ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH





Title: All Saints. Date: 2023. Artist: SirColby.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. They are before the throne of God,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. Alleluia. (Rev. 7:15)

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL OF ALL SAINTS

The custom of commemorating all the saints of the church on a single day, especially the many unknown martyrs, originated in the fourth century. By the eighth century, the festival commemorating all saints had been moved in England and Ireland to November 1 in order to Christianize the Celtic harvest festival of Samhain, which marked the beginning of winter and communal attention to the dead. In current Christian use, the day is dedicated to thanksgiving for all the unnamed who died in the Lord. In many assemblies, the names of those who have died over the previous twelve months are read aloud, a practice originally associated with All Souls Day on November 2. The conflation of the two emphases fits with the Protestant beliefs that all the Christian dead are saints, none needs release from purgatory, and it is only to God whom we pray.

Who are the saints, and what do they have to say to us? Rather than being perfect Christians, the saints are people who have been made whole by the grace of God through baptism into Christ. The communion of saints is a diverse array of witnesses who remind us of God's continuing faithfulness, past, present, and future. In the pictures painted by the Gospels and epistles of St. Paul, our striving to model saintly living challenges us to embody the surprising, world-reversing ways of the reign of God.

AN INVITATION

Before and during worship today, if you feel the Spirit moving you, whether in the sanctuary in person or online, you are encouraged and invited to light a candle to remember the saint or saints in your life.

IN REMEMBRANCE

This morning, we remember in love the following members of Zion who joined the Church Triumphant in the past year. We welcome their family members who join us in worship today.

Jerry Lee Pitts December 13, 1938 – October 27, 2024

Donna Louise Walcher Daily September 14, 1954 – November 14, 2024

Martha Ann Yoder Propst March 23, 1943 – February 10, 2025

Barbara Ann Shull Haas October 6, 1936 – May 23, 2025

Peggy Jean Yoder Austin December 31, 1932 – May 24, 2025

Terrell Alan Huffman June 2, 1951 – May 30, 2025

Jackie "Jack" Colan Hefner October 24, 1938 – August 8, 2025

Mykola Zhurbikov December 19, 2003 – September 16, 2025

Jo Ann Eckard Stafford August 31, 1937 – September 18, 2025

Ricky Alan Coffey July 31, 1964 – October 16, 2025

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Congregational participation in bold font.
Please silence your cell phone.

PRELUDE 'Nordic Medley' arr. Stone's Throw

WELCOME

Invited by the minister, we turn to face the baptismal font. We make the sign of the cross, \oplus the sign that is marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

REMEMBRANCE OF ALL SAINTS

We remember all the saints before God: We praise and bless you, O holy Trinity. You have taught us, your Church, that we are 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 your 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.

Christ says, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;

for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

And you will find rest for your souls.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

We confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God, you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, \oplus in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**



GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

GLORY BE TO GOD



PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

A reading from Daniel, the 7th chapter.

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.

As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: "As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:11-23

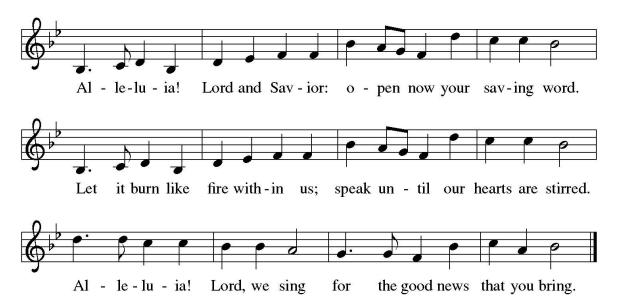
A reading from Ephesians, the 1st chapter.

[Paul writes:] In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Luke 6:20-31



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets. "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. Do to others as you would have them do to you."

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

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

REFLECTION SONG 'Scottish Lullaby' Hewitt

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God. We thank you, God, for this day, in remembering the saints who have gone before us this past year (all are invited forward to light a candle).



