

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

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Administrator

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 & 10:30 AM

All Saints Sunday

Gratitude for the Saints that Have Gone Before

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR ALL THE SAINTS¹

L: With thanksgiving on my tongue,

P: I sing praise for the feet of the saints who walked this path long before me who pointed out this path to me who cleared the path with me.

L: With thanksgiving on my tongue,

P: I sing praise for the wisdom of the saints who shared their vision of God's ways who lived faithfully by God's ways who loved God all the way.

L: With thanksgiving on my tongue,

P: I sing praise for the cloaks of the saints that sheltered my weary soul from the dust that marked my life for a new adventure that gave me some flair for the dance.

L: With thanksgiving on your tongue,

P: now sing praise for the voices of the saints who named God within you who evoked God from you who gave God to you.

L: Now we remember, O God...

P: The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time,

L: We remember, O God...

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

L: We remember, O God...

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

L: We remember, O God...

P: 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.

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, together let us pray...

P: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 299** (BH, see p. 6)

For All the Saints

***CONFESSION & ASSURANCE FOR ALL SAINTS²**

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: Our lives are full of mistakes and errors – places where we follow self-generated idols instead of the One True God. We are not alone in these mistakes – all of those who have come before us also were plagued with temptation and sin. Let us come before God, just as generations of believers have done, and pray for God's forgiveness and grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Beloved God, who was known to our mothers and fathers, and even to our spiritual forebears, have mercy on us. We do not always love as you would have us love. We do not always do as you would have us do. In our stubbornness, we turn from you when we should turn toward you. Hold us, dear One – comfort us when we mourn the passing of friends and family, and help us to know that they are rejoicing in your presence. We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors, especially the ones that we don't share with any but you. Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Friends, hear the good news! Though thousands upon thousands of our ancestors did not follow God's ways perfectly, we have hope in the one who did! Jesus taught through his words and deeds that God has already forgiven us. Thus, we and all who have come before us are rightly known as saints – the holy ones of God! Thanks be to God for God's mercy, grace, and love!

P: Amen.

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 2270 (FWS, see p. 7)

He's Has Made Me Glad

ALL SING: I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart, I will enter his courts with praise. I will say, "This is the day that the Lord has made." I will rejoice, for he has made me glad. He has made me glad, he has made me glad. I will rejoice for he has made me glad. He has made me glad, he has made me glad. I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.

(10:30 AM) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5: 12-24 (CEB)

Revelation 7:9-17 (CEB)

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 597 (BH, see p. 8)

Shall We Gather at the River

ALL SAINTS DAY LITANY³

L: We remember the great ancestors of our faith, from Abraham and Sarah, to Paul and Phoebe:

P: Ancestors of the faith, we remember you.

L: We remember the prophets and priests, the ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God:

P: Teachers of the faith, we remember you.

L: We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles, those who have gone before us in our lifetime:

P: Family of our faith, we remember you.

L: We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren, siblings, spouses, partners and parents whose lives ended too soon:

P: Those close in our heart, we remember you.

L: We lift up to You, O God, the names of those we have lost in this past year from our lives, knowing that they are with Your heart forever...

L: We celebrate the lives of those we have named, O God, and lift up many more names to you. At this time I invite you forward to place candles, rocks, and roses on the altar/table in memory of your cherished saints of God...

Time of Remembrance

L: Family of God,...

P: we remember you, and we honor you. We know you are with us in the spirit of worship, and you will not be forgotten.

L: We give thanks, O God, for all who have gone on to join with You beyond this life. We trust in the hope of resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ, and know that in our grief and celebration, O God, You are with us through it all, and we are not left alone. In the name of Christ, in whom love lives forever, we pray.

P: Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (based on Revelation 21)⁴

L: We have hope for the day that God will wipe every tear from our eyes, death will be no more and mourning and crying will be no more. And we pray with these hopes in mind.

(Brief Silence)

L: We pray for those who are lonely. We hope in the promise that the home of God will be among people: that God will dwell with us, that we will be his people and that God himself will be with us. We lift before you those we know who are lonely or isolated.

(Pause)

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

P: 'Amen, make all things new!'

L: We pray for those who are crying; the sad, the depressed and the anxious. We hope in the promise that God will wipe every tear from our eyes. We lift before you those we know who are sad and who know tears.

(Pause)

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

P: 'Amen, make all things new!'

L: We pray for those who are experiencing the consequences of death, the bereaved and those who are mourning. We hope in the promise that death and mourning will be no more. We lift before you those we know who are affected by death and mourning

(Pause)

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

P: 'Amen, make all things new!'

