

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost | November 5, 2023

\*Please stand as you are able

**Welcome and Announcements**

Trinity Chimes

**Prelude** *Precious Memories* arr. Gary Lanier

Carole & Rudy Rostash, clarinets

**\*Call to Worship:**

One: Creation is the Lord's and all that is in it!  
**All: All that has come before, all that is, all that will be is God's!**  
One: Blessed are all the saints from age to age who endure in the Lord!  
**All: They keep the commandments, holding fast to faith in the Holy One.**  
One:  Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses  
**All: Let us set aside every weight that holds us back, and run with perseverance this race, looking to Christ who will perfect us in faith.  Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** 711 *For All the Saints* SINE NOMINE

1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest,  
 who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
 thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!  
  
2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
 thou Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
 thou in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!  
  
3. O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
 fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
 and win with them the victor's crown of gold.  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!  
  
4. O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
 We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
 yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!

6. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
 through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
 singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Opening Prayer**

**I heard a voice from heaven, saying to me "blessed!" Eternal God, none are lost to you.  In life, you pursue us relentlessly with love, grace and blessing so that in every dark moment and every joy you are with us.  In death, you raise us to new life so that love continues, and none are ever fully lost.  Today we remember the saints, those we have loved and lost, and today we remember each other, your living Body of Christ in this world to extend blessing.  Amen.**

Scripture Lesson Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 UMH 830

O give thanks to the Lord, who is good,

whose steadfast love endures for ever!

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

whom the Lord has redeemed from trouble

and gathered in from the lands,

from the east and from the west,

from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in the desert wastes,

find no way to a city in which to dwell;

hungry and thirsty,

their soul fainted within them.

Then in their trouble, they cried to the Lord,

who delivered them from their distress,

and led them by a straight way,

till they reached a city in which to dwell.

The Lord turns rivers into a desert,

springs of water into thirsty ground,

a fruitful land into a salty waste,

because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.

The Lord turns a desert into pools of water,

a parched land into springs of water.

The Lord lets the hungry dwell there,

and they establish a city in which to live;

they sow fields, and plant vineyards,

and get a fruitful yield.

**Honoring Our Dead**

George Lewis   
Larry Tilton  
Barbara Sawyer  
James Britt  
Mary Jane Lyon  
Oved (Bradley) Taylor  
Jim Stevenson  
Dianne Maier  
Carol Carithers

Jerry High

Piper Hawes

Dorothy Williamson  
Dave Hendricks

Terry Lane  
Mary Kundrat

**Music of Preparation** *In this moment of remembrance*

By Dale Wood

The Chancel Choir

**Gospel Lesson** Matthew 5:1-12, Matthew 23:1-12

**Sermon Blessed be the tie that binds**

Musical Response

Stewardship Moment: John Neve

Invitation Offering

Offertory *Find Us Faithful* Jon Mohr

Tom Messmore, solo

\*Doxology 95 *Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

\*Offertory Prayer

Communion The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
All: And also, with you.  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.  
All: We lift them up to the Lord.  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.  In all places, at all times, in every way you reach out to us declaring your love, offering your grace, seeking our partnership and so we declare together in the words handed down by your people from age to age:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  Hosanna in the highest.  Blessed is he who comes in the name the of the Lord, hosanna in the highest!

We remember as we gather around this table that you came among us in Jesus, declaring nothing would separate us from your love...(Pastor shares words).. And so we remember and offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living offering in union with Christ as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!

Pour out your holy spirit on us gathered at this table of mystery, and on these gifts of food and drink, make them be for us the grace and love of Christ so that we might live as the body of Christ extending love to the world.  Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

Pastor: Let us eat and drink together as one in the body of Christ, as people forgiven and redeemed by God’s love and grace, amen.

Communion Hymn 709 *Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above*

FOREST GREEN

1. Come, let us join our friends above  
who have obtained the prize,  
and on the eagle wings of love  
to joys celestial rise.  
Let saints on earth unite to sing  
with those to glory gone,  
for all the servants of our King  
in earth and heaven are one.  
  
2. One family we dwell in him,  
one church above, beneath,  
though now divided by the stream,  
the narrow stream of death;  
one army of the living God,  
to his command we bow;  
part of his host have crossed the flood,  
and part are crossing now.

The 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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

\*Sending Hymn 708 *Rejoice in God's Saints* HANOVER

1. Rejoice in God’s saints, today and all days;

a world without saints forgets how to praise.

Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,

their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.

2. Some march with events to turn them God’s way;

some need to withdraw, the better to pray.

Some carry the gospel through fire and through flood;

our world is their parish; their purpose is God.

3. Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknow,

Who bear someone’s cross or shoulder their own.

They shame our complaining, our comforts, our cares;

What patience in caring, what courage, is theirs!

4. Rejoice in God’s saints, today and all days;

a world without saints forgets how to praise.

In loving, in living, they prove it is true;

the way self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.

\*Benediction 557 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

1. Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds  
is like to that above.

4. When we asunder part,  
it gives us inward pain;  
but we shall still be joined in heart,  
and hope to meet again.

**Postlude**  *Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng/Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

arr. Catherine McMichael

Carole & Rudy Rostash, clarinets

**Liturgist:** Ellie Adams

Stephen Minister: Cat Reinke

Thank you to all of the volunteers and staff who made this service possible!

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“For All the Saints*”*

Words: Willaim W How,1864 (Heb. 12:1)

“Come, Let us Join Our Friends Above

Words: Charles Wesley, 1759

“Rejoice in God’s Saints”

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1977

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930

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