

*Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.*

**All Saints' Sunday**

**November 3, 2024**

*The asterisk (\*) indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

## **Meditation before Worship**

*God of all glory, we gather here today with the saints of every time and place to honor and praise your holy name. As you have revealed your mercy and might to your faithful people in every age, so let us glimpse—even through our tears—the mystery of your life-giving grace and the love that even death cannot destroy; through Jesus Christ, Alpha and Omega. Amen.*

## **Gathering Music**

### **The Gathering of God's People**

#### **Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship**

Prelude on "Holy, Holy, Holy"

arr. Charles Callahan

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit** "Dona Nobis Pacem"

Anonymous

(sung in Latin: *Grant us peace*)

#### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, a great cloud of witnesses surrounds us as we gather.

**People: May the lingering echo of saints resound in our songs.**

Leader: May their stories open a space for the Spirit to enter us anew.

**People: In remembering them, may we find ourselves re-membered.**

Leader: May the God of every generation form us anew for this generation.

**People: And may a new joy rise in our lives and in the life of the world.**

**\*Hymn**

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

#730

# The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

## **\*Call to Confession**

### **\*Prayer of Confession** *(read in unison)*

**Almighty Lord and God, in Jesus Christ you came from heaven to dwell among us, calling us to be your faithful people. Yet we remain shrouded in sin—we hurt and disgrace ourselves; we abuse and destroy one another; we dishonor your holy name. Forgive us; unbind us and let us go so that we may stand among your saints, rejoicing in your saving grace. Through Jesus Christ our redeemer we pray. Amen.**  
(Silent prayer of confession.)

## **\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Response Hymn** “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” (v.1) #688

## Ministry of the Word

### **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Children’s Sermon**

### **First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 126

### **Choir Anthem** “Break the Bread”

Natalie Sleeth, 1984

Break the bread, drink the wine, holy feast, sacred sign;

Lamb of God, love divine, spent for me.

Sorrow's cross now recall; Christ the Lord died for all;

Faithful folk, great and small, thankful be.

Bend the knee, sin confess, humble hearts now express;

Mercy filled, God will bless graciously.

Rise and go, born anew, purified thru and thru;

Evermore good pursue joyfully.

### **Second Scripture Reading**

John 15:1-11

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### **Sermon**

“Choose Life”

Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood

## The Response to the Word

### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **\*Invitation to Offering**

### **\*Response**

Doxology

#606

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

## Recognition of the Saints

### **Prayer for All Saints' Day**

**Pastor:** We thank you ... your name was lifted and adored.

**People:** Thank you, Lord.

**Pastor:** We thank you ... wave offerings across the land

**People:** Thank you, Lord.

**Pastor:** We thank you ... for our children to come.

**People: Thank you, Lord.**

**Pastor: Thank you, God ... faith, dedication, worship, and love.**

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **Dedication of Memorial Gifts**

Dee McSavaney      Jim and Nancy Smith

Mary Miller      Kelso Wessel

## **Those Who Entered the Church Triumphant**

Mary Miller      Dee McSavaney      Roselyn Justice

Jim Smith      Roger Morris

## **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

(We will be receiving communion by coming forward to one of the two stations on each side of the communion table. Please exit the pew to the center aisle and return to your pew from the outside aisles. An elder will be available to bring communion to those who wish to remain seated. Gluten free bread can be found on the communion table. You are also invited to light a candle in memory of loved ones who have entered the church triumphant.)

## **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**\*Hymn of Invitation**      "Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!"      #506

## **The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Leader: You, O God ... and show us ways to live.**

**People: Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor,  
power and might be to our God forever and ever!**

**Leader: You came in human form ... live in relationship with you.**

**People: Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor,  
power and might be to our God forever and ever!**

**Leader: In this meal ... strengthened for holy living by this meal.**

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

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

# Breaking of the Bread

## Communion of the People and Remembering the Saints in Our Lives

### Prayer after Communion

We thank you, eternal God, that you have fed us in this sacrament, uniting us with Christ and with all the faithful who have come before us and have served you with courage and joy. Renewed for our daily living, may we remember that we belong to you and that you lead us into newness of life. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### The Sending of God's People

#### \*Closing Hymn

“For All the Saints”

#326

#### \*Charge and Blessing

#### \*Congregational Response “We Are the Church”

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The first staff contains the melody for the lyrics: "I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!". The second staff contains the melody for the lyrics: "All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!".

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#### \*Postlude

“For All the Saints”

arr. Janet Linker

**Pastors:** Rev. Désirée Youngblood  
Dr. Mark A. Johnson

**Music Director:** Thomas Lloyd  
**Organist:** Carol Welk

**Liturgist:** Kevin Mack

*Kevin grew up in northwestern Ohio in Spencerville, Ohio. He graduated from The University of Northwestern Ohio in Lima. Kevin and Stephanie married in 2010. They have two children ... Kelsey, who was born in 2016, and Luke, who was born in 2019. Kevin works at Sim's Construction.*