



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

Welcome To Worship

October 23, 2022

9:30 a.m.

***"All the Saints: Their Gifts,
Our Grief and Gratitude"***

Rev. Trish Eckert

All Saints Day

To Remember and Give Thanks

Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

✧Prelude

✧Welcome and community news

- *As we turn toward the month of November, please send in your pledge card for our HUGS campaign.*
- Mark your calendars for:
 - “Cherished Memories” grief support group continuing each Sunday through November 27th from 11:15-12:45
 - November 6 - Communion Sunday
 - November 13 - Adult Education: “On the Brink of Everything” after worship until noon
 - November 20 - Annual Meeting
 - November 27 - 1st Sunday of Advent

✧Readying Ourselves for Worship ~ SING:

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!
Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

✧Blessing *All Hallows Blessing* ~ Jan Richardson

Who live in the spaces between our breathing	how they move us, how they move in us,
in the corner of our vision	made from the tissue of memory like the veil
in the hollows of our bones	between the worlds
in the chambers of our heart:	that stirs at the merest breath this night and then is
nowhere can they be touched yet still	at rest.

✧Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:

How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~

✧ And the Children Will Lead the Way: Kid's Time

✧ **Gathering as God's People: Our Theme ~ Gifts and Gratitude**

Today as we celebrate All Saints Day, we reflect on the gifts others have shared with us through their example. Our memories and experiences bring up feelings of both grief and gratitude. As we celebrate and honor those who have gone before us, we also have the opportunity to appreciate the people who continue to walk alongside us and reveal to us how to walk the path of healing and wholeness.

In the course of experiencing and pondering the turn of seasons, I have come to recognize that certain times of the year hold special power and intrigue for me. Like the lines of energy that some suppose run through the earth, concentrating at sacred sites, the spiraling seasons contain an energy that intensifies for me at particular times. The trinity of days at the end of October and beginning of November mark such a time: Halloween, the Feast of All Saints, and the Feast of All Souls inevitably herald some sort of turning as the year draws to its end. Why these days hold such power for me, I'm not sure; whether it's because they occur in the unfolding of fall, my favorite season, or because long ago ancestors celebrated these holy days or simply because they capture my imagination, I don't know. But I have learned that it pays to be attentive to what appears in this trio of days.

In the ancient Celtic calendar, the festival of Samhain fell around November 1 and marked the turning of the year from summer to winter. The ancient Celts believed that at this turning, the gates between this world and the otherworld of the dead swung open, allowing for contact between the living and those who had gone before. After the rise of Christianity, this festival became known as the Feast of All Saints or the Feast of All Hallows, during which prayers were said for the faithful departed. Many of the traditions of the old Samhain festival, however, lingered in celebrations held on the day before All Saints: October 31, known as All Hallows eve or Halloween. The feast of All Souls, celebrated on November 2, became a time to pray for the souls of all departed Christians.

Let us open our eyes to the gifts that God provides through the people we encounter in our daily lives and through our cherished memories.



All Saints

✧Gathering Hymn #451 Open My Eyes, That I May See

✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

One: Together as a community of believers, we praise God and we celebrate All Saints Day

All: We remember people who went before us by name and are thankful for so many who paved the way for us.

One: We are grateful to be part of a faith tradition going back many generations and to pass on our faith to the next generations.

All: It is comforting to belong to a cloud of witnesses. Let us worship God together.

✧Sharing Our Innermost Lives with God

adapted from "The Worship Sourcebook"

God of love, God of joy, God of life,
we come to you as a people hungry for good news.

We have been so dead to miracles
that we have missed the world's rebirth.

We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures
and have overlooked the joy you offer us.

We have been so concerned with making a living
that we have missed the life you set among us.

Sometimes it feels like we are walking alone
and don't know how to keep going on.

Help us open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gifts,
the little miracles that surround us each day.

Help us use our voices and hands to share these gifts with others.

Lord, we ask it.

✧Special Music "Love" (words by Rumi, music by Rosie Rain)

✧Bible Wisdom Teaching Matthew 5: 1-11

(The "Beatitudes" – The Sermon on the Mount)

Jesus saw the crowds and went up a hill, where he sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them:

"Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor;
the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

"Happy are those who mourn;
God will comfort them!

"Happy are those who are humble;
they will receive what God has promised!

"Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires;
God will satisfy them fully!

"Happy are those who are merciful to others;

God will be merciful to them!
“Happy are the pure in heart;
they will see God!
“Happy are those who work for peace;
God will call them his children!
“Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires;
the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!
“Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil
lies against you because you are my followers. Be happy and glad, for a great reward
is kept for you in heaven. This is how the prophets who lived before you were
persecuted.

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our
tradition.

All: Thanks be to our God.

✧ **Message: “All the Saints: Their Gifts, Our Grief and Gratitude”**



✧ **Reflection Questions**

- ◇ *Who are the saints in your life?*
- ◇ *What might you say to them today?*
- ◇ *What have you learned from them & inspires gratitude in you?*
- ◇ *How might you be a saint in someone else's life?*

✧ **Short period of Silent Reflection**

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧Our Saints – prayers, bells, and candles

Honoring through our grief and gratitude

Reflection by Jan Richardson

*There is a certain way
that I touch my face
and he is suddenly there.
The fingers falling across my cheek
are my grandfathers,
the gesture
a point of meeting,
a peering through the veil,
his touch telling me
to love this flesh
that flows with the blood
from our common well.*



O God of All Creation, You are the Creator of all that is seen and unseen. You are our refuge and our strength. We come to You this day because we are seeking comfort in the midst of our grief. Death is part of the human experience. We have all lost loved ones.

We remember with gratitude the Saints who have shown up in our lives and taught us how to live faithfully, love generously, and wait patiently.

~For each name read, we will ring a bell and light a candle~

And for all of us as we who mourn...

See, the home of God is among mortals.

God will dwell with us as our God;

we will be God's peoples,

and God, God's self, will be with us;

God will wipe every tear from our eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more.

Rev. 21:1-6

✧Hymn #326 For All the Saints

✧Community Prayers, Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

**Indwelling God,
infused throughout all existence,
we honor you with many names.**

**Your realm is within the human heart.
We accept life for all that it can be,
on earth as throughout all creation.**

**May we continue to draw sustenance from this earth,
and may we receive forgiveness equal to our own.**

**May we ever move from separation toward union,
to live in grace, with love in our hearts,
forever and ever. Amen.**

✧Benediction

Go on your way rejoicing;
Surrounded as you are by such a great cloud of witnesses,
take courage as you face each new challenge,
and comfort when you pick yourself up from a fall,
In whatever good you choose to do,
precede it with hope,
accompany it with prayer,
and follow it with thanksgiving.
The blessing of God be with you always. Amen

Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.

✧Our Response:

Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your Word lives on in us.

✧Postlude



Hear this service presented on TippeTalk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.

<http://www.tippechurch.org>