

Order of Worship
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
9:30 am – November 5, 2023

Participating Live?

Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.

PRELUDE

Improvisation on "At the River"
Music: Robert Lowry, public domain
Kyle Hanks, organ

Kyle Hanks

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Fran Turner, liturgist

Leader: We have come to affirm our historic faith

People: We worship the God of our mothers and fathers.

Leader: We have come to remember God's benefits to us the living.

People: We respond in thanksgiving to the mighty works of God in our lives.

Leader: We have come to affirm our trust in the God of all futures,

People: We trust in the One whose name be blessing and honor, glory and power forever and ever.

Amen.

(Ruth Duck, Bread for the Journey, Pilgrim Press, 1981, p.56.)

OPENING HYMN

Sing With All the Saints in Glory

UMH 702

Text: William J. Jones, 1873, Public Domain. Tune: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824, Public Domain.

1. Sing with all the saints in glory, sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story, to the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking, soon the storms of time shall cease;
in God's likeness we, awaking, know the everlasting peace.

2. O what glory, far exceeding all that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts, for ages pleading, never that full joy conceived.
God has promised, Christ prepares it, there on high our welcome waits.
Every humble spirit shares it; Christ has passed th'eternal gates.

3. Life eternal! heaven rejoices: Jesus lives, who once was dead.
Join we now the deathless voices; child of God, lift up your head!
Patriarchs from the distant ages, saints all longing for their heaven,
prophets, psalmists, seers, and sages, all await the glory given.

4. Life eternal! O what wonders crowd on faith; what joy unknown,
when, amidst earth's closing thunders, saints shall stand before the throne!
O to enter that bright portal, see that glowing firmament;
know, with thee, O God Immortal, "Jesus Christ whom thou has sent!"

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 7: 9-17 (NRSV)
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Fran Turner, liturgist

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

Billie Dowd, and Dan Dugan
Pauline Wells and Dixie Zimmer

A TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN (Children and Youth come to the steps for a word from the pastor)

You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink from waters flowing.
 You who are hungry, come to the bread and eat of his holiness.
 You who are tired, find rest. You who are weak, find strength.
 You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink.

You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink from waters flowing.
 You who are hungry, come to the bread and eat of his holiness.
 You who are tired, find rest. You who are weak, find strength.
 You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink.

He will freely feed all of them who are weak.
 He will quench the righteous thirst of all who humbly seek.

MESSAGE

Pastor Cindy Huskey

MUSICAL RESPONSE

When the Saints Go Marching In

arr. Lloyd Larson

VFUMC Chancel Choir; Clara Johnson, Director; Kyle Hanks, Pianist

Words: Traditional Spiritual, Music: arr. Lloyd Larson. ©2022 Lorenz Publishing Corporation, The. Song #1244348. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go marching in,
 O Lord, I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in.

O when the sun refused to shine, O when the sun refused to shine,
 O Lord, I want to be in that number, when the sun refused to shine.

O when they crown Him Lord of all, when they crown Him Lord of all,
 O Lord, I want to be in that number, when they crown Him Lord of all

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us.

Bless the memories of your saints, God. As we offer these gifts to you, may we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love. In the name of Christ our Lord.

Amen. (<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/a-prayer-meditation-for-all-saints-day> adapted)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him,
 who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
 Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God, you send us saints ...

People: And we imprison them, or nail them on crosses. Have mercy.

Leader: God, you send us saints ...

People: And we persuade ourselves that they are fools, or meddlers or incompetents. Have mercy.

Leader: God, you send us saints ...

**People: And we hate them for reminding us that our comfort requires the poverty of others.
 Have mercy.**

Leader: God, you send us saints ...

People: And we ignore them. Have mercy.

(Some moments of reflective silence)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God's Word to us is a word of forgiveness, a word of assurance, a word of grace.

We are loved and accepted because we are we and God is God.

Nothing can finally separate us from our Creator, our Parent, our Sustainer. Amen.

(Flames of the Spirit, Ruth Duck Ed., Pilgrim Press, 1985, p.55.)

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (found on p. 17 of The United Methodist Hymnal)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us lift up our hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Sung: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth
are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one
who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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... As we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Sung: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

... All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Sung: Amen.

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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.

*BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Find us Faithful

by Jon Mohr

VFUMC Praise Team

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / Song # 18259

SENDING HYMN

For All the Saints

UMH 711

Public Domain: Words: William W. How, 1864; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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!

5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. 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!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

Music: John H. Hopkins, Jr., Hugh S. Livingston, Jr. ©2007 Lorenz Publishing Corporation, The. Song #202435. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

Kyle Hanks, organ

Prayer Requests

ReNew UMC—Pastor Sam Park

Ojai UMC—Pastor Katie Donaldson

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

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