



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
HOWARDS GROVE, WI

**LIFE ONLY GETS
BETTER**



IN THE NAME OF JESUS

THE THEME OF OUR WORSHIP:

Live Like You'll Live Forever: knowing that life only gets better. "It will get better." We say that to someone who is having a bad day (or maybe a whole string of bad days). Perhaps tomorrow will be better. But perhaps it's worse. In this life...there really are no guarantees that things will get better. That isn't the case with the life that is to come. That life isn't just going to be better...it'll be perfect. Since the 7th century, Christians have marked a day to celebrate those who have died in faith and now realize the perfect joys of heaven. Today, we ask God to preserve us in our faith so that we might one day join the saints in that place where life is far more than better.

WELCOME! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. At St. Paul's, you will find a worship service designed to praise God and increase people's faith. While all styles of worship take some getting used to, we hope you will find that the main message – the unconditional love Jesus has for us – comes through clearly.

PARTICIPATE. Many parts of our worship service are interactive. Feel free to sing along with the hymns and songs. There are also times in the service when Pastor and congregation speak back and forth. Please join together as you feel comfortable.

PARAMENTS. In Lutheran churches you often see paraments. These are the colored cloths with symbols on them hanging from the altar and pulpit. They change with the church seasons and celebrations as a visual reminder of what we are celebrating in our worship. The color for All Saints/Saints Triumphant Sunday is white reminding you of the glory and perfection of the Lamb of God and heaven...where his throne is. The color white is also a reminder of the blessedness of the saints who have triumphed over this world and now stand around the Lamb's throne...and the robe of Jesus' righteousness each of you have been clothed with through faith.

PERSONAL CONVENIENCES. For your convenience, restrooms are located in the southwest corner of the narthex across from the entrance into the sanctuary...feel free to ask for directions. Cell phones should be turned off or put on vibrate mode so as not to disrupt others during the service. Thank you for your cooperation.

To help you focus while you join us for worship, take the time to eliminate as many distractions around you as possible. We may be separated by in-person or livestream worship, but we can connect with each other here for Christian support and encouragement.

WORSHIP NOTES

LAST SUNDAYS OF THE CHURCH YEAR

The Church Year comes to a close in October and November. On these Sundays, we talk about the end of time. Scripture makes it clear that when Jesus comes again he will not be bringing salvation like the first time. He will be bringing the angels and fire to destroy the universe. These Sundays allow you the opportunity to focus on the fact that life on earth doesn't go on and on. It comes to an end...either in death or on Judgment Day. And yet...this need not scare Christian believers. For a believer the end of his life or the end of this world is a wonderful thing! It means the beginning of a new and better existence...in a much more glorious world than this one.

"Live each day like it's your last." You have probably heard that advice. It sounds wise...an encouragement to take advantage of the time you have. However, that advice is completely backwards. Because the reality is...thanks to Jesus...we have an unending amount of time. Let that sink in. *Really* think about it. Jesus has given you the gift of eternal life. You are going to live forever.

If you really thought it was your last day...that belief would shape how you lived that day. In this series...let us consider how the gift of eternal life shapes how we live each day. *Live like you'll live forever!* Our worship will follow this pattern:



LIVE LIKE YOU'LL LIVE FOREVER

The Festival of the Reformation	<i>... Live Confessing Your Faith with Courage</i>
All Saints' Day	<i>... Live Knowing Life Only Gets Better</i>
25 th Sunday after Pentecost	<i>... Live Offering Everything to the Lord</i>
26 th Sunday after Pentecost	<i>... Live Free from the Fear of Judgment</i>
Last Sunday of the Church Year	<i>... Live with Your Eyes on the Skies</i>

Today we remember our dear brothers and sisters who have entered into the fullness of God's promises in the past year: Erwin Eickhoff, Karen Berg, Dexter Porter, and Sharleen Mueller. We thank God for their lives and the faith they shared with us. Though we miss their presence among us, we rejoice that they are now with their Savior, free from all pain and sorrow. Blessed be the memory of the faithful, and thanks be to God for the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

[8:00] OPENING ANTHEM

There Is a Redeemer | 519

St. Paul's 3K & 4K

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

Refrain:

Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son
and leaving your Spirit till
the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
hope for sinners slain. *Refrain*

When I stand in glory,
I will see his face;
there I'll serve my King forever
in that holy place. *Refrain*

