

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – October 31, 2021

All Saints' Day Celebration

Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.



About All Saints' Day:

Saints' days began in the early church as a way to mark the anniversaries of the deaths of the early Christian martyrs—their birthdays as saints. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, remembered and forgotten, known and unknown. It has been celebrated on or around November 1 since the ninth century.

While we give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past, we also give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of believers in this and every age.

Opening Music

"Étude No.2"

Philip Glass

Welcome

Responsive Call to Worship

In all our weakness and strength,
with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,
we come to be your people, O God.
Strong in faith and eager with questions,
singing our praise and whispering our prayers,
we come to be your people, O God.
Filled with saintly determination
yet mindful of our human limitations,
we come to be your people, O God.

Made strong in your endless love for us,
we know ourselves to be yours and
we come to be your people, O God.
May we truly become your people today. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Hymn [*stand*] “We Are One in the Spirit” Glory to God #300

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession [*together*]

Gracious God, you know what kind of people we are.
We judge others harshly and fail to see our own sin.
We look on others with suspicion and fear,
and neglect to show hospitality to strangers.
We treasure things that are worthless
and squander your precious gifts.
We withhold the grace that you give us so freely.
Forgive us. Pour out your mercy upon us to save us from our sin. Amen.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

Assurance of Pardon in Music “Amazing Grace” arr. Charles Maggs
The Canterbury Ringers

We Listen to God’s Word

Children’s Message Carolyn Hayes / Natalie Jorges-Castellanos
Children and youth leave for class. Children can be picked up after church in Room 30/31 or Room 32/33. At 11:00, youth will be released from class to find you.

Sung Response [*seated*] “I Want Jesus to Walk With Me” Glory to God #775

Scripture **Luke 7:36–50**

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee’s house and took his place at the table. ³⁷And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them

with the ointment. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.' ⁴⁰Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' 'Teacher,' he replied, 'speak.' ⁴¹A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?' ⁴³Simon answered, 'I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.' And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.' ⁴⁴Then turning towards the woman, he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.' ⁴⁸Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' ⁴⁹But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?' ⁵⁰And he said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Bathing in Tears

Rev. Mary Austin

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn [*stand*]

"We Are An Offering"

Glory to God #710

Moment for Mission

Marilyn Morrison

Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Commemoration of Those Who Have Died in the Faith

Rev. Jey Deifell

Hubert Morsink

Koffi Edoh Amewu

Thomas McIlrath

Michael Fumai

William Dyer

Marybeth Morsink

C. Frederick Edwards

Juliet Lake

Robert Wasik

Hawa Wright

Cynthia Cary

Raymond Marcotte

Music for Reflection

“How Beautiful”

Twila Paris, arr. Bruce Greer

The Chancel Choir

*To continue our time of remembrance, during the music, you are invited
to light a candle for the people you remember and carry in your heart.*

If you are worshiping at home, please light your candle there.

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer [*together*]

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.

We Depart for Service

Announcements

Sending Song [*stand*]

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

Glory to God #825

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Closing Blessing

Closing Music

“May the Lord Go With You”

J. P. Williams & A. L. Page

The Chancel Choir and Canterbury Ensemble

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Participating in the service:

Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Ms. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Rev. Mary Austin

The Call to Worship is adapted from the worship resources of the Iona Community.



Please sign the guest
book by using your
smartphone camera
to scan the QR code