

Worship for November 5, 2023

All Saints Sunday

Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Hebrews 12:1

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Holy God of wind and fire,

dance through our worship today.

Holy God of earthquakes and illness,

share our memories, our tears of sadness and loss.

Holy God of creation and new beginnings,

show us again your vision of healing and wholeness

and the promise of life here and in the world to come.

*Hymn 326 For All the Saints

Opening Prayer

Eternal God, you have knit together your people of all times and places into one communion in the mystical body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant us your Holy Spirit that we may be encouraged and strengthened, seeking your forgiveness in our moments or seasons of failure, persevering in our part of faith's course, until such time as we join the great cloud of witnesses in our eternal home. Amen.

*Hymn 698 Take, O Take Me As I Am

Assurance of Forgiveness

Jesus said, "For the Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel. Our sins are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

First Reading Revelation 21:1-6

Time With Our Young Disciples

New Testament Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

The Morning Message

Saints Among Us

*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed p.35

*Hymn 581 Gloria Patri

Prayers of the Faithful and the Lord's Prayer

Romans 6:3-5

This morning we remember family, friends, and loved ones who have joined the blessed company of the saints in light during this church year.

When we were baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death.

We were buried therefore with him by baptism unto death, so that, as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.

For if we have been united with Christ in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Received into the Church Triumphant this year:

Clara Adkins

Karen Gold

John Cooke

James McTyre

Joan Cassidy

Anita Woodrum

Eternal God, we bless you for the great company of all those who have kept the faith, finished their race, and now rest from their labor. We praise you for those closest to us whom you have received into your presence... and others we name now in our hearts...

We lift our concerns for our community, our nation, and the world, that all may be supplied their daily needs and know the security of freedom, safety, and peace. We pray for those who suffer from illness and other circumstances which prevent them from living whole and blessed lives.

We give you thanks for all gifts of healing and compassion offered in your name.

Help us to believe where we have not seen, trusting you to lead us through our years.

Bring us at last with all your saints into the joy of your home, through Christ Jesus who taught us to pray, saying, Our Father... Amen.

Presenting Our Gifts of Tithe and Offering

Offertory

*Hymn 607 Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn 730 I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

*Blessing

Go out in the confidence that your lives are safe in God.
Keep your hands clean and your hearts pure.
Do not act falsely or deceitfully.
Trust in the Lord, even in the face of death,
and follow in the footsteps of all God's saints.
And may God keep a protective eye on you;
May Christ Jesus show you his grace and mercy;
And may the Holy Spirit give you a vision of the life of the world made new.

*Postlude