

October 30, 2022

All Saints

We Gather In God's Presence

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering In Song: Hymn Sing – Congregation's Choice

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation – see last page ...

Call to Worship written by Catherine Elsdon. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2, 2022, page 46. Used with permission.

We gather on this Sunday closest to All Hallows Eve and All Saints Day

to remember saints, past and present;

to receive the teachings they have passed down to us;

to offer thanksgiving for their legacy of faith.

We gather on this Sunday closest to All Hallows Eve and All Saints Day

to worship the God of all generations!

Hymn VU 213 "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

Rejoice the Lord is King!

Your risen Lord adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing

and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:

rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns,

the God of truth and love;

when he had purged our sins,

he took his seat above.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:

rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

God's kingdom cannot fail;

Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;

the keys of death and hell

are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:

rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope,

for Christ, the judge, shall come

to glorify the saints

for their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;

the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Opening Prayer

Holy One, with all the saints of heaven, we praise you. In communion with them, we worship you, who through countless generations have shown faithfulness to your people. We give thanks this day for the witness of those who have walked the road with Christ before us, and those who have walked the road with Christ beside us. In honouring the memory and gifts of your saints may we be encouraged, inspired, and strengthened to follow in their footsteps. Amen.

We Are Blessed By God

Anthem

Time for the Young and the Young @ 

Hymn VU 371 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Minute for Mission

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

We are called to be saints; to uphold truth, to resist evil, to work for justice and peace, live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to heal the sick, to lift up the broken hearted, to free those in bondage, and so much more. When we do those things, we make real the good news of the Kingdom of God. But we cannot be everywhere, and so we share in the work of the church around the world through our tithes and offerings.

Offertory Hymn VU 218 vs 1 "We Praise You, O God"

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Prayer of Dedication

Creator and lover of all souls, we thank you for those saintly souls who have taught us the blessing of knowing you, and the joy of serving you. According to the example of Jesus and the saints, we give ourselves to you and make our resources available to you, for the work of sharing the gospel in this present age, and of acting on behalf of the poor and oppressed. Receive and use our gifts we ask, in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

Holy God, we thank you for all the saints who through the ages have kept the faith, witnessing for Christ, upholding truth, resisting evil, and working for justice and peace. We thank you for the biblical record of the saints, and all writings of exemplary Christian lives in biographies, journals, and letters, which continue to nourish and inspire new generations. We thank you for our Christian heritage, a rich tradition by which to judge the present and determine future direction. We are grateful for the teachings, promptings, and example of those who personally brought us to faith in Christ. Grant us strength and courage that we may hold fast to the truth they revealed and serve you faithfully. We thank you for the saints who walk alongside of us, especially the saints of Faith Trinity United Church in Shetland as they search for a new spiritual leader.

Gracious God, we ask for the comfort of your Spirit as we continue to grieve the loss of close family and friends who now number among your saints in heaven. Especially we remember, Dolores Johnson, Ron Dickie, Harvey Patterson, Marlene Smith, and Marleen Parish. May we, as individuals and as a church, be a true embodiment of Christ's love that will witness powerfully to this present generation.

Merciful God, we pray for the saints who live now in your nearer presence, that the fullness of your blessing and reward for faithfulness may be theirs. We pray for new insight for those who discredit or discount altogether the gift of tradition. May it be a source of strength and comfort in time of trial and temptation. We pray for those who feel they stand alone in their struggle to be Christ-like people. We pray for those who are living in the midst of disaster. We pray for people the world over, this week we pray especially for the people of Canada and the United States of America.

Compassionate God, we pray for the saints in our midst who need your presence and comfort in their lives – for all who are ill or dying, awaiting medical intervention or recovering from treatment, especially Rev. Jim Evans, Ina Laidlaw, Haley Scott, and their loved ones, and caregivers, and those known only in the silence of our own hearts.....

God of Grace and God of Glory, we lift up all these prayers in the name of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus the Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, and who taught us how to pray, singing....

(VU 959)

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 forever.
Amen.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 149

Sing to God a new song;
 give praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in its Maker;
 let the children of Zion exult in their Sovereign!
Let them praise God's name with dancing;
 let them sing God's praise with tambourine and harp!
For you, O God, take delight in your people;
 you crown the humble with victory.
Let the faithful exult in their glory;
 let them sing for joy as they feast.
Let God's praise be on their lips,
 the two-edged sword in their hands,
to bring the nations to justice,
 and call to account the peoples,
to bind their rulers with fetters,
 their great ones with bonds of iron,
to execute on them the sentence decreed.
 This is the glory of all God's saints!

Scripture: Luke 6:20-31

Blessings and Woes

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:
"Blessed are you who are poor,
 for yours is the kingdom of God.
"Blessed are you who are hungry now,
 for you will be filled.
"Blessed are you who weep now,
 for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

"But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

Love for Enemies

"But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

*The other readings for this week are: **Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Ephesians 1:11-23***

Hymn VU 660 "How Firm a Foundation"

How firm a foundation, you servants of God,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
What more can be said than to you has been said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

'Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen and help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.

'When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

'When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply:
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.

'The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not - I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never - no, never - no, never forsake!'

Meditation: Saints we have known.

Hymn VU 705 "For All the Saints"

For all the saints, who from their labours rest,
all who by faith before the world confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might:
you were their captain in the well-fought fight;
you, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one within your great design.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day
the saints triumphant rise in bright array:
as God to glory calls them all away.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

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:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

We Return to Our Ministries

Commissioning and Benediction

May Christ, who makes saints of sinners,

Who has transformed those we remember today,

Raise and strengthen you,

That we may transform the world.

May it be so.

Amen.

Response: VU 298 "When You Walk from Here"

When you walk from here, when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.

Saints Departed From Us This Past Year

Union United Church

Dolores Johnson, January 31, 2022

Ronald "Ron" Harold Dickie, April 5, 2022

Harvey "Harv" Russell Patterson, May 18, 2022

Amy Marlene Smith, July 25, 2022

Marleen Beatrice Parish, October 17, 2022

Dorchester United Church

Beryl Ann Geddes, August 30, 2022

Leslie McIntosh Reading, September 13, 2022

Pauline Ellen Livingstone, September 21, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL:

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 6. Remember to fall back on Saturday evening.

UNION:

Unified Board meets on Wednesday, November 16 at 7 p.m.

November 13, 2022 is our 202nd Anniversary Service. Our friend and former General Secretary of the United Church of Canada, Nora Sanders, will be our guest speaker.

November outreach is the Christmas shoppe....toys, clothing for new born to age 12, (size 16)

DORCHESTER:

Central Board meets on Wednesday, November 23 at 7 p.m.

Lectionary Readings for next week:

(November 6, 22th after Pentecost/Proper 27)

Haggai 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 (or Psalm 98); 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38