We pray: O God, our help and our hope, we thank you for all your faithful people who have followed the light of your word through the centuries into our time and place. With all the saints, we especially remember this day Jerry Lee Pitts, Donna Louise Walcher Daily, Martha Ann Yoder Propst, Barbara Ann Shull Haas, Peggy Jean Yoder Austin, Terrell Alan Huffman, Jackie Colan Hefner, Mykola Zhurbikov, Jo Ann Eckard Stafford, and Ricky Alan Coffey. Strengthen us to follow Christ through this world until we are carried into the harvest of eternal life, where suffering and death will be no more. Hear our prayer in the name of the good and gracious shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We rise in body and spirit as we are able.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, we confess our faith: 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

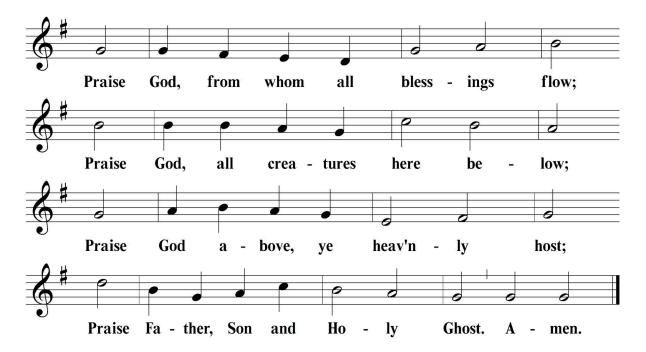
Each petition concludes with the following: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE AND OFFERING

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

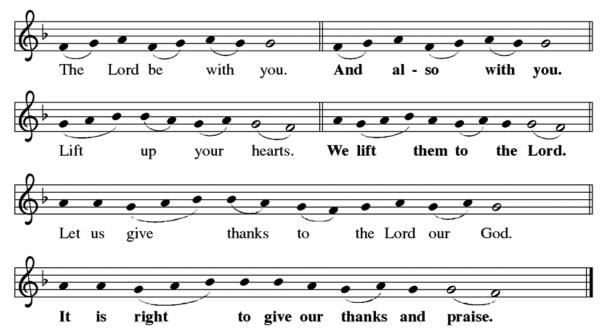
As you greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you," we thank you for joining us in sharing God's love. You can share your gift either by scanning the QR code provided, giving online at zionhickory.org, or placing your offering in the offering plate as you leave worship.





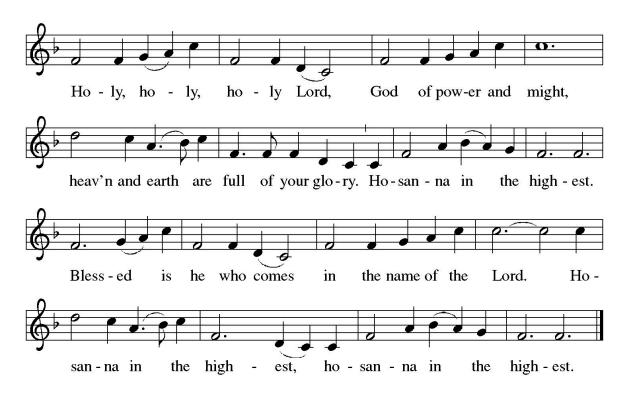
We pray: God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE



PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with Jerry, Donna, Martha, Barbara, Peggy, Terry, Jackie, Kolya, Jo Ann, Ricky, and all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Transforming God...

With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we boldly proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Resurrecting God... with and by you, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us, saying: 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.

Invitation to Communion and Lamb of God

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, taste eternal life. Thanks be to God!



Be seated. All are welcome to receive Communion at Christ's table. For good order, musicians will commune first.

Ushers will invite you to the altar to receive communion. You may kneel or stand at the rail.

After communing, you may remain at the rail for private prayer or return to your seat.

We rise in body and spirit as we are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

May the precious and true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

We pray: God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

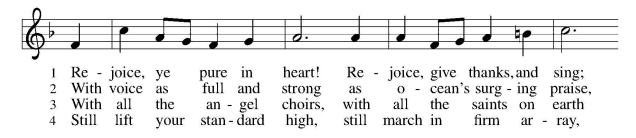
BLESSING

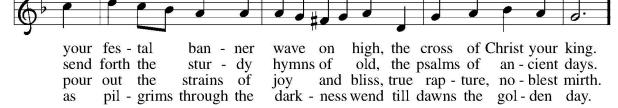
The love of God the Father strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you \pm and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

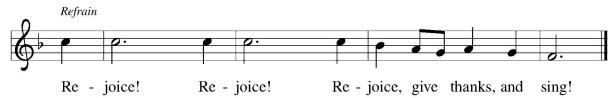
SENDING SONG

'Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart'

ELW 873







- 5 At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest; the pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore: the Father, Son, and Spirit blest, one God forevermore. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest. We will. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

'Marches and Strathspey'

Hill

PARTICIPANTS

If anyone is interested in reading scriptures, please contact the Church Office.

