



All Saints Day is this coming Sunday, November 7th. This special day allows us an opportunity to give thanks to the Lord for those godly people He has placed in our lives, (many who have gone on before us to their heavenly home).

LET US CONSIDER THE "ALL" IN ALL SAINTS!

All includes those *special people the Lord placed in our lives.* When we think of them we can see their beloved faces, hear their names, and remember their ways or expressions they used. On All Saints day we can give thanks to the Lord for the time we had them in our lives. We can also be encouraged knowing that they are in Heaven and that we will be reunited with them in the future!



All includes everyone who has died in the Lord, from all times and all places! All Saints brings into focus our own beloved departed while also stretching our imagination toward the "communion of saints (whole company of saints) consisting of all those who are in Christ and now in Heaven!

The book of Revelation describes these multitudes of saints in Heaven as: "a number no one could count" with saints "from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. And they were shouting with a great roar, "Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!" Rev 7:9-10

All Saints proclaims a mystery...we remain in communion with those who have gone to Heaven ahead of us.

All were/are sinners. The miracle of the Communion of Saints is that we have a merciful, gracious and forgiving God who has saved us from our sin... because the Bible is clear that "all have sinned & fallen short of the glory of God". (Rm 6:23) When it comes to sin we are all "equals" - we're all sinners. God's Word says "*There is none righteous, no, not one*" (Rm 3:10)

All are saved by grace. When we are referring to "saints" we are not talking about "super Christians" who never sinned and were so perfect that they are a different type of beings than we are. No, rather, we understand that they are ordinary people who have been made holy, blameless and without reproach through Jesus' atoning death on the cross! They are saints and we are saints... *because we have been justified by Jesus!*

All of us in Christ are assured that there is a place for us inside of Heaven's gate. Jesus said "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in Me. There is more than enough room in My Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with Me where I am. John 14:1-4 The Lord has a place in Heaven for our loved ones... *and a place for me and you!*

All creation waits for the Great Day of the Lord when Jesus will come in glory. God's Word says "For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who His children really are. For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as His adopted children, including the new bodies He has promised us. Rom 8:19, 22-23 The day will come when the Lord Jesus will return with the sound of a trumpet our bodies will be raised - imperishable and glorified...and we will share in Christ's reign for eternity. What a day that will be!

Let us pray:

Father God, thank you for the eternal life we have in Christ and that in You, we have hope for the future. Help us see past this everyday earthly life we live and see by Your Word into the place that You have prepared for us and all those who have been made alive by Your Gospel. Pour out Your grace to comfort and console those whose loved one is no longer here but with You.

Grant that the "blessed hope" of Your promise be stirred up within all of us by Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

*May the Lord bless you and take great care of you
May the Lord be kind and gracious to you;
May the Lord look on you with favor
and give you and your household peace.
Blessings, Pastor Michael & Mary*

Please call to set up a home visit for communion or prayer.

Pastor Michael - 570 933-4065 Mary - 570-933-1670 DiAnn Ferry - 758-1766

To visit our church website or watch services online: www.emmanuelchurch-dornsife.org

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PLEASE NOTE: We are now sending out our newsletter monthly instead of bi-weekly.

It is also available on our website.

Chuckles *A merry heart does good, like medicine* (Proverbs 17:22)

A German Shepherd, Doberman and a cat have died.

All three are faced with God who wants to know what they believe in.

The German shepherd says: "I believe in discipline training & loyalty to my master."

"Good," says God. "Then sit down on my right side.

Doberman, what do you believe in?"

The Doberman answers: "I believe in the love, care & protection of my master."

Ah," said God. "You may sit to my left."

Then he looks at the cat and asks, "And what do you believe?"

The cat answers: "I believe you're sitting in my seat."

