



ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY **November 6, 2022**

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 the greeter or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

Order of Worship

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE

'Prelude and Fugue in C Major'

J. S. Bach

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*

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN & BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

"God, Your Love and Care Surround Us"
(Beecher 8.7.8.7D (Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"))

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

*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

Chorale Prelude 'Blessed Jesus, at thy Word'

* DOXOLOGY

No. 95

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

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER

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

Page 137

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

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.**

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.*

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.**

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.*

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

No. 186

“Alleluia, 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. Luke

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

*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Luke 6: 20-31

*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;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.***

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

HOMILY

“For Everything There Is A Time”

Pastor Russel Shuluga

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: Gary Glasser, Stephen Mark Koesel, Robert Christopher Koesel, Richard Eric Wilson, Harry James Shaner, Clifford John Shaffer, Thomas J. Gaebel, Ronald Leroy Gills, Richard "Dick" Bierer, Evelyn "Lynn" M. Kittner.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE CONTINUES...

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

People: Embrace them in your 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

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 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. 1

***God sent his Son, they called him Jesus, he came to love, heal, and forgive;
he lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.
Because he lives, I can face tomorrow, because he lives, all fear is gone,
because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.***

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*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!*

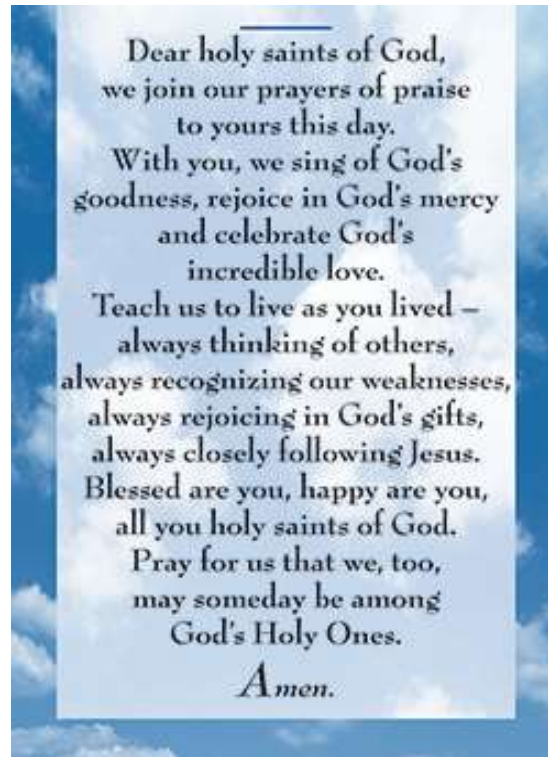
POSTLUDE

"Toccata in F Major"

Sigfried Karg-Elert

'WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD'

All Saints' Day November 6th



All Souls' Day

November 6th

*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.

