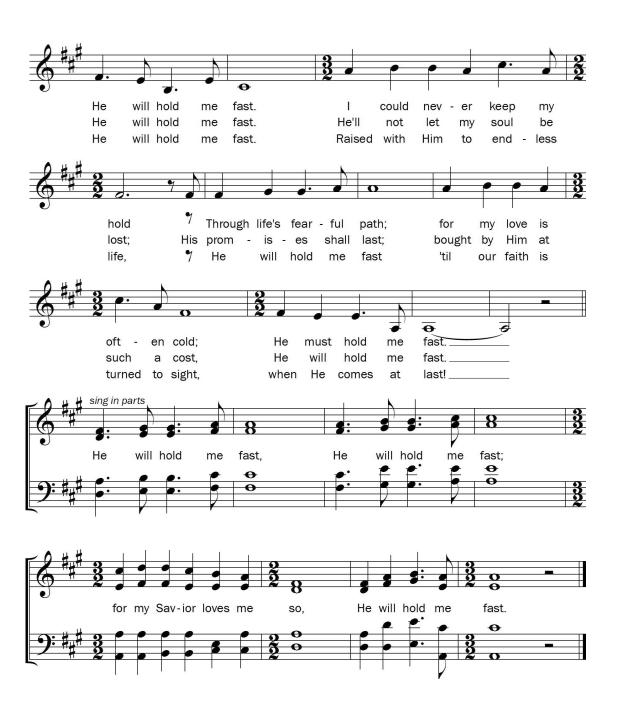
to join Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.

11:15 service Church bags are available in the foyer for 4- to 5-year-olds

who need some quiet activities during the sermon.

### \* He Will Hold Me Fast





GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

\* Scripture reading

I John 2:15-17; 3:7-14; 5:3-5, 18-21

<sup>2:15</sup> Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in

him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not

from the Father but is from the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever

does the will of God abides forever.

3:7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

<sup>8</sup> Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning.

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. 9 No one born of God makes a

practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born

of God. <sup>10</sup> By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever

does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. <sup>11</sup> For this is the

message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. <sup>12</sup> We should not be

like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own

deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. 13 Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.

<sup>14</sup> We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love

abides in death.

<sup>5:3</sup> For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burden-

some. <sup>4</sup> For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has

overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus

is the Son of God?

<sup>5:18</sup> We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God

protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. 19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world

lies in the power of the evil one.<sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understand-

ing, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the

true God and eternal life. <sup>21</sup> Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Flder: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

\* Prayer

Serr	mon	The Darkness Without	Pastor Michael Anderson
	Discernin	g the Darkness	
	Denying t	he Darkness	
	Destroyin	g the Darkness	

#### DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD \* I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light Kathleen Thomerson 1. I walk child the light. want to as а of 2. I God. want to see the bright-ness of 3. I'm look - ing com - ing Christ; for the of want to fol low Je sus. want look at Je to sus. want to be with Je sus. God sent the stars to give light the world. The to Clear Righ - teous - ness, Sun of shine on path, and my with When pa - tience the we have run race, we life. star of Je my is sus. show me the way to the Fa ther. shall know the joy of Je sus. 0 The him there dark - ness at all. ln is no

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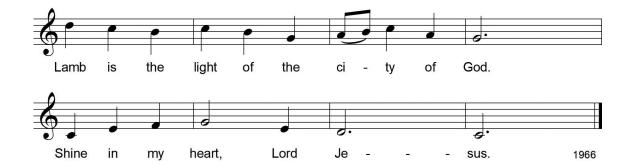
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## Invitation to the Lord's Table

Trays will be passed through the rows. The bread served is gluten free, and the grape juice served is pasteurized. Hold the bread or cup until all are served and we'll partake together.

by Josef Rheinberger

# **During the passing of the cup** We Will Feast congregation



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## Prayer of Thanksgiving spoken together

O God our Father, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our works, a continual thank-offering unto you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Living out our faith** announcements about the life of the church

## Prayers of the People

During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows. Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (888) 793-1604

**Offertory:** Psalm 150: Praise Ye the Lord organ

by César Franck, arr. Rick Parks

Alleluia!

O praise ye the Lord in His holy temple; O praise ye the Lord, Who dwelleth in high. Praise the Lord in His might, and in His noble acts; Praise the Lord in His glory and in His majesty.

Praise the Lord in the sound of the trumpet, Praise the Lord on the lute and the harp. Praise the Lord in the dances, the timbrels and the dance; Praise Him upon the strings and praise Him on the pipe.

Praise the Lord upon the well tuned cymbals; Praise the Lord on the cymbals well tuned and loud. Every creature on earth, everything that hath breath, Praise ye the Lord, O Praise ye the Lord.

# \* The God We Love (Nicene Creed chorus)



## \* Benediction

Kids and All: You are invited to come forward and wave the colorful flags as we sing our closing Amen song.

# \* Let the Church Say Amen

Let the church say "Amen."
Let the church say "Amen."
God has spoken, let the Church say "Amen."

\* Postlude Toccata on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" organ

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

Esther Ratajeski, song leader Jacob Lahman, song leader Susan Guerra, piano Heidi Snyder, organ