



WORSHIP KIT

GOD WILL WIPE  
**EVERY TEAR**  
FROM THEIR EYES

ALL SAINTS

G O D W I L L W I P E  
EVERY TEAR  
F R O M T H E I R E Y E S

ALL SAINTS

Complete Script For Worship Leaders

- **A Rite of Remembrance** opening section's hymn is sung by the congregation to the tune Sine Nomine 10 10 10 10, interspersed with words spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
All who by faith before the world confessed,  
Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
You, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
You, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**P** Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

**C** **Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.**

**P** These are they who have come out of the great ordeal. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old  
And win with them the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
Yet all are one within your great design. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, those who die in the Lord still live with you in joy and blessedness.

**C** **We give you thanks for the grace you have bestowed upon your servants who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors.**

*(The names of those who have died in the past year are spoken before the Lord.)*

**P** Into your hands we commend them, O merciful Savior, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming.

**C** **Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The golden evening brightens in the west;  
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;  
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. 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 **Prayer of the Day** is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

**P** On this day when we remember those who have gone before us to be with you in heaven, we remember that they are surrounded by joy and gladness as they gather around your throne and as you wipe every tear from their eyes. Help us to remember, too, that you comfort us here on this side of heaven, as well as with your resurrection promise that we will one day be with them in glory and will share in the everlasting life you have granted, tear-free, sin-free, and joy-filled. Amen.

• The **Children's Message** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

*Needed: a box of tissues*

**P** Hello, boys and girls. Today we celebrate All Saints, the day we remember those who have gone before us to be with God in heaven. What do I have here? *(Show box of tissues and allow the children to respond.)* That's right! It's a box of tissues. When loved ones pass away, we feel sad, and we cry and we use tissues to dry our tears. But do you know what dries our tears even better than this box of tissues? It is God himself. The Bible says, "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). Our loved ones who

have died and are now in heaven have no more tears because they are with the Lord, and he has wiped away every tear from their eyes because they are loved and forgiven and free from sin forevermore through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

We are sad and cry sometimes when we miss our loved ones who have died, but we have the comfort of knowing that they are with the Lord. Our tears of sadness turn to tears of gladness when we remember that our loved ones are enjoying everlasting life and celebrating the love and care of the Lord forevermore. Let us pray:

Thank you, dear Lord, for the lives of those who have gone before us to be in heaven with you. Comfort us with the sure hope that all their tears have been wiped away by you and that they are safe and cared for by you in the mansions above. Amen.

- The **Scripture**, Hebrews 4:9-16, is spoken by the pastor:

**P** So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- A **Gospel Celebration** is read in sections by the pastor from John 17:1-24, interspersed by hymn verses sung by the congregation to the tune Hymn to Joy 87 87 D:

Bless-ed are the poor in spirit, for God's kingdom shall be theirs.  
Blest are those who mourn with grieving; they of God shall be the heirs.  
They shall not be lost, forsaken, but shall comfort full receive.  
God will bless them with his mercy and their ev'ry fear relieve.

**P** When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

Bless-ed are the meek and lowly; God shall give them of the earth.  
Blest are they who thirst for rightness; God shall fill their hunger, thirst.  
God shall bless the ones whose mercy mirrors his abundant grace.  
God will bless them now, forever; they in heav'n shall have a place.

Ⓟ I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

Blest are they whose hearts are purely living truly by God's grace;  
They receive God's favored blessing and behold him face to face.  
Blest are those who seek not warfare but seek peace most constantly;  
Children of the Lord, they always live in peace eternally.

Ⓟ While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Bless-ed are the persecuted, cursed, insulted, and reviled;  
Though great evil stands before them, they shall never be defiled  
Who for Christ's sake bear such evil, suff'ring, death, or bitter pain.  
Their reward is great and plenteous: they God's kingdom shall obtain.

Ⓟ I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the

foundation of the world.

Laud and praise and glory ever be to you, our Savior King!  
For you bless, whate'er betide us; comfort, strength and hope you bring.  
Great reward to us you've given; we rejoice with praise and song.  
In our lives are joy and gladness now that we to you belong.

- **The Homily** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

**P** How do you picture them—the saints who have gone before us, those whom we named earlier in this service, those who are the subject of our hymns today, and of our prayers? How do you picture yourself in heaven, when your time comes? What does the future hold—what does eternity hold—for all the saints?

In places like Revelation 7, the Bible pictures them (us, eventually) robed in white—a picture of forgiveness and holiness. And having palm branches in our hands, the symbol of victory, eternal victory. For all eternity, the saints are in the presence of God, the God who saved us by sending his Son to be the Lamb, “the Lamb who was slain” so that our sins might be forgiven and we might thus be partakers of the life that knows no end.

“That knows no end.” That description of eternity is typical of many. So many of the pictures the Bible offers us of heaven are cast in the negative, not so much telling us what heaven is like, but what is NOT part of our eternal experience. “They will hunger no more,” God’s Word promises, “nor will they ever be thirsty. The blazing sun will never strike them, nor any scorching heat.” Eternal life described not so much in terms of things that are (although those abound as well: “God will lead them to the waters of life”), but especially of things that are not, perhaps most aptly summarized by the line from Revelation 7 that will be the last spoken line of our service this morning: “God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Try to picture that! I don’t know what you have cried about lately, what has brought you to tears either recently or in the more distant past, but I do know that tears are a part of our human experience. What brought on the tears? What brings them on? Pain or injury? Disappointment or failure? ... DEATH?—the death of someone you love, or the prospect of your own dying? When the tears came—when the tears come—how do they get wiped away?

Children do a lot of crying, you may have noticed. But it usually doesn’t last very long ... because there is someone there to kiss it and make it better, to comfort them in their weeping, to wipe away the tears from their eyes. Children can get over it pretty quickly ... compared with older people, for example, who have experienced something like the death of a loved one, and it seems they will never get over it. The difference seems to be that in the case of little children, someone is there to wipe away their tears, often by distracting them, offering something better, more desirable, than what caused the crying.

Tune.....Sine Nomine 10 10 10 10

- **A Rite of Remembrance** opening section's hymn is sung by the congregation to the tune Sine Nomine 10 10 10 10, interspersed with words spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
All who by faith before the world confessed,  
Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
You, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
You, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**P** Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

**C** **Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.**

**P** These are they who have come out of the great ordeal. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old  
And win with them the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
Yet all are one within your great design. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, those who die in the Lord still live with you in joy and blessedness.

**C** **We give you thanks for the grace you have bestowed upon your servants who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors.**

*(The names of those who have died in the past year are spoken before the Lord.)*

**P** Into your hands we commend them, O merciful Savior, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming.

**C** **Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The golden evening brightens in the west;  
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;  
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. 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!