L: We pray for those who are in pain, suffering from illness either physical or mental. We hope in the promise that crying and pain will be no more. We lift before you those we know who are ill or in pain.

(Pause)

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

P: 'Amen, make all things new!'

L: We pray for those who are thirsty for truth, love and grace; those who seek God and his life with earnest hearts. We hope in the promise that God will give water to the thirsty without cost from the spring of the water of life. We lift before you those we know who hunger and thirst for God.

(Pause)

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

P: 'Amen, make all things new!'

L: Lord, your words are trustworthy and true. You are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. We pray all this in the powerful and hopeful name of Jesus Christ, Whose prayer we now pray together...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN NO. 295 (BH, see p. 9)

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Thank you to Tom Bair, Brenda Beyer for serving on the praise team. Thank you to John Kollasch, George DeMERS for serving on the tech team. Thank you to David Strine, Nancy & Barry Schwartz, Elaine Bevivino, Les & Doris Loucks, Sarah Shaffer for serving on the welcome teams this morning!

¹**Thanksgiving for All Saints** was written by Rachel Hackenberg, posted on RevGalBlogPals. <http://revgalblogpals.org/author/rachelhackenberg/> and accessed on 11/1/2021.

²**The Confession** was written by Rev. Lucus Keppel, Ancho Community & Corona United Presbyterian Churches, New Mexico. Posted on **LiturgyLink**. <https://www.liturgylink.net/2013/11/11/awareness-and-reconciliation-for-all-saints-day/> and accessed on 11/1/21.

³**All Saints Day Liturgy** was written by Rev. Mindi on her Rev-o-lution.org website and accessed on 11/1/2021.

⁴**The Prayers of the People** were written by Sara Hargreaves, and posted on EngageWorship.org. <http://engageworship.org/> and accessed on 11/1/2021.

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For All the Saints

Ralph Vaughan Williams

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
2. You were their rock, their re - fuge, and their might:
3. Still may your peo - ple, faith - ful, true, and bold,
4. Ringed by this cloud of wit - ness - es di - vine,

5

who to the world their stead-fast faith con - fessed, your
you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight; mid
live as the saints who no - bly fought of old, and
we fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet

9

name, O Je - sus be for - ev - er blessed. Al -
gloom and doubt, you were their one true light.
share with them a glo - rious crown of gold.
in your love our faith - ful lives en - twine.

13

le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

He Has Made Me Glad

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Leona Von Brethorst

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1 I will en - ter his gates with thanks - giv - ing in my heart, I will

4 en - ter his courts with praise. I will say, "This is the day that the

7 Lord has made." I will re - joice, for he has made me glad. He has made me glad,

11 he has made me glad. I will re - joice, for he has made me glad.

14 He has made me glad, he has made me glad. I will re - joice, for he has made me

17 glad.

Shall We Gather at the River

Robert Lowry

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$



1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver
3. As we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim-age will

4



trod, with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of
spray, we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en
down; grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and
cease; soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of

8



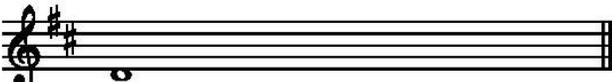
God? Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful
day.
crown.
peace.

12



riv - er, Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of

16



God.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

John Henry Hopkins

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Piano ♩ = 80

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. It consists of six systems of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are arranged in three columns under each system of music. The first system includes three numbered verses. The second system begins with a measure rest of 4 measures. The third system begins with a measure rest of 7 measures. The fourth system begins with a measure rest of 10 measures. The fifth system begins with a measure rest of 13 measures. The sixth system begins with a measure rest of 16 measures. The score concludes with a double bar line.

1. I sing a song of the saints of God,
2. They loved their God and they lived that love. It was
3. They lived not on - ly in a ges past, there are

4
faith - ful their whole lives through, who brave - ly la - bored,
lov - ing that made them strong. They did what was right, for
hun - dreds of thou - sands still. The world is filled with

7
lived and died for the God they loved and knew. And
Je - sus' sake, lived just - ly their whole lives long. And
liv - ing saints who choose to do God's will. You can

10
one was a doc - tor and one was a queen, and an - oth - er a shep - herd in
one was a pro - phet, and one was a priest, and an - oth - er was slain by a
meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a church, in a train, in a

13
pas - tures green: they were saints of God if you know what I mean. God,
fierce wild beast: there is no earth - ly rea - son, none in the least, why
shop, or at tea: for the saints are folk like you and like me, and

16
help me to be one, too.
I should - n't be one, too.
I mean to be one, too.