Senior Pastor	The Rev. David T. Drysdale II
Guest Musicians	Dr. Martha Hill and Stone's Throw
Assisting Minister	Sandra Herman
Children's Message	Angela Beard
Altar Guild	Kay Bolick, Pam Lai
Ushers	Doug Eckard, Greg Walters, Milton Wrike
Tellers	

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for those who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially the following: (Names in BOLD have been added or updated this week.)

Zion Members... Joey & Jennifer Brown, Jack Cooke, Elsie Eudy, Randy Hefner, Ron & Sandra Herman, Ruth Ann Hollar, Kim Hollars, Maxine Huffman, Amy Jarrett, Janice Jeffreys, Gary Kanipe, Leigh Ann Lackey, Mike McRee, Kenny Mull, Kenny Lee Mull Family, Patrick Mull, Barron & Lois Whitener, Matthew Whitener, Stephen Whitener, Martha Wrike, Rosie Yoder.

Homebound... Bill Hefner, Mary Jo Hilton, Gary & Hippie Johnson, Nellie Lutz, Violet Michael, Barbara Scronce, Janey Whitener, Dottie Yoder, Jerry Yoder.

Friends of Zion... Gary Abernethy, Ann Arney, Michelle Barger, Jeff Beck, Charlie Boger, Sue Bolick, Doug & Nancy Brady, Linda Brady, Easton Case, Patty Cook, Ruth Cook, Ulrike Cox, Bryant Early, Cindy Elder, Kathy Freeman, Alice Greer and Family, Sandra & Stamey Hardin, Sandra & Don Hefner, Tim Hewitt, Myrtle Hilton, Alice Huffman, David Icenhour, Alma Jacobs, Gary Jarvis, Anaisha Jaykumar, Patsy Kanagy, John Keck, Alice Keenan, Caroline Keller, Toni Kenerly, Savannah Klein, Joyce Ladnier, Kay-Kay Ladnier, Sylvia Lail, Jay Lamb, Dale Love, Sophia Marlowe, Sheryl Martin, Teresa Mays, Jim & Anne Rhyne McCoy, Frances McCracken, Mario Molina, Terry Mooneyham, Chris Mundy, Randy Neill, Sharon Oxford, Meghan Paris, David Pruett, Fred Prince, Wayne Reed, Dr. J. David & Jena Rhyne, Rusty Rhyne, Bryson Romero, Carroll & Betty Shook, Gina Sigmon, Troy Stallings, Pat Stilwell, Andy Tomah, Michelle Whitener, Gary Wood.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Today: 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

11:00 a.m. Sunday School6:00 p.m. Zion Youth7:00 p.m. Young Adults3:00 p.m. Zion Eagles

6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tues: 3:00 p.m. Zion Eagles

Mon:

Wed: 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Featured Homebound Members... Please encourage these special members by sending a card or note this week: **Gary & Hippie Johnson**, **503 McKenzie Ct.**, **Whitsett**, **NC 27377**.

JOY Group... The JOY Group will meet on **Thursday, November 20, at 11:30 a.m.** in the Parish Center for a covered dish lunch and program. Members age 60 and above who <u>have not</u> been participating in JOY activities are warmly invited to attend as our guest. We'd love to welcome you into this fun and friendly group. For more information, contact Kay Bolick or Marc Ladnier.

God's Work, Our Hands... Thank you to everyone who helped pack the quilts last Sunday, and to those who moved the boxes to the Parish Center for shipment! Together, we packed **95 quilts** into **22 cartons**, weighing a total of **313.79 pounds**. Congratulations to **Kay Bolick**, winner of the "Cat" quilt raffle! The raffle raised **\$440**, and the sale of six additional quilts brought in another **\$600**—funds that will help purchase supplies for next year's quilting projects.

