



MIFFLIN AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 1, 2020

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

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Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us.

**Order of Worship
Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost
All Saints' Sunday**

CENTERING

GREETING

PRELUDE:

"Prelude"

Goltermann

(As the prelude begins, you are invited to center yourself for worship)

GATHERING WORDS:

Pastor: There are many who have walked the path toward God before us, showing us the way with their lives.

People: We come to celebrate the lives of persons we call Saints and give thanks for them.

Pastor: Some have touched us personally; others have touched, and called into question, the institutions and structures of our society.

People: As they were called, so we are called, to live as Jesus did, answering the call of God, saying, "Here I am! Send me."

Pastor: We come today to worship the Holy One and celebrate these persons and their lives in all aspects of God's creation!

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

PRAISING

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "

For All the Saints"

No. 711 (vv 1, 2, & 6)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We remember, O God...

People: The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time.

Pastor: We remember, O God...

People: The tender touch of loved ones, the example of heroes, the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

HYMN:

"Blest Art They"

TFWS No. 2155 (refrain)

Pastor: We remember, O God...

People: The gentle strength of grandmothers and grandfathers, the loyalty of friends, the kindness of strangers, the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.

Pastor: We remember, O God...

People: The supreme love of Jesus, the blessing of his Spirit, the reminder of his words, the sharing of his suffering, the glory of his resurrection: shown forth in the lives of his disciples, young and old, dead and living, articulate and silent, strange and familiar, brilliant and ordinary.

Pastor: We remember in every time and place the saints of God who have shown us the Lord.

People: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...let us worship God with joy!

HYMN:

"Blest Art They"

TFWS No. 2155 (refrain)

OPENING PRAYER

Our Heavenly Father, we, your children, gather to give thanks for your loving care. We praise you for the great heritage which is ours, left for us by all your children who have gone before us and now abide with you in eternity. We glorify your holy name for the assurance that we are surrounded by this great host, and we lift our voices with them in praise to you. Amen.

INTROIT:

"Shepherd Me, O God"

TWFS 2058 (2 times)

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"All Glory Be to God on High"

Zachau

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord, as we remember those who have gone before -- those who sacrificed so we could hear the Word of life, those who gave their resources so we could have a house of worship, those who gave of themselves so we could receive Christ -- we present these gifts of thanksgiving and praise. Amen.

HEARING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts;

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

"Thy Word"

FIRST LESSON

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Revelation 7:9-17

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia"

"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

No. 186

*GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Pastors: A reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Matthew 5:1-12

*GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 71

PROCLAIMING

SERMON

The Call to Victory!

Rev. Russel Shuluga

REMEMBERING

Celebrating Our Saints

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Pastor: For all the saints who have gone before us,

People: God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith.

Pastor: For all the saints who have been beloved to us,

People: God, we give thanks for our loved ones who have passed on.

Pastor: For all the saints who have left us too soon,

People: God, we mourn their passing, and they remain in our hearts.

Pastor: For all the saints who have exemplified the faithful life,

People: God, may we learn from their ways and follow you.

Pastor: On this day, we name those who have died in the last year . . .

NAMING OF THE HONORED DEAD

(As each name is read, friends and family are invited to stand. A family member is invited to come forward to light a memorial candle and receive a flower.) Our honored Saints are: Jeffrey L. Anglin, Edwin L. Cracraft, Marjorie Gensler, Beatrice Humphries, Edward B. Sawhill,

The Reverend Paul D. Taylor, Allan Andrew (Andy) Thomas, Dorothy (Dottie) Wood and Ryan Wayne Wilfong

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE CONTINUES ...

Pastor: For all the saints, God, we give thanks to you. God has given. God has received those who were loaned to us.

People: We rejoice and find peace in the assurance of eternal life.

PRAYERS FOR THE SAINTS:

Living God, in whom there is no shadow or change, we thank you for the gift of life eternal, and for all those who having served you well, now rest from their labors. We thank you for all the saints remembered and forgotten, for those dear souls most precious to us. Today we give thanks for those who during the last year have died and entered into glory. We bless you for their life and love, and rejoice for them "all is well, and all manner of things will be well." Amen

MOMENT OF SILENCE

CHIMING OF THE BELLS

(The bells will ring seven times, which in the scriptures denotes completeness, wholeness and perfection.)

*LITANY OF HOPE AND GRACE

Pastor: Blessed are the dead who die in Christ from henceforth,
People: that they may rest from their labors, for their works shall follow them.
Pastor: Do not be ignorant, friends, concerning those who fall asleep.
People: That you sorrow not as those who have no hope;
Pastor: for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again,
People: even so, those who have fallen asleep in Jesus will God receive.
Pastor: Jesus said, "In God's house are many rooms . . . for I go to prepare a place for you."
People: "I will not leave you desolate, I will come to you."
Pastor: "The Comforter, the Holy Spirit, shall teach you all things, and bring to you remembrance of all that I have said to you."
People: "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."
Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and I am life."
People: Anyone who believes in me, though they die, yet shall they live.
Pastor: I am the Resurrection and I am life.
People: And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.
Pastor: I am the Resurrection and I am life.
People: I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.
Pastor: I am the Resurrection and I am life.
People: I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I hold the keys of hell and death.
Pastor: I am the Resurrection and I am life.
All: Because I live, you shall live also.

HYMN OF VICTORY:

"Because He Lives"

No. 364 (v s. 1 and 3)

SENDING

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith..

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: "

Danish Amen

No. 898

*RECESSIONAL HYMN:

"Victory in Jesus"

No. 370, v. 3

*POSTLUDE:

"Closing Voluntary"

Brede

"We take the light of Jesus into the world"

