

**SATURDAY CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION
FOR ALL SAINTS DAY**

NOTE: Please pick-up a communion pack as you enter.

PRELUDE: Sing With All the Saints in Glory

OPENING RESPONSES

Seeking your wisdom,
We seek your face.
Seeking your forgiveness,
We seek your grace.
Seeking your strength,
We seek your love.
Seeking your beauty,
We seek your face.

***OPENING PRAYER**

**Almighty God, we bless your holy name for all who, having finished their course,
now rest from their labors.
Give us grace to follow in their faithfulness, to your honor and glory;
through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 1:11-14

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of God's glory.

REFLECTION: "Practicing to be Saints"

Rev. Dr. Rebeka Maples

HYMN As We Gather at Your Table

TFWS 2268

INVITATION

For those who walk with others,
For those who lead the way,
For those who touch and linger with the living,
For those in the shadows and behind the door,
This is the invitation: all are welcome at this table.



CONFESSION & PARDON

Forgive us, Lord, for our failure to live with integrity.

We want to sing your praises, O God.

We want to show with our lives our love for you.

But we forget. Forgive us, Lord.

Be assured, God cares for us and has already forgiven what needs to be forgiven.

GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR ALL SAINTS DAY

(adapted from UMC Book of Worship and Iona Community Prayer Book)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with all the saints of light, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: *(lift bread)*

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: *(lift cup)*

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the love of Christ, that we may offer that love to the world.

Renew our communion with all your saints, especially those whom we name in our hearts...

(pause)

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus as the Perfecter of our faith. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until we feast with all the saints at the heavenly banquet.

Amen.

And now, we lift our voices and pray together the Lord's Prayer (*revised version*),
**God in heaven, your name be honored,
May your new community of hope
be realized on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the essentials of life.
Release us from our wrongdoing
as we release those who wrong us.
Do not test us beyond our enduring;
save us from all that is evil.
For you embrace justice, love and peace,
now and to the end of time. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. (*break bread*)
We hold this cup to share in the sacrifice of Christ. (*lift cup*)

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP **Let Us Break Bread Together instrumental**
*All in-person with communion packs may open them and consume, and all on Zoom may eat
their bread and drink*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of All the Saints, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of
heaven. Strengthen us in our life together, that we may grow in love for you and for all you
have created; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN **Lord, I Want to Be a Christian** **UMH 402**

BLESSING

God is always calling us.
Go in peace in communion with All the Saints,
And in all things give God the glory,
Now and always,
Amen.

POSTLUDE **I Sing a Song of the Saints of God**

RESOURCES

Burgess, Ruth, Candles & Conifers: Resources for All Saints' and Advent (Glasgow, UK: Wild
Goose Publications, 2005).
"The Saints of God are Down Our Street," in Wild Goose Big Book of Liturgies (Glasgow, UK:
Wild Goose Publications, 2017).
Iona Community Prayer Book 2020 (Argyll, Isle of Iona, Scotland, 2020)