

**ORDER OF SERVICE
NOVEMBER 1, 2020
ALL SAINT'S DAY**

Welcome/ Land Acknowledgement

Celebrations

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

Hymn: "Rejoice, the Lord is King" VU213

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your risen Lord adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 Jesus, the Savior, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He had purged our sins,
He took his seat above;
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

3 God's kingdom cannot fail,
Christ rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart,

Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

4 Rejoice in glorious hope!
For Christ, the judge shall come
to glorify the saints
for their eternal home:
We soon shall hear
the archangel's voice;
the trump of God
shall sound, rejoice!

Opening Prayer/ Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:11-23 (The Message)

¹¹⁻¹² It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

¹³⁻¹⁴ It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This signet from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.

¹⁵⁻¹⁹ That's why, when I heard of the solid trust you have in the Master Jesus and your outpouring of love to all the followers of Jesus, I couldn't stop thanking God for you—every time I prayed, I'd think of you and give thanks. But I do more than thank. I ask—ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for his followers, oh, the utter extravagance of his work in us who trust him—endless energy, boundless strength!

²⁰⁻²³ All this energy issues from Christ: God raised him from death and set him on a throne in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule. And not just for the time being, but *forever*. He is in charge of

it all, has the final word on everything. At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.

Theme Conversation: Laura

Hymn: "Shall We Gather at the River" **VU710**

1 Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

2 Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown. [Refrain]

3 Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace. [Refrain]

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV)

When Jesus^[a] saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely^[b] on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Music/Solo: Doug

Reflection: “Blessings?!”

Hymn: “Faith of Our Fathers”

VU580 verses 1 & 2

1 Faith of our fathers! living still
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!
Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to you till death.

2 Faith of our mothers, daring faith
your work for Christ is loved revealed,
spreading God's love from pole to pole
making love known and freedom real:
Faith of our mothers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.

Lighting Candles on All Saints' Day

Poem:

Some start naturally, blend easily
into the flame of a tall Christ candle; but
pulled away, struggle to sustain their light.

Some crackle loudly as they ignite—announcing
their achievement. But their radiance persisting
is not guaranteed.

There are those who need extra care at first —
wicks straightened
or longer contact with the source.

Only a few grasp the fire immediately, fully,
make it their own. These glow nearly
as steadily as the source.

One taper will not catch. The wait
stretches on. Must this one be discarded?
Slowly, a fragile flame appears.

The sand tray is full. Light flares up,
resplendent, dances out
into dark vast space.

(NOVEMBER 2, 2016 BY ANN NIEDRINGHAUS)

Hymn: "Faith of Our Fathers"

VU580 verses 3 & 4

3 Faith of our sisters and brothers too!
who still must bear oppression's might,
raising on high, in prisons dark,
the cross of Christ still burning bright:
faith for today, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.

4 Faith born of God, O call us yet;
bind us with all who follow you,
sharing the struggle of your cross
until the world is made anew.
Faith born of God, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.

Gratitude for the Offering

Prayers of the People

Benediction

Shalom

Shalom to you my friend
Shalom until we meet again
The word "shalom" means peace, hello and good-bye
so sing shalom, shalom

Shalom to you my friend
Shalom until we meet again
The word "shalom" means peace, hello and good-bye
so sing shalom, shalom

When we join our hands across the land
we'll hear neighbours and brothers, old friends and other
singing shalom to you my friend,
shalom until we meet again.

Shalom to you my friend
Shalom until we meet again
The word "shalom" means peace, hello and good-bye
so sing shalom, shalom
so sing shalom, shalom