[10:30] OPENING HYMN Behold a Host, Arrayed in White | 883



1 Be - hold a host, ar - rayed in white, like thou - sand
2 De - spised and scorned, they so - journed here; but now, how
3 O bless - ed saints in bright ar - ray, now safe - ly



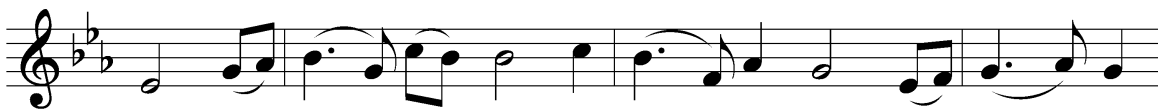
snow - clad moun - tains bright! With palms they stand; who is
glo - rious they ap - pear! Those mar - tyrs stand, a priest -
home in end - less day, ex - tol the Lord, who with



this band be - fore the throne of light? These are the
ly band, God's throne for - ev - er near. So oft in
his Word sus - tained you on the way. The steep and



saints of glo - rious fame, who from the great af - flic - tion
trou - bled days gone by, in an - guish they would weep and
nar - row path you trod; you toiled and sowed the Word a -



came and in the flood of Je - sus' blood are cleansed from
sigh; at home a - bove the God of love for - e'er their
broad; re - joice and bring your fruits and sing be - fore the



guilt and blame. Now gath - ered in the ho - ly place,
tears shall dry. They now en - joy the Sab - bath rest,
throne of God. Swing high your palms, lift up your song,



their voic - es they in wor - ship raise; their an - thems
the heav'n - ly ban - quet of the blest; the Lamb, their
yes, make it myr - iad voic - es strong! Let heav - en



rise where God re - sides, mid an - gels' songs of praise.
Lord, at fes - tive board him - self is host and guest.
ring— to Christ the King all praise and thanks be - long!

Stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

**We have done those things that we should not have done,
and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

Have mercy on us, Lord!

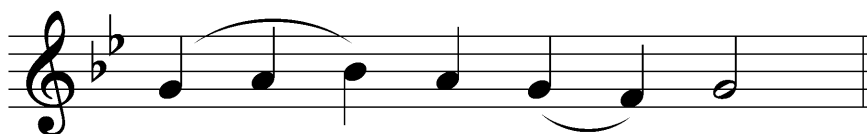
**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen.**

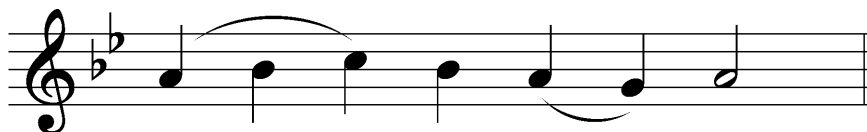
LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



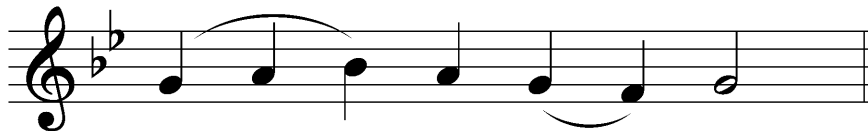
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



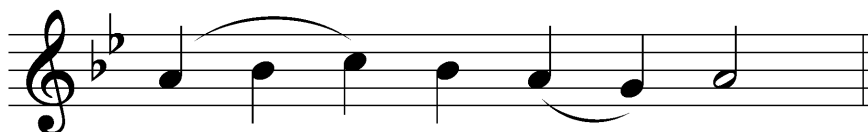
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. Lord God,

heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your

glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. For you a -

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Our status as saints not only restores our broken relationship with God. It also creates an inseparable bond with the rest of this blessed communion that not even death can separate. This prayer was written by Thomas Cranmer and comes from the *Book of Common Prayer* of 1549.

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, you have knit your people together
into one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord.
Grant us grace to follow the example of your blessed saints
in lives of faith and willing service
and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys
that 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. Amen.**

Be seated

FIRST READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

Though there will no peace for the wicked...the Lord promises peace to his saints in the New Jerusalem. Here you will dwell with the Lord forever as he takes joy and delight in you! Effects of sin like death and crying will be "the former things" (verse 17). They will be long forgotten...counted among the casualties of restoration. In joy will you carry out the activities of faithful living to the glory of your heavenly Companion. This relationship began at your baptism and finishes in eternity.

¹⁷ "See, I will create new heavens and a new earth.
The former things will not be remembered,
nor will they come to mind.

¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create,
for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.

¹⁹ I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people;
the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.

