

Hymn of Praise *For All the Saints verses 1 & 8* Hymnal #287

For all the saints, who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy Name, O Jesus, be for ever blessed. Alleluia, alleluia!

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!

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

A reading the first book of Ezekiel *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24*

The Lord God proclaims: I myself will search for my flock and seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out the flock when some in the flock have been scattered, so will I seek out my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered during the time of clouds and thick darkness. I will gather and lead them out from the countries and peoples, and I will bring them to their own fertile land. I will feed them on Israel's highlands, along the riverbeds, and in all the inhabited places. I will feed them in good pasture, and their sheepfold will be there, on Israel's lofty highlands. On Israel's highlands, they will lie down in a secure fold and feed on green pastures. I myself will feed my flock and make them lie down. This is what the Lord God says. I will seek out the lost, bring back the strays, bind up the wounded, and strengthen the weak. But the fat and the strong I will destroy, because I will tend my sheep with justice. So the Lord God proclaims to them: I will judge between the fat and the lean sheep. You shove with shoulder and flank, and with your horns you ram all the weak sheep until you've scattered them outside. But I will rescue my flock so that they will never again be prey. I will even judge between the sheep! I will appoint for them a single shepherd, and he will feed them. My servant David will feed them. He will be their shepherd. I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant

David will be their prince. I, the Lord, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The psalm for this morning is Psalm 100. It can be found in your prayer books on page 729. Let us read it responsively by half verse.

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 25:31-40

Jesus said, “Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left. “Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’ “Then those who are righteous will reply to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ “Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

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

The Prayers of the People

As Jesus gathered his followers on a hill to teach, let us join Jesus, the apostles, and all the saints, as we pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their need.

O God, you have established Jesus to be the king of creation and head of your holy Church. Bind that Church to Christ with cords of love; make it unswerving in faith and bold in witness to him, especially where it endures persecution for his sake; and use your Church to draw all people to him so that they will acclaim him as Lord, King, and Savior.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill the people of this congregation with your Holy Spirit, so that in all we say and do, among all people we encounter, we resemble Jesus your son.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have made this land rich with resources, and resplendent with the virtues of freedom, justice, opportunity, and honesty. Grant that all who live here may be responsible stewards of those resources; tireless examples of those virtues; and thankful sharers of every blessing with which you have graced us.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have made your Son Lord of the nations. By your Holy Spirit, conform the hearts of leaders and people to the heart

of Christ; and let his peace reign in every land.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have made your Son our light, joy, and crown. Grant that his strong saving love might accompany those who serve our country, here and abroad. Fill them with honor, courage, and wisdom; and bring them home in safety.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have made your Son fairer than sunlight, stars, meadows, or woodlands. Let his beauty, healing, and compassion cause all sorrowing hearts to sing, especially: Downs IV, Holden, Nikolai, and Brian. Grant healing and recovery for all who have gone through surgery. Give peace and strength for those going through cancer treatments, especially John, Victoria, Andres, Ginny, Alex, Colleen and Jack. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Bob, Ruth, Timothy, Don, Barbara and Mike. Be near to all who are in hospice care.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we grieve for our dead, but not without hope. Thank you for receiving them into your merciful care, especially those we name now. *Silence*

Gracious Father, you have made your Son to shine more brightly than all of heaven's angels. We thank you for the lives of the faithful departed, who already see his glory face

to face. Fill us with such faith and love that, in your good time, we shall join them in singing, "Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forever more be thine."

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayer; and graciously grant all that glorifies you and benefits our broken world, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #383 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O thou God of man the Son;
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou,
My soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels heaven can boast.