

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 7, 2021 † 10:00 AM

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTORS: Rev. Jennifer Ackerman, Rev. Jenny Pratt Hale

LITURGIST: Dean Bridges

MUSICIANS: Thomas Rheingans, Siena Hertafeld, Luke Smith, Sanctuary Choir

VIDEO/SOUND: Steve Rees, Yvonne Rees, Dan Rueff

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEMENTS AND MUSICAL INTERLUDE

◆ WORDS OF PRAISE

In all our weakness and strength, with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,

We come to be your people, O God.

Strong in faith and eager with questions, singing our praise and whispering our prayers,

We come to be your people, O God.

Filled with saintly determination, yet mindful of our human limitations,

We come to be your people, O God.

Made strong in your endless love for us, we know ourselves to be yours;

We come to be your people, O God.

May we truly become your people today.

Amen.

◆ OPENING HYMN No. 326 (For All the Saints)

Verse 1: *For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Verse 2: *Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Verse 3: *O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Verse 4: *And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Verse 5: *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!*

OPENING PRAYER

Faithful and loving God, you are the beginning and ending of all things. You promise to wipe away every tear, that death and mourning will be no more. You make your home among us, and abide with us as our God. Teach us to live as the saints you call us to be, that we may truly be your people, living and doing your will, in the name of Jesus, who is the Christ. Amen.

CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE No. 466 (Come and Fill Our Hearts) (sung twice)

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy. Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

◆ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND PEACE

The Holy One shows us a vision of a new heaven and a new earth, where everyone will live in peace and blessing. We trust in God's promise to wipe away all our tears, knowing that in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God. AMEN.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

◆ RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 746 (Send Me, Jesus)

Send me, Jesus; send me, Jesus; send me, Jesus; send me, Lord. Lead me, Jesus; lead me, Jesus; lead me, Jesus; lead me, Lord. Fill me, Jesus; fill me, Jesus; fill me, Jesus; fill me, Lord.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE (Revelation 21:1-6a)

MESSAGE ("WHAT IS TRUTH? It's the Beginning AND the End" by Rev. Jennifer Ackerman)

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

Let us pray together,

God of the ages, we praise you for all your servants, who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. For apostles and martyrs and saints of every time and place, who in life and death have witnessed to your truth, we praise you, O God. Amen.

Cindy Adams

Gordon Aune

Karen Baird

Annabel Louise Bednarz

Scott Boyd

Leah Marie Brown

Mark Wayne Carter

Judith Ann Chadwick

Doris Christianson

Jack "John" Eskeldson

Laura Mae Evans

Brian Girod Foster

Jocelyn "Jada" Fancher Gay

Dean Scott Glover

Helen Williams Green

Virginia Lillie Grubb

Mary Margaret "Rita" Hammack

Loren Hargreaves

Walter Emil "Terry" Hercher

Ralph Ephraim Holt

Robert Keith Kruchek

Robert W. Lind

Niall Lynch

Malcolm Marquis

Kathleen "Kathy" Martchenke

Charles Franklin Miller, Jr.

Simeon James Minsheu

Patricia Borden Nelson

Betty Farley Purcell

Joan Mildred Uecker

Emma D. White

Janet Winship

Betty Jean Yockey

Let us pray together:

O God of life and death, we thank you for eternal life in your love, and for those saints who surround us today in witness of your kingdom. Amen.

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

◆ HYMN OF RESPONSE ("All Who Are Thirsty" by Brenton Brown and Glenn Roberts; Luke Smith, cantor) (Congregation and Sanctuary Choir joins in on the chorus)

Chorus 1: ***Come Lord Jesus, come.***

Chorus 2: ***Holy Spirit come.***

Interlude: ***As deep cries out to deep.***

MINUTE FOR MISSION (“Mission Market” by Andrea Murdoch)

CHORAL OFFERTORY (“The Ash Grove” a Welsh Folk Song arranged by Linda Steen Spevacek) (Offerings can be mailed to the church office or made online by visiting our website: www.valleycommunity.org)

◆ DOXOLOGY

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

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS No. 559 (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (traditional version) (Siena Hertafeld, vocals)

SHARING OF THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

◆ CLOSING HYMN No. 822 (When We Are Living)

Verse 1: *When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we’re dying, it is in the Lord. Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

Verse 2: *Through all our living, we our fruits must give. Good works of service are for offering. When we are giving, or when receiving, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

Verse 3: *‘Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain, when sensing beauty or in love’s embrace, whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

Verse 4: *Across this wide world, we shall always find those who are crying with no peace of mind, but when we help them, or when we feed them, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

◆ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (Ephesians 3:20-21)

POSTLUDE

SENDING MUSIC