Annual Meeting... Zion's Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on **Sunday, November 16**, immediately following the worship service. This is an important meeting, and all voting members are encouraged to attend. The agenda includes: approval of last year's meeting minutes; a proposed change to the Cemetery Bylaws; election of new members to the Congregation Council and the Zion Mission Endowment Committee; and approval of the proposed 2026 budget. Meeting information will be emailed to members and mailed to those without email access. For questions, please contact Marc Ladnier or the Church Office.

2025 GENERAL FUND GIVING REPORT

September Year-to-Date	September Year-to-Date	October Giving	October
Giving	Budgeted Giving	Thru 10/26/25	Budgeted Giving
\$281,692.96	\$307,379.25	\$33,591.31	\$34,153.25

ZION PLAYGROUND PROJECT

Total Project Cost	Project Contributions as of 10/26/25	Refundable Sales Tax	Balance Needed
\$88,820.00	\$49,655.00	\$5,810.00	\$33,355.00



Share Christmas JOY with Homebound Seniors in Our Community this Christmas!

Meals on Wheels (MOW) invites everyone to participate in our annual Christmas Gift Bag Project for meal recipients. This year, our Zion distribution site has only two routes, meaning fewer recipients to bless with Christmas cheer—so we're expanding the project to include Zion's own homebound members as well!

The MOW ministry team will assemble gift bags for each person, and we need your help to make it possible. **Please consider contributing funds to support this meaningful effort** and help us share the joy of Christmas with our homebound seniors.

There are several ways to donate. Please be sure to designate "MOW's Christmas JOY":

- Donate a check or cash in an offering envelope into the collection plate.
- Hand your donation to Marc Ladnier or Elaine Heinl
- Mail a check to: Zion Lutheran Church, 1911 Zion Church Road, Hickory, NC 28602
- From home, you can also go to our website, zionhickory.org, click on the Giving tab under Menu, and make a donation to Meals on Wheels Gift Bags.

Every donation makes a difference and is appreciated. Last year, the response of donations was wonderful and allowed us to give generously. **Donations will be gladly accepted from now till Sunday, November 30**. Thank you for sharing Christmas JOY with others!

THE HOLY LAND CHRISTIANS ARE GOING TO BE OUR GUESTS HEAR THEIR STORY AND SEE THEIR BEAUTIFUL OLIVE WOOD CRAFTS

On Nov. 16, 2025, during the service, we will hear about the Christians of the Holy Land, and after the service, we will host a nice display of handmade olive wood religious articles from Bethlehem, available for purchase in the church Narthex. These carvings include olive wood Nativity sets, crosses, Christmas ornaments, candle holders, angels, and many other religious crafts that could make nice wedding, baptism, confirmation, Easter, and Christmas gifts. The carvings are handmade by Christian families from Bethlehem who rely on it for their daily bread.

More than 70% of the Christian Community in the Holy Land depends on tourism as its only source of income. For decades those Christians have been enduring many hardships as tourism in Bethlehem has plummeted and access to other sources of income has been sharply restricted due to the ongoing conflict, the wars, the 12-yard wall built around Bethlehem, the COVID-19 pandemic, and recently the catastrophic war for the past two years, due to this tourists are afraid and unable to visit the Holy Land. This made it very difficult for the Christian families to find their daily bread and forced them to emigrate and flee their homeland, since they lost their source of income. The Christian population of the Holy Land was 30% in the last century; today, it is less than 1%. If it continues like this, in a few years, we will find no Christians in the land of Christ, which could cause tragic consequences to our faith and holy sites.

Please help support our Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem, where Christ was born, by purchasing their carvings.

A Christian family from Bethlehem will tell us the story of Christians in the Holy Land and present these carvings after the services.

It is never too late to help. All proceeds go to support Christian families from Bethlehem.

Let us carefully tend to our roots, Christian children of God in the Holy Land. And let us pray together for peace in the land where our Savior once walked to tell the world the good news of salvation.

Thank you for your support

Sincerely in Christ,

Dr. George Ghanem Holy Land Christian Solidarity Cooperative www.hlcsc.org

