



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship November 5, 2023 9:30am
All Saints' Day

Gathering

PRELUDE "For All the Saints" R. Vaughan Williams
SINE NOMINE arr. Wilbur Held
Linda Dover, organist

In worship following reflective music, we are requesting a response of quiet or a contemplative "amen." Any music that elicits a response of applause is to the glory of God.

WELCOME Kathy Bures

INTROIT "For the Beauty of the Earth" arr. Brenda Austin
Jubilation! Ringers – Kathy Bures, director

*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Karen Wright

ONE: It is right and good to give you thanks, Almighty God, for you are the source of light and life.

ALL: You made us in your image and called us to new life in Jesus Christ.

ONE: In all times and places your people proclaim your glory in unending praise.

ALL: We praise you today for faithful people in every age who have followed your Son, Jesus Christ.

ONE: As they witnessed to Christ's resurrection, may we be strengthened by their witness and supported by their fellowship.

ALL: May we run with perseverance the race that lies before us and, with them, receive the unfading crown of glory. We praise you, almighty God, through Christ, your Son, in the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN 366

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

HYFRYDOL

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our
thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Rev. Karen Wright

(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. Forgive our indifference to your will. You have commanded us to speak, but we have been silent. You have called us to do what is just, but we have been fearful. Have mercy on us, your faithless servants. Keep before us faithful people for us to follow so that, living with courage and love, we may inherit the kingdom promised in Jesus Christ, and reign with him forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you and all others!

*HYMN 299

“You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

HANOVER

299 You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save,
 3 "Sal - va - tion to God, who sits on the throne!"
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad Christ's won - der - ful name.
 he still re - mains nigh; his pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud and hon - or the Son.
 all glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

The name all vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol,
 The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 all hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

whose king - dom is glo - rious, who rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
 fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fi - nite love!

This hymn resembles many 18th-century drawings that show parallels between worship on earth and worship in heaven, especially as described in Revelation 7:9–11. This 18th-century tune has had many names; the one used here honors the dynasty of British monarchs, 1714–1901.

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 5:1–12 (CEB)

Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up a mountain. He sat down and his disciples came to him. He taught them, saying: “Happy are people who are hopeless, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Happy are people who grieve, because they will be made glad. Happy are people who are humble, because they will inherit the earth. Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, because they will be fed until they are full. Happy are people who show mercy, because they will receive mercy. Happy are people who have pure hearts, because they will see God. Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God’s children. Happy are people whose lives are harassed because they are righteous, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Happy are you when people insult you and harass you and speak all kinds of bad and false things about you, all because of me. Be full of joy and be glad, because you have a great reward in heaven. In the same way, people harassed the prophets who came before you.

ANTHEM

“Ain’t No Grave Can Hold My Body Down”

Traditional Spiritual

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers arr. Paul Caldwell & Sean Ivory,
Paul Bruns, Lindsay Callender, Karen Kesler, adapted
and Terri Monrad, sign language

(Refrain)

Ain’t no grave can hold my body down.

They ain’t no grave can keep a sinnuh underground.

Oh, I will listen for the trumpet sound.

No, they ain’t no grave can hold my body down.

You know they rolled a stone on Jesus. And then they tried to bury me.

But then the Holy Ghost it freed us so we could live eternally.

Sistuh you better get cho ticket if you wanna ride.

Catch a ride in the mornin’ when Jesus call my numbah, I’ll be on the other side. (Refrain)

Ain’t no grave is gonna hold me. Ain’t no man is gonna bury me.

Ain’t no serpent gonna trick me. No, they ain’t no grave can hold my body down.

I will fly to Jesus in the mornin’ when I die. I know he will take me home to live with him on high.

I will fly with Jesus in the mornin’. Don’t look here. I’ll be way up in the sky.

Soon one day he’s gonna call me up to heaven for a chariot ride.

Ain’t no grave can hold my body down.

They ain’t no grave can keep a sinnuh underground.

Oh, I will listen for the trumpet sound.

No, they ain’t no grave can hold my body down.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Revelation 7:9–17 (CEB)

After this I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They wore white robes and held palm branches in their hands. They cried out with a loud voice: “Victory belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” All the angels stood in a circle around the throne, and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell facedown before the throne and worshipped God, saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and

wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and always. Amen.” Then one of the elders said to me, “Who are these people wearing white robes, and where did they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you know.” Then he said to me, “These people have come out of great hardship. They have washed their robes and made them white in the Lamb’s blood. This is the reason they are before God’s throne. They worship him day and night in his temple, and the one seated on the throne will shelter them. They won’t hunger or thirst anymore. No sun or scorching heat will beat down on them, because the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“On the Shoulders of Giants”

Rev. Karen Wright

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & RECOGNITION OF THE SAINTS

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup – *partake of the bread first and then drink as instructed.*

Music During Communion

“Blessing”

by John Leavitt

Prayer After Communion

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS
AND PLEDGES

“What the Future Holds”
2024 Pledge Drive

Ryan & Caitlin Hussey

[Sending](#)

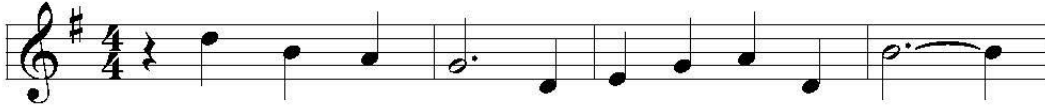
*HYMN 326

“For All the Saints”

SINE NOMINE

Sing all stanzas ... Stanza 3 on next page

For All the Saints



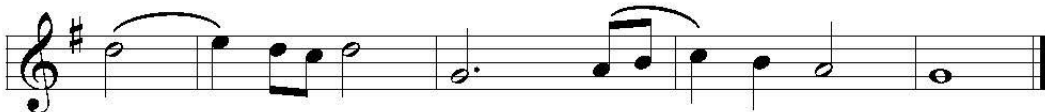
1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
 3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
 5 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
 thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
 We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet
 steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and
 gates of pearl streams in the countless host,



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
 thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
 all are one in thee, for all are thine.
 hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
 sing - ing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints' Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring "fellowship divine" celebrated by this text.

Harmony, stanza 3

3 O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a common time signature. The bass line starts with a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note C3. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

We fee - bly strug - gle; they in glo - ry shine; yet

The second system of musical notation continues the treble and bass staves. The treble staff has a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F#5, a quarter note G5, a quarter note A5, a quarter note B5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note D6. The bass staff has a quarter note D2, a quarter note E2, a quarter note F#2, a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, and a quarter note D3. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

all are one in thee, for all are thine.

The third system of musical notation continues the treble and bass staves. The treble staff has a quarter note D6, a quarter note E6, a quarter note F#6, a quarter note G6, a quarter note A6, a quarter note B6, a quarter note C7, and a quarter note D7. The bass staff has a quarter note D3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note F#3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note D4. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

to stanza 4

The fourth system of musical notation continues the treble and bass staves. The treble staff has a quarter note D7, a quarter note E7, a quarter note F#7, a quarter note G7, a quarter note A7, a quarter note B7, a quarter note C8, and a quarter note D8. The bass staff has a quarter note D4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note F#4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, and a quarter note D5. The lyrics are placed between the two staves. The system ends with a double bar line. The text 'to stanza 4' is written above the treble staff.

POSTLUDE

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA
Linda Dover, organist

by John Hughes
arr. Mary Ellen Kerrick

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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