HERITAGE CHURCH

ALL SAINTS' DAY

November 1, 2026
4:30 pm

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Psalm 116:15

All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who, through the ages, have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the "glorious company of apostles … the noble fellowship of prophets … the white-robed army of martyrs" (*Te Deum*). It is a time to express our gratitude (to God) for all who, in ages of darkness, kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God's justice and peace in every nation.

Excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship - Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151.

GATHERING

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP – 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant us grace so to follow thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Words: William W. How, 1864 — Music: SINE NOMINE Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906



FIRST LESSON – MATTHEW 5:1-12

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI

SECOND LESSON – REVELATION 21:1-6

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103C – PART 1



OPC/URCNA 2016
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KEESEE 7.7.7.7.D.
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COMMEMORATION AND REMEMBRANCE

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts.

PRAYER

Almighty God, who holdest in Thy hand the souls of the righteous; we give thee thanksgiving and praise for all the generations of the faithful, who have served Thee here in godliness and love, and who dwell forever in Thy presence. We bless Thee for all who have enriched the world with truth and beauty, who have laboured in the service of their fellows, who have done great things for Thee and Thy Church and have handed on to us our gracious heritage.

We bless Thee for all near and dear to us, for our fathers and mothers, our brothers and sisters, for those who have helped and defended, and loved and cherished us. Grant that all the good we have seen and known in them may continue to direct us to Thy grace; that we may always honor them and hallow their memory; and that, when we have fulfilled our time on earth, we may have part with them in Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

O God, Whom the glorious companies of the redeemed adore, assembled from all times and places of Thy dominion: we praise Thee for the saints of our own land who stand before Thee, and for the many lamps their holiness hath lit; and that we may be numbered at the last day with them, grant us, O Lord, to serve Thee humbly as they served on earth, and to love Thee as they deeply loved; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

We remember the faithful who have gone before us and honor these loved ones. As part of that observance, the names of those who entered the Church Triumphant in the year past, along with former members and those whose bodies are here buried, will be read aloud. The bell will then be tolled, after which a moment of silence will be observed.

Evelyn Elaine Bradshaw: November 13; Joan Irene Lemmon: February 9;
Jason Jackson: March; John Larry Gilbert: April 3; Erin David King: July;
Bill Lovett; *Peggy Stouffer*; *Valerie Joy Ryan*; *Paul Stouffer; Emma Hope Evans;*
Ted Hartsock

PSALM 103C – PART 2



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BENEDICTION – HEBREWS 12:1-2

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

AMEN.

COME SING, O CHURCH

Words: Brian Dill, 1988

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH
John Darwall, 1770

