

**Sunday November 2, 2025
All Saints Sunday**

We Gather In God's Presence

Prelude: "Holy, Holy, Holy" Music: John B. Dykes

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Call to Worship

Like all the saints who have gone before us, give us pure hearts,
that we may see you.

Like all the saints who live among us, give us humble hearts,
that we may hear you.

Like all the saints who are yet to come, give us hearts of love,
that we may serve you.

Like all the saints of every time and place, give us hearts of faith,
that we may abide in you, and you in us.

Hymn VU 559 "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" Words: Robert Robinson, 1785. © 1993 The Pilgrim Press.
Music: John Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813.
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Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger, precious presence, precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:
here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

Opening Prayer (unison)

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.

Hymn VU 707 “For the Faithful Who Have Answered” Words: Sylvia Dunstan, 1986. Music: Trier Gesangbuch 1695.
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For the faithful who have answered when they heard your call to serve,
for the many ways you led them testing will and stretching nerve,
for their work and for their witness as they strove against the odds,
for their courage and obedience we give thanks and praise, O God.

Many eyes have glimpsed the promise, many hearts have yearned to see.
Many ears have heard you calling us to greater liberty.
Some have fallen in the struggle, others still are fighting on.
You are not ashamed to own us. We give thanks and praise, O God.

For this cloud of faithful witness, for the common life we share,
for the work of peace and justice, for the gospel that we bear,
for the vision that our homeland is your love – deep, high, and broad –
for the different roads we travel we give thanks and praise, O God.

A New Creed VU 918

We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

We Open Ourselves to Receive God's Blessings

Psalm 149 VU 872 Words: The Psalter 1912. Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1887.

Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Give praise to our God and sing a new song,
amid all the saints God's praises prolong;
a song to your maker and ruler now raise,
all children of Zion, rejoice and give praise.

With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim,
with gladness and mirth, we praise your great name;
for now in your people your pleasure you seek,
with robes of salvation adorning the meek.

In glory exult, you saints of the Word;
with songs in the night high praises accord;
go forth in God's service, be strong in God's might
to conquer all evil and stand for the right.

For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail,
but over the earth the humble prevail;
all rulers and nations shall yield to their sway.
To God give the glory; sing praises for aye.

Scripture: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Visions of the Four Beasts & Daniel's Visions Interpreted

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another....

As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: "As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever."

*The other lectionary readings for this week are: **Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31***

Sermon: "Saints all around us."

Saints Departed From Us This Past Year

Gordon Francis Lewis, October 22, 2024

Shirley Elizabeth Day, November 27, 2024

William George Latham, November 29, 2024

Mary Lee Patience, March 11, 2025

John Gibb Muir, March 13, 2025

Hymn VU 706 “Give Thanks for Life” Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1986; © 1986 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906; © Oxford University Press.
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Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Give thanks for those who made their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

And for our own our living and our dead,
thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
a love not changed by time or death or dread,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain
lying in darkness does its life retain
in resurrection to grow green again,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

We Respond To God's Grace

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. Our tithes and offerings will be received.

Offertory Hymn: “Give Thanks” Henry Smith. Tune: © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music
Text: © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music OneLicense.net A620168

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.
And now let the weak say, “I am strong”,
let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us!”
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. Give thanks. Give thanks.

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 in this life.

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, Gord Lewis, Shirley Day, Bill Latham, Mary Lee Patience, and John Muir. 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, in the eye of the storm, in social collapse, or in war-torn areas.

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 Butch, and his/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 to pray,

**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,

the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Hymn VU 713 "I See a New Heaven" Words and Music: Carolyn McDade, 1979.
Harmonized: Janet McGaughey, ca. 1991.
Word and Music © 1979, Harmony © 1991 Carolyn McDade.
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I see a new heaven. I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.

There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,
yielding her fruit, firm in her root, the Tree of Life will be.

I see a new heaven. I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.

There, there where death dies and our lives are born again,
body and soul, struggling but whole like flowers after the rain.

I see a new heaven. I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.

There, there where the darkness brings visions from above.
There where the night, bearing new light, reveals the promise of love.

I see a new heaven. I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.

There, there where we work with the love of healing hands.
Labour we must, true to our trust to build a promised new land.

I see a new heaven. I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.

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.

Sung Response: "Go Now in Peace" Words and music: Don Bessig and Nancy Price.

Words and music © 1988 Harold Flammer Music

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Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there supporting us with love.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen, amen, amen.

Postlude: "For All The Saints" Music: Ralph Vaughn Williams, Arr. Cindy Berry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Committee meets Wednesday, November 5 at 1 p.m.

Dorchester United Church is making Frozen Beef or Turkey pies. Pies are \$5.50 each. To place your order, email dorchesterUC@gmail.com or call 519-268-3154 with your name, phone number, and order, or use the sign-up sheet in the downstairs hall. Pickup will be Saturday, November 29 at the church from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Organ Recital Series: From Buxheim to Bach A series of four recitals will take place at Metropolitan United Church (London) at 12:15 p.m., followed by a light lunch at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, October 28, November 18, and January 27. A freewill offering will be received.

Nathaniel Dett Chorale will be in concert at First - St. Andrew's United Church (350 Queens Ave, London) on Sunday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are: Advance \$35, at the Door \$40, Students \$15. For tickets, go to:

www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-nathaniel-dett-chorale-tickets-1755261156369?aff=oddtcreator

Lambeth United Church is holding their Holly Berry Bazaar on Saturday, November 15, 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be sewing, crafts, woodworking, meat pies, knitting, preserves, books, baking, jewellery, attic treasures, a pet centre and more. Lunch is available for \$8. Interac, Visa, MasterCard and Cash are all accepted.

St. Peter's Anglican Church, Dorchester is holding their annual Online Silent Auction to benefit community outreach from noon November 15 to November 19 at 7:00 p.m. To view items and bid, go to www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064784468405

St. Peter's Anglican Church, Dorchester is holding their annual Spaghetti Supper on November 18, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. A freewill offering will be accepted.

The Royal Canadian College of Organists present their **Annual Carol Festival** on Sunday, November 30 at 4:00 p.m. at Metropolitan United Church (468 Wellington St., London). A freewill offering will be collected.

All Things Nativity – December 7th, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. We plan to showcase scenes of the Nativity again this year. If you have a Nativity set, painting, stained glass, tapestry, or any other representation of the Nativity please deliver it to the church by November 30th. Consider including a paragraph indicating the history or origin of your Nativity. Please include your name and contact information so we can return it. Admission is a donation to the local Food Bank.

Ark Aid Mission has launched the HOLIDAY BIG GIVE. They have challenged the community, faith and otherwise, to raise \$500,000 to fund 10,000 more days of safe rest, food, and other essentials. For more information, go to www.holidaybiggive.ca or contact paula@arkaidmission.ca

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Lectionary Readings:

Sunday, November 9, Twenty-second 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