²⁰ "Never again will there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days,
or an old man who does not live out his years;
the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child;
the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed.

²¹ They will build houses and dwell in them;
they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²² No longer will they build houses and others live in them,
or plant and others eat.

For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people;
my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³ They will not labor in vain,
nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune;
for they will be a people blessed by the Lord,
they and their descendants with them.

²⁴ Before they call I will answer;
while they are still speaking I will hear.

²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will feed together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox,

and dust will be the serpent's food.
They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

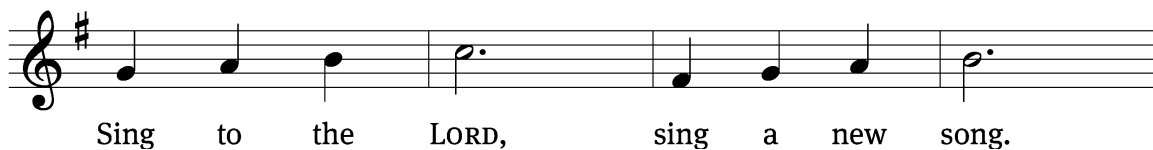
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 149A

Sing to the LORD, a New Song
Soloist will sing the first refrain and verse 1

Refrain



Verses



- 1 Sing praise to the LORD, come sing a new song;
- 2 With tim - brel and harp and joy - ful ac - claim,
- 3 In glo - ry ex - ult, you saints of the LORD;
- 4 For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail,



a - mid all the saints God's prais - es pro - long;
with danc - ing and song give praise to God's name;
with songs in the night high prais - es ac - cord;
but o - ver the earth their faith shall pre - vail;



let Is - rael be glad in their mak - er and sing,
for God in the faith - ful great plea - sure will seek,
go forth in God's ser - vice, be strong in his might
all king - doms and na - tions shall yield to their sword—



Refrain

let all Zi - on's peo - ple re - joice in their King.
with robes of sal - va - tion a - dorn - ing the meek.
to con - quer all e - vil and stand for the right.
thus God shows great glo - ry, sing praise to the LORD.

SECOND READING

Revelation 20:4-6

What a fitting scene for All Saints! John...writing the vision he received from Jesus...see souls in heaven. We have part in the first resurrection. We were brought from death to life (Ephesians 2)... given the gift of faith and the ability to see the glory of God even through the persecutions and struggles. The second death...the separation from God at judgment day...has no authority over us.

⁴I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. ⁵(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 7:15



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



They are before the throne of God

Refrain



and serve him day and night in his temple.

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GOSPEL

John 11:32-44

Our joy on the Festival of All Saints is that Jesus has overcome death and we have life...here and now and in all eternity. The first two readings focus on the eternal victory God's saints enjoy. The Gospel shows how that is possible here and now. Too often, we see death...and struggles for the present pain they cause...but the Festival of All Saints draws our eyes out from them to see the glory of God.

³²When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.

³⁴“Where have you laid him?” he asked.

“Come and see, Lord,” they replied.

³⁵Jesus wept.

³⁶Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”

³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹“Take away the stone,” he said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

⁴⁰Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”

⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

For All the Saints | 880



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
 3 Oh, may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold
 4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!



who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
 thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
 fight as the saints who nobly fought of old and
 We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
 thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
 win with them the victor's crown of gold.
 all are one in thee, for all are thine.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
 steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
 and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon, to faithful warriors cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

8 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.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

SERMON

Isaiah 65:17-25

"Through the Looking-Glass"

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.**

CONNECT

We would kindly ask everyone to fill out a [Connect Card](#) now. If you are worshipping with us virtually, we kindly ask that you also fill out a digital Connect Card. What will be the “next steps” you can take as a response to the message you have heard today? You can also let us know how we can pray for you or ask for more information on one of the ministries or programs we are offering. Thank you!

OFFERING

If you're visiting today...we're glad to have you as our guest. Please don't feel any obligation to participate in this part of the service. In fact...we hope you'll consider this service our gift to you! This offering is an opportunity for those of us who are regular attenders to invest tangibly in what God is doing here. If you do wish to give an offering...please feel free to do so.

Giving Options:

- ◆ Scan the QR code to the right.
- ◆ give your gift [online](#).
- ◆ via text message: text “GIVE” to 877.492.5452 and follow the text instructions.



Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, we come before you on this All Saints Sunday, giving thanks for the faithful saints who have gone before us and now rest in your eternal glory. In Christ, you have promised us the victory over sin and death. Confident in your promises, we bring our prayers and praises to you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious Father, we thank you for the lives of all your faithful people, for their witness to your love, and their faithfulness in serving you. Give us the courage to follow their example, that we, too, may proclaim your name in both word and deed.

Lord, strengthen our faith and make us steadfast.

Lord Jesus, you are the resurrection and the life. Comfort those who mourn with the hope of the resurrection and the promise that we shall be reunited with our loved ones in your presence. Give peace to all who carry the weight of sorrow.

Grant us hope, Lord, and turn our eyes toward heaven.

Holy Spirit, as we wait in hope for the glorious return of Christ, sanctify us and renew our spirits. Prepare us to be part of that great multitude gathered before your throne, that we may live in holiness and purity.

Lead us, Spirit of God, in paths of righteousness.

Almighty God, we pray for your church around the world, that we may be a faithful witness to your grace. Unite us in our calling to be your hands and feet, proclaiming your love and sharing your mercy with all people.

Make us one in Christ, Lord, and grant your church strength.

Special intercessions

We look forward with joy, Lord, to that great day when we will join the saints and angels in praise. Until that day, keep us firm in faith, steadfast in hope, and filled with love, that we may glorify you in our lives and be a light to those who do not yet know you.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

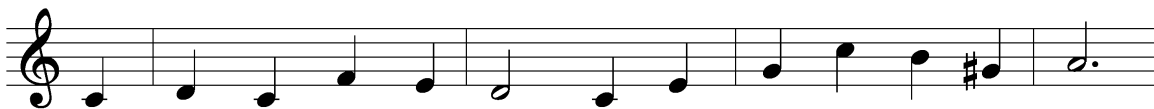
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Hymn Appreciation: This 12th century hymn is composed of selected verses from Bernard of Cluny's "*De Contemptu Mundi*"... "On Contempt for the World". Bernard saw how this world was corrupt through-and-through. And so...latching on to Scripture's prophecies of a "New Jerusalem"...he longed for the world that is to come. Examine the words of *Jerusalem the Golden*. It is clear that the author is *not* writing about the actual City of David...but heaven.



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, with milk and hon - ey blest—
 2 They stand, those halls of Zi - on, all ju - bi - lant with song
 3 There is the throne of Da - vid, and there, from care re - leased,
 4 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, the home of God's e - lect!



the sight of it re - fresh - es the wea - ry and op - pressed.
 and bright with man - y an an - gel and all the mar - tyr throng.
 the shout of them that tri - umph, the song of them that feast.
 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try that ea - ger hearts ex - pect!



I know not, oh, I know not what joys a - wait us there,
 The Prince is ev - er in them, the day - light is se - rene;
 And they who with their lead - er have con - quered in the fight
 In mer - cy, Je - sus, bring us to that dear land of rest;



what ra - dian - cy of glo - ry, what bliss be - yond com - pare.
 the pas - tures of the bless - ed are ev - er rich and green.
 for - ev - er and for - ev - er are clad in robes of white.
 you are with God the Fa - ther and Spir - it ev - er blest.

SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER/PREACHER: Pastor Brian Pechman

SERVICE ACCOMPANIST: Malachi Hacker

MUSICIANS: Pastor Adam Bode, Tori Engel, Stan Grzonka, Nikki Leahy, and Nick & Tanya Schmidt

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Nack, Lisa Specht, Rachel Rehbein, Christina Sprenger

USHERS: 8:00a – Jeremy Pieper, Josh Pieper, Jason Pieper, Jon Pieper, Paul Holzwart

10:30a – Eric Vant Hul, Loren Reinemann, Mark Kolosovsky, Brad Tinker, Derek Grunwald

OFFERINGS: 10.27 & 10.28 – \$22,600 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$19,200) | \$300 – GROWING FORWARD

ATTENDANCE: 10.27 & 10.28 – 8:00A – 198 | 10:30A – 145 | 6:00P – 26

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...

- ◆ Agnes Froemming (mother of Cheri Hanson) celebrating her 106th birthday on November 6th.
- ◆ Ed & Sandy Strauss celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary on November 7th.
- ◆ Sigmund & Regina Bulitz celebrating their 71st wedding anniversary on November 6th.
- ◆ Angie Pechman deliberating her call to St. Paul's for 4K.
- ◆ Greg & Dawn Johnson deliberating calls to St. Paul in Wonewoc, WI.
- ◆ As our nation votes, that the Lord would bring about good for our nation and preserve the peace that allows for the proclamation of the gospel.

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