

Holy Trinity Anglican Church Metcalfe
THE FEASTS OF ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS
OCTOBER 29, 2023
Reverend Michael Fleming

Celebrant: As we gather together as family in this sacred space of Holy Trinity, we acknowledge that we are located on the unceded territory of the Anishinaabe people.

All: **May we continue our journey together in a spirit of hope, trust and reconciliation.**

Fr. Michael: Alleluia! Sing to the Lord a new song! Praise God in the company of all those who love the Lord and let all God's people living and dead celebrate their Sovereign Lord with music and with dance! For God is here among us and delights to hear our praises. Alleluia! And the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be among us this new day.

All: **Alleluia!**

Celebrant: As community called and gathered, together we pray, Almighty God,

All: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: And now with all the saints in heaven and all the saints here on this good earth, together we acclaim, "Glory to God in the highest,

All: **and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: Almighty God, whose people are knit together in one holy Church, the mystical body of your Son; 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 your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

All: **Amen** (Collect for All Saints)

Fr Michael: Father of all, we pray for those we love and see no longer, grant them your peace. Let your light perpetually shine upon them, and in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

All: **Amen** (Collect for All Souls)

Reader: A reading from Revelations (7:9-17)

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne,

and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: God of faithful surprises, throughout the ages you have made known your love and power in unexpected ways, places and people. May we daily perceive the joy and wonder of your abiding presence and offer our lives in gratitude for our redemption.

All: **Amen**

Reader: Our psalm for this new day is Psalm 34

I will bless the Lord at all times; *

All: **his praise shall ever be in my mouth.**

Reader: I will glory in the Lord; *

All: **let the humble hear and rejoice.**

Reader: Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *

All: **let us exalt his name together.**

Reader: I sought the Lord, and he answered me *

All: **and delivered me out of all my terror.**

Reader: Look upon him and be radiant, *

All: **and let not your faces be ashamed.**

Reader: I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *

All: **and saved me from all my troubles.**

Reader: The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him,

All: **and he will deliver them.**

Reader: Taste and see that the Lord is good; *

All: **happy are they who trust in him!**

Reader: Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *

All: **for those who fear him lack nothing.**

Reader: The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *

All: **but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

Reader: Come, children, and listen to me; *

All: **I will teach you the fear of the Lord.**

Reader: Who among you loves life *

All: **and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

Reader: Keep your tongue from evil-speaking *

All: **and your lips from lying words.**

Reader: Turn from evil and do good; *

All: **seek peace and pursue it.**

Reader: The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, *

All: **and his ears are open to their cry.**

Reader: The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, *

All: **to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.**

Reader: The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them

All: **and delivers them from all their troubles.**

Reader: The Lord is near to the brokenhearted *

All: **and will save those whose spirits are crushed.**

Reader: Many are the troubles of the righteous, *

All: **but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.**

Reader: He will keep safe all his bones; *

All: **not one of them shall be broken.**

Reader: Evil shall slay the wicked, *

All: **and those who hate the righteous will be punished.**

Reader: The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *

All: **and none will be punished who trust in him.**

Reader: Hear us, Lord, when we cry to you. Calm our bodies and minds with the peace which passes understanding, and make us radiant with the knowledge of your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Reader: A reading from 1 John 3:1-3

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Living God, in Jesus Christ you stand among us as a sign of healing, hope and joy to our wounded world and our bruised spirits. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we may have faith and life through Jesus our Risen Saviour.

All: **Amen**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ according to the Blessed St. Matthew (Matthew 5:1-12)

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Fr. Michael: And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: and he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for their's is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for their's is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Fr. Michael: This is the very Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

THE HOMILY - During this time, we shall offer to the glory of God the memory of those we love who now rest in peace. You are invited to light and bring to the altar a special candle which will be placed on the altar for the duration of our celebration.

Fr. Michael: Eternal and life-giving God, you alone are the source of our lives, in you alone we live and move and have our being, through you alone we have been given the gift of human love and friendship. All that we have is yours alone and all we are all that we have must return to you at the last.

