



ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY
November 7, 2021
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 a greeter or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us.

Order of Worship
CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE

“Prelude”

F. Mendelssohn

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

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

Pastor: A thousand days are but a moment to God;

People: All flesh is grass, and withers away.

Pastor: Still, we treasure our days with those whom we love.

People: And reluctantly give them back to God.

Pastor: On this day, we thank God for the saints in our lives.

HYMN

“Shall We Gather at the River”

No. 723, vs. 1 & 2

***Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?***

Refrain

***Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.***

***On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. Repeat Refrain***

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“God, Your Love and Care Surround Us”

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

(Beecher 8.7.8.7D (Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”))

***God, your love and care surround us every moment, every day.
Now we gather to remember those who followed Jesus' way.
Grateful for their lives you've given, now we give them back to you,
Trusting your eternal promise: “I am making all things new!”***

***As an ordinary pebble tossed upon a quiet pond
Sends out rings of rippling waters, moving waters far beyond--
So we touch the lives of others; we are moved by how they live.
Help us, in our joy, remember; help us, in our pain, forgive.***

***“Do not let your hearts be troubled,” Jesus said to those he loved.
“There are many dwelling places in my Father's house above.”
Jesus, you have gone before us; Jesus, you will guide us there.
Lord, we trust your hand to lead us to the place that you prepare.***

***We hold onto what you promise: Earth and heav'n will be made new.
Then your home will be among us; we will always dwell with you.
There will be no sound of weeping; you will wipe away each tear.
God, we trust your promise to us: Now and always, you are here.***

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: This day revives in us memories of loved ones, who are no more. What happiness we shared when they walked among us. What joy, when, loving and being loved, we lived our lives together.

People: Their memory is a blessing forever.

Response: "Blessed Are They" TFWS No. 2155 (Refrain only)

***Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

Pastor: Months or years may have passed, and still we feel near to them. Our hearts yearn for them. Though the bitter grief has softened, a duller pain abides; for the place where once they stood is empty now. The links of life are broken, but the links of love and longing cannot break.

People: Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

Response: "Blessed Are They" TFWS No. 2155 (Refrain only)

***Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

Pastor: We see them now with the eye of memory, their faults forgiven, their virtues grown larger. So does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight. We remember them with gratitude and bless their names.

People: Their memory is a blessing forever.

Response: "Blessed Are They" TFWS No. 2155 (Refrain only)

***Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

Pastor: And we remember, as well the members, who but yesterday were part of our congregation and community. To all who cared for us and labored for all people, we pay tribute. May we prove worthy of carrying on the tradition of our faith, for now the task is ours.

People: Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

Response: "Blessed Are They" TFWS No. 2155 (Refrain only)

***Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

Pastor: We give you thanks they now live and reign with you. As a great crowd of witnesses, they surround us with their blessings, and offer you hymns of praise and thanksgiving.

People: They are alive forever more.

Response: "Blessed Are They" TFWS No. 2155 (Refrain only)

***Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal and Compassionate God, who wipes away the tears from our eyes and removes our sorrow with the promise that our loved ones live on in you, we give you thanks not only for those close to us who have gone on before us to be with you, but for all those saints who by their writings and their lives have enabled us to see more of the light of the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus the Christ. We beseech you, Lord, that with them and with all the host of the redeemed, we may perfectly praise you in your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INTROIT

"Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit"
(Nettleton 8.7.8.7 D 'Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

Carolyn Gillette

***Blessed are the poor in spirit; all God's realm is surely theirs.
Those in mourning will find comfort as an answer to their prayers.
Meek ones whom this world despises will inherit everything.
God, your kingdom still surprises; may we seek the reign you bring.***

***Blessed, too, are those who hunger and who thirst for what is right.
They will not be prone to wander, for your will is their delight.***

*Those who show God's care and mercy will receive that mercy too.
God, in Christ you show us clearly of the joy we have in you.*

*Those who share the peace God gives them will find blessings as God's own.
Those oppressed for faithful living will call heaven's kingdom Home.
When the world's ways seem distressing and we feel life's painful sting.
God remind us of the blessings of the wondrous life you bring.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Receive these offerings that we bring before your altar today, as we remember those who have gone before, those who are present now, and those who will be here after us. All of us share in your great work. May that work be advanced by our combined efforts across time into eternity. These things we pray in your wonderful name, God of glory, God of time, God of the living, both those who live in this world, and those who dwell richly in your kingdom. 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

"The Word"

No. 601 (Refrain only)

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

FIRST LESSON

Revelation 21:1-6a

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALTER

"Psalm 23, Response, "Shepherd Me, O God"

Page 137

2058 Shepherd Me, O God

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

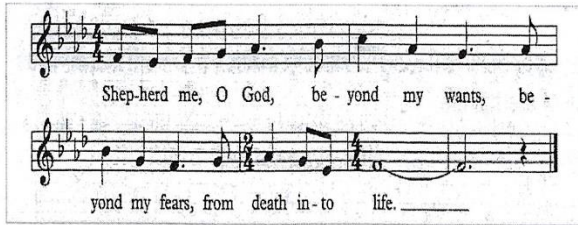
The image shows a musical score for the psalm response. It consists of two staves of music in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

Pastor: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.

