All Saints Sunday

November 1, 2026 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Prelude and Fugue in E Minor" J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)

One: Come, a great cloud of witnesses surrounds us as we gather.
All: May the lingering echo of saints resound in our songs.
One: May their stories open a space for the Spirit to enter us anew.
All: In remembering them, may we find ourselves re-membered.
One: May the God of every generation form us anew for this generation.
All: And may a new joy rise in our lives and in the life of the world.

*GATHERING HYMN "For All the Saints" #299 *New Century Hymnal verses 1-3*
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

You were their rock, their refuge and their might:
You, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;
'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Still may your people, faithful, true and bold,
Live as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And share with them a glorious crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)
Beloved God, who was known to our ancestors in faith, have mercy on us.
We do not always love as you would have us love.
We do not always do as you would have us do.
We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors.
Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts. *(Silent confession)*

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE
Friends, hear the good news! Though our ancestors in the faith did not follow God's ways perfectly—just like us-- we have hope in the one who did! Jesus taught through his words and deeds that God has already forgiven us.
Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "For All the Saints" *verse 5*
And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
Then hearts are brave again, and faith grows strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN: Laren Loveless
"Thankful" by Forrest Frank *(see lyrics at end of bulletin)*

CHORAL ANTHEM

LISTENING
God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 23:1–12 Pew Bible pp. 804
A Word of God that is still speaking,
Thanks be to God!

SERMON Sarah Fredriksen McCann

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF REFLECTION "The Church's One Foundation" #386 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)
The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord;
We are Christ's new creation by water and the word;
From heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free;
With precious blood Christ bought us for all eternity.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
One charter of salvation, one God, one faith, one birth,
One name together blessing, one holy food we share,
To one hope we are pressing, at one in work and prayer.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war,
We wait the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious, our longing eyes are blessed,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet we on earth have union with God, the Three-in-One,
In mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! God, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

RESPONDING

We respond to God's Word through our prayers and our gifts.

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS
Raising the names of those who have died and are now born into eternal life:

Lydia Lewis	*February 8, 2026*
Harold Franks	*March 11, 2026*
Susanne Casey	*August 17, 2026*

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERTORY "Abide with Me" Arr. Clay Christiansen
(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #778 *New Century Hymnal*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Gathered by kindness and nurtured in your love, O God, we gladly enter into this moment of faith and hope. Attested by time, honored by countless generations, these symbols of bread and wine continue to be our common hope and unity with all creation in its yearning for peace, justice, and restoration. Therefore, the whole realm of nature around us; with earth, sea, and sky, we enjoin our voices with your faithful servants of past, present and yet to come:
Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS
(All are welcome to share in the Sacrament of Communion! Elements will be served by ushers, and you are invited to hold the elements until we commune together. Wine trays contain white grape juice and red wine. Wrapped gluten-free wafers are available on bread trays. Please place the glass cups in the cup holders located in each pew rack.)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
Gracious God, we give you thanks because around this table our strength is revived in the struggle for your justice, grace, and peace. May our meals on an earth divided one day be shared in an earth re-united. Through the risen Christ we pray. Amen.

*COMMISSIONING HYMN "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" #294 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

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.

They loved their God and they lived that love. It was loving that made them strong.
They did what was right, for Jesus' sake, lived justly their whole lives long.
And one was a prophet, and one was a priest,
and another was slain by a fierce wild beast:
There is no earthly reason, none in the least, why I shouldn't be one, too.

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

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "In Thee is Joy" J. S. Bach

SENDING

With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world.

Worship Endnotes

1. Adapted from *Worship Ways*, www.ucc.org

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"Thankful" by Forrest Frank

I've got so much to be thankful for, look, I've got a roof and a bed
A couple groceries to stay fed, I've got a phone and clean water
And some shoes when I wanna go farther
Refrain: Today I've got so much to be thankful for (hey)
I woke up this mornin' thinkin', "Thank You, Lord" (hey)
For giving me everything I could ever need and more
I've got so much to be thankful for (oh, yeah, run it back)
Ay, I have lights and a fan, A couple people who know who I am (know)
I have a car and clean clothes, Pots and pans I can cook on a stove
I have the sun and air in my lungs, and a big mess that I get to clean up
But most of all, one thing's true, Jesus, I'm grateful for You *Refrain*