Fr. Michael: We give you thanks for all your gifts: for love and friendship, for life shared with others, for joy and wisdom and especially this day for the lives of those whom we love but see no longer, through whose strengths and weaknesses we have been enriched. Eternal and life-giving God, help us to entrust our dearly departed loved ones into your loving and faithful care; help us to return to you with thankful hearts the gift of life you shared with us through them and help us to remember that we remain one in the Spirit and in Christ because neither death nor life can ever separate us from your love offered in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

THE PLACING OF LIGHT -please take a candle from the table in the Narthex and bear it to the altar where it will be lit and placed in loving memory

Fr. Michael: Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven". Keep us from being preoccupied with money and worldly goods and striving to increase them at the expense of justice... You said, "Blessed are the gentle for they shall inherit the earth". Help us not to be ruthless with one another and to eliminate the discord and violence that exists in the world around us... You said, "Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted." Let us not be impatient under our own burdens and unconcerned about the burdens of others... You said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right, for they shall be filled." Make us thirst for you, the fount of all holiness and actively spread your influence in our private lives, in the life of this community and in society... You said, "Blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy." Grant that we may be quick to forgive and slow to judge and condemn... You said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Help us to free ourselves from selfishness so we may fix our gaze upon you... You said, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." Help us to make peace within our families, in our nation and in the world... You said, "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the cause of justice, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them." Make us willing to suffer for the sake of righteousness rather than practising injustice and do not let us discriminate against our neighbours and oppress and persecute others... You said, "I am the light of the world." As you shared your light through those whom we remember this day, help to let our light so shine before others that through us they may be drawn to your perfect light and life. All this we pray in Jesus' blessed name.

All: **Amen**

Fr. Michael: Let us affirm our faith and the faith of the generations that faithfully followed where you led them as we say, I believe in God the Father Almighty,

All: **creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was**

conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

Fr. Michael: Gracious and righteous Lord, we are united in the love of Jesus Christ. Accept all that we offer you this day and bring us, with all your faithful people who have gone before us and wait for our reunion with them, into your eternal joy and life. We pray this in the name of Jesus who is Lord now and forever.

All: **Amen**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Fr. Michael: Eternal God, source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another, to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world. When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to paths of righteousness. You stand with the weak and those who are broken or alone whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last and the last first. Therefore, we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and saying,

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Fr. Michael: Blessed are you, O Holy One. When Hagar was driven into the wilderness, you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness to the promised land. When the people were taken into exile, you wept with them by the rivers of Babylon and carried them home.

People: **Restore us O God; let your light shine!**

Fr. Michael: At the right time, you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, the depressed and all those who grieve. Jesus touched lepers and the sick and healed them; he accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the Cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love. On the night that he was betrayed, Jesus at supper with his friends took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to them and said, "Take this and eat it; this is my body broken and given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in the remembrance of me." Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore, we proclaim our hope,

People: **Dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Fr. Michael: Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts, that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all those whose lives are marked by suffering and loss, our sisters and brothers. We remember especially today those whom we love but see no longer. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

People: **Restore us O God. Let your face shine!**

Fr. Michael: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and all glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for evermore.

All: **Amen.**

Fr. Michael: As Christ has gifted to his church through all generations, so we pray, Our Father
People: **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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: Lord, we died with you on the Cross.

People: **Now we are raised to new life.**

Fr. Michael: We were buried in your tomb.

People: **Now we share in your resurrection.**

Fr. Michael: Live in us, that we may live in you.

Fr. Michael: These are the very gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

WE SHARE THE GIFTS OF GOD WITH ONE ANOTHER

Fr. Michael: Almighty God, you have knit together your chosen people into one fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Jesus. Give to your whole Church in heaven and here on this good earth your light and your peace. You consoled Mary and Martha when their brother Lazarus died; comfort us in our sorrow and loss as we remember. Draw near to us and dry the tears of all who weep. You wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus; comfort us in our sorrow and loss as we remember. You raise the dead to life; we thank you for giving our beloved ones eternal life through Jesus. You promised life to those who believed in you and your Father; thank you for the faith of the ones we mourn today and we rejoice that they have found eternal joy and fellowship with all the saints. As they were nourished with the Bread of Life in their lifetimes, give us the comfort of knowing that they have places at your feasting table of everlasting joy. Hold us in our time of grieving and sorrow and let your grace be our consolation and your promise of eternal life our hope. Walk with us while we are still on our earthly pilgrimage and lead us by the power of your Spirit in holiness and in righteousness of life.

People: **Faithful and life-giving God, we thank you for all those who have served you in ages past and have left us an example of their faithfulness. We thank you for our loved ones who, having served you in this life, have now entered your eternal rest to live with you forever. Help us we pray to follow in faith where Jesus has led the way and where so many have followed so that we, with them, may find the eternal victory and joy which you have promised. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, Friend and Brother. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: Loving Gardener of life, turn our time of sorrow toward a season of hope. We long to return to joy; we long to be free from sadness. May the eyes of our faith look beyond our loss and see the promise of Spring that follows every Fall and Winter. Never-ending Source of Hope, may the power of the resurrection assure us of future happiness. We hold out our downcast spirits to you and await the healing that we need, confident that your grace will restore our inner peace. And the peace of God which passes all our understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, And the blessing of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – be with us all this day and for evermore.

All: **Amen.**

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