

Communion of Saints Sunday

November 3, 2024

Piano prelude: Prelude in D minor J.S. Bach

***Hymn: All creatures of our God and King**

No. 433 v. 1,4,5,6

1. All creatures of our God and King
lift up your voice and with us sing:
sing praises, hallelujah!

O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

4. Dear mother earth, who day by day
brings forth your blessings on our way:
sing praises, hallelujah!
All flowers and fruit that in you grow,
let them God's glory also show:
sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

5. Let everyone of tender heart,
forgiving others, take their part:
sing praises, hallelujah!
All who long pain and sorrow bear,
give God your burdens and your care:
sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

6. Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness:
sing praises, hallelujah!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:
sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Welcome, Announcements & Worship Theme

CALL TO WORSHIP:

We gather to worship as those who love and those who hope.

We have loved people in our lives and we grieve their absence with us in the flesh. We hope for a healthy future for ourselves and for future generations but we also have fear of what's to come.

How do we live today with love and hope even as the future is uncertain and we grieve the past? How do we live lives of trust and peace today when turbulence is all around us in our politics, our climate and our future?

ALL: Come to us as we worship you this hour, O God, speak to us and awaken in us fresh streams of faith, hope and love!

***Hymn: Let saints on earth in concert sing**

No. 615

1. Let saints on earth in concert sing
with those whose work is done,
for all the servants of our King
in heaven and earth are one.
2. One family, we dwell in him,
one church, above, beneath,
though now divided by the stream,
the narrow stream of death.
3. One army of the living God,
to his command we bow:
part of the host has crossed the flood,
and part is crossing now.
4. E'en now to their eternal home

there pass some spirits blest,
while others to the margin come,
waiting their call to rest.

5. Jesu be thou our constant guide;
then, when the word is given,
bid Jordan's narrow stream divide,
and bring us safe to heaven.

Prayer of Approach, Confession & 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 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, forever. Amen.**

The Peace of Christ be with you all;

And also with you

(Children are invited to join in programming following the Passing of the Peace)

Choir: For all thy saints

*1 For all Thy saints, O Lord,
Who strove in Thee to live,
Who followed Thee, obeyed,
adored,
Our grateful hymn receive.*

Alan Bullard

*2 For Thy dear saints, O Lord,
Who strove in Thee to die,
Who counted Thee their great
reward,
Accept our thankful cry.*

*3 Thine earthly members fit
To join Thy saints above,
In one communion ever knit,
One fellowship of love.*

*4 Jesus, Thy Name we bless
And humbly pray that we
May follow them in holiness
Who lived and died for Thee*

Scripture Readings: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

David Murray

INTRO: Our scripture reading this morning is taken from the gospel of Luke, chapter 15, verses 1-3, 11-32. This is one of the most beloved stories Jesus tells. Why does he tell it? What does he hope to teach and inspire? Listen:

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32:

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' 3 So Jesus told them this parable:

11 Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. 13 A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. 14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.

15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. 16 He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. 17 But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' " 20 So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father

saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. 21 Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” 22 But the father said to his servants, “Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; 24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate. 25 ‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. 27 He replied, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.” 28 Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29 But he answered his father, “Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” 31 Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.” ’ Amen.

We are listening, O God
Speak to us!

Sermon: LOVE & HOPE: THE DIFFERENCE
(*Silent Meditation*)

Rev. Dr. Harris Athanasiadis

Solo: I will remember you

Sarah McLachlan

Soloist Erin Stone

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Pastoral Concern

***Hymn: Lord of all power**

No. 626

1. Lord of all power, I give you my will,
in joyful obedience
your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom,
your service is song,
and, held in your keeping,
my weakness is strong.

2. Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,
rich truth that surpasses
our knowledge to find.
What eye has not seen
and what ear has not heard
is taught by your Spirit
and shines from your word.

3. Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you
for all you impart:
your love to inspire me,
your counsel to guide,
your presence to cheer me,
whatever betide.

4. Lord of all being, I give you my all.
If e'er I disown you,
I stumble and fall,
but, sworn in glad service
your word to obey,
I walk in your freedom
to the end of the way.

Benediction

***Threefold Amen**

Organ postlude:

Fugue in D minor

J.S. Bach

**Remain seated if you are more comfortable*

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***We invite you to join us for coffee hour and some light refreshments in
our adjacent hall after the service.
All are welcome!***

~

**OUR PURPOSE AS A CHURCH:
To become the hands, feet, voice and heart of Christ for each
other and in the world.**



Ministers

The Rev. Dr. Harris Athanasiadis, hathan1964@hotmail.com
The Rev. Rebecca Jess, rebecca@armourheights.org (On Maternity
Leave)

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The Rev. Dr. Carol Loudon,
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Coming Events

Sunday, November 3

Communion of Saints Sunday

Monday, November 4

Dance fitness, 10:00am

Wednesday, November 6

"Where Is God in the Face Of Human Suffering & Injustice? The Biblical Book of Job: A Study"
7:30pm

Sunday, November 10

Remembrance Sunday
Intergenerational Band Rehearsal

Monday, November 11

Dance fitness, 10:00am

Wednesday, November 13

"Where Is God in the Face Of Human Suffering & Injustice? The Biblical Book of Job: A Study"
7:30pm

Friday, November 15

PA Day Camp

Sunday, November 17

Anniversary Sunday
Intergenerational Band Rehearsal

Monday, November 18

Dance fitness, 10:00am

Sunday, November 24

Intergenerational Sunday with special guest: Guy Smagge, Executive Director of PWS&D
(Presbyterian World Service & Development)

Monday, November 25

Dance fitness, 10:00am

Tuesday, November 26

Literary Society Discussion, "Saints and Villains"
by Denise Giardina

Wednesday, November 27

Practicing Healing Prayer, 7:30pm via Zoom

Friday, November 29

Youth Group, 7pm-9pm



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"Discover the vitality of faith"