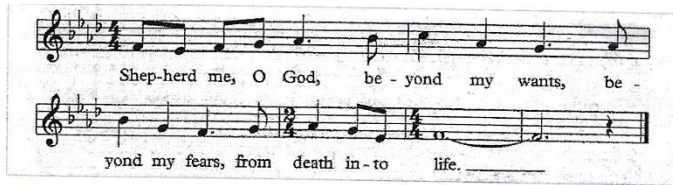
Pastor: He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

People: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.



Pastor: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia"

No. 186

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

*GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. John

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*THE GOSPEL IS READ

John 11:32-44

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.

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

*GLORIA PATRI

"Glory Be to the Father"

No. 70

*Glory Be to the Father and to the Holy Ghost;
s it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.*

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

HOMILY

"Past, Present and Future"

CELEBRATION THROUGH REMEMBERING (CELEBRATING OUR SAINTS)

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Pastor: We have gathered to celebrate the lives of those who died in the last year.

People: **We give thanks for their lives; we receive their deaths as gifts; we commend their spirits to God's eternal being.**

Pastor: The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there, no evil can touch them.

People: They are in peace, and their hope is full of immortality.

Pastor: Let us recall all the saints who have found peace, the shalom in which they now rest.

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: Jon Wayne Barrack, Raymond E. "Gene" Cracraft, Mary B. Crimbly, Veronica Rose Greenberg, Loraine A. Jackson, Dixie J. Lemasters, David M. Morgan, Raymond Penwell, Nancy M. Radovic, Robert E. "Bob" Romano, Anna Shuluga, Mary Jo Uphold, Robert Lee Vatter, Norma Lou Wood, Barry Robert Yant

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE CONITINUES...

Pastor: We surrender to God these Saints whom we have named and commend them to God's everlasting care.

People: Embrace them in you loving arms, O God, so that empowered by your Spirit, this great cloud of witnesses may continue to inspire and guide us by their legacy and their love. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

CHIIMING 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 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 & SLIDE PRESENTATION

"Be Not Afraid"

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*CHARGE

With a loud voice, Jesus said, "Lazarus, come out!" So he calls us now: to go forth in faith and love, living each day as a gift of God's grace, proclaiming the gospel in word and deed. **Amen.**

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: With clean hands and pure hearts, hold fast to the faith of the saints who went before us.

People: In our living and in our dying, we belong to God.

Pastor: With hopeful hearts and expectant spirits, receive the blessings of our gracious host.

People: In our living and in our dying, we belong to God.

Pastor: With Christ as our door to eternal life, find the courage to open the door and go in.

People: In our living and in our dying, we belong to God.



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Danish Amen"

No. 898

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

"For All the Saints"

No. 711, vs. 1 & 4

*For all the saints, who from their labor rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
and all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

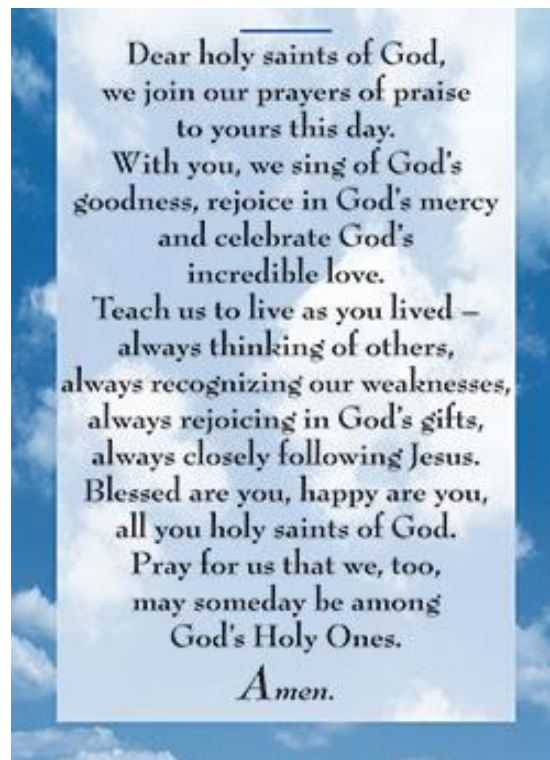
POSTLUDE

"Beloved Jesus, Here We Stand"

M. Dupre

'WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD'

All Saints' Day
November 7



All Souls' Day

November 7

*J*esus, dear Savior,
on this day we prayerfully remember
all our loved ones who have died.
Please give them comfort and hope
and may they be at peace,
knowing that they will
rest in God's arms eternally.
Thank You for our memories of them
and for the good times we shared.
We ask You, please,
through their intercession,
to deepen our faith,
strengthen our hope
and increase our love
that we, too, may someday
stand before You,
ready to enter Your
Holy Kingdom.

*A*men.

