

All Saints' Day

Saints' days began as a way to mark the anniversaries of the deaths of martyrs—their birthdays as saints through the completion of their baptism. 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.

In the Reformed tradition, the emphasis of this festival is on the ongoing sanctification of the whole people of God. While we may 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. This is an appropriate time to give thanks for members of the community of faith who have died in the past year, and to pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

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We're on FaceBook!



**First
Presbyterian
Church**

Henderson, Texas

“Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences”

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

Service for the Lord's Day

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

November 3, 2019

Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses...
let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ~ Heb. 12:1-2

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

Loving God, Thank you for giving us people throughout the world and
throughout time as witnesses of your community.
May we set good examples and encourage those who will come after us. Amen.

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

***ROLL CALL OF THE SAINTS**

After the Welcome, we will gather briefly outside around the bell tower while we read the names of our dearly departed and toll the bell in their honor.

Litany for All Saints' Day

...You gave your only Son for the life of the world. ***Hear us, O God.***

...For the great cloud of witnesses into which