

Worship Gathering for Sunday, November 1, 2020
The Feast of All Saints

Welcome & Silence

Gathering Hymn: "For all the saints", verses 1, 2

Hymn #287

**1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed,
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, the one true Light.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

Opening Acclamation & Collect of the Day

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us.**

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God and Father of all.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Anthem: "The Gathering Of Spirits"

The congregation is invited to join in on the chorus.

Chorus: **Let it go, my love, my truest, let it sail on silver wings;
Life's a twinkling, that's for certain, but it's such a fine thing.
There's a gathering of spirits, there's a festival of friends,
And we'll take up where we left off when we all meet again.**

*Words and music by
Carrie Newcomer;
used by permission.*

1. I can't explain it. I couldn't if I tried,
How the only things we carry are the things we hold inside.
Like a day in the open, like the love we won't forget,
Like the laughter that we started and hasn't died down yet. *Chorus*

2. Oh yeah, now didn't we, and don't we make it shine!
Aren't we standing in the center of something rare and fine.
Some glow like embers, or light through colored glass;
Some give it all in one great flame, throwing kisses as they pass. *Chorus*

3. Just east of Eden, but there's heaven in our midst,
And we're never really all that far from those we love and miss.
Wade out in the water; there's a glory all around,
And the wisest say there's a thousand ways to kneel and kiss the ground. *Chorus*

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Reader A reading from the book of the Revelation.

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Thanks be to God.

Remembrance Song: "Trees Grow Slow"

Laurence Cole

**Trees grow slow and trees grow strong,
And trees wave with the wind their whole life long.
Trees hold the ground as they reach for the sky,
And fallen trees still feed the seeds they cast before they died.**

A Time of Remembrance and Candle-Lighting

Celebrant

In our worship today, we call to mind the faithful departed, that great and holy household to which we all belong. We begin by naming and remembering those from our parish who have joined that great cloud of witnesses within the past year. The words on each slide were provided by family members or friends of the departed.

A slide show is shared.

We sing the Remembrance Song once more.

Celebrant

We'll hold some time now for you to light your own candles for those you love and miss. If you'd like to say a name out loud, just unmute yourself and speak up. You can also put names in the chat.

A time of quiet candle-lighting follows.

Celebrant

We remember those saints who encourage us in our discipleship: blessed Dunstan, blessed Julian, blessed Francis, blessed Pauli, blessed Sophie, blessed Nicholas, blessed Richard, blessed Harriet, and Mary, Christ-bearer, Mother of mercy.

We hold up in loving remembrance these saints as well: ... *** *[integrate online submissions]* **

We hold in special remembrance those whose lives ended too soon: Miles, Mike, Matthew, Kit, Katerin, Cole, Aidan, and those whom we now name:

Celebrant

They hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. Blessed are those who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labors.

As we pray for those who have passed on into your nearer presence, O God, so too we pray for those who mourn. Be present, O gracious God, with those who grieve; give them strength to meet the days to come, not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. May the One who creates harmony on high bring them peace. **Amen.**

**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. The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**8. 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!**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Homily

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray, using the prayer Jesus taught us. You may unmute yourself if you choose, and you may pray using any version of this prayer that is in your heart.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Send prayer requests to to prayers@stdunstans.com.

Officiant Let us continue in prayer. We will hold up our needs and blessings to God. You can speak your prayers out loud, type them into the Chat area, or hold them in your heart.

Let us pray for all churches and their leaders, and for all God's people everywhere.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for all those in authority. In this season, we pray especially for all candidates for public office, for all those working for justice and equity, and for those you now name.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for all nations and peoples.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for the earth and the whole created order.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for our local communities. We pray for all essential workers and healthcare workers.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for those in any need or trouble, especially those on our parish prayer list. You are invited to name others in need of prayer, and to hold up your own struggles to the light of God's love.

The people may offer additional names.

Officiant Let us pray for all who have died and for those who mourn.

The people may offer additional names.

Officiant Let us pray for our common life and work as God's people.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Birthday Blessings

Passing of the Peace

Celebrant The peace of the risen Christ be always with you!

People **And also with you!**

Celebrant Let us speak Christ's peace to one another. ...

The Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant O God of our ancestors, Ancient of Days, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon us your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised us to the new life of grace. Sustain us, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give us inquiring and discerning hearts; the courage to will and to persevere; a spirit to know and to love you; and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

God the Source, Word, and Spirit, bless and keep you, now and always. **Amen.**

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn: I sing a song of the saints of God

Hymnal #293

**1 I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shepherdess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too.**

**2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love made them strong;
and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake, the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
and there's not any reason, no, not the least,
why I shouldn't be one too.**

**3 They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
for the saints of God are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too.**

Announcements & Virtual Coffee Hour

10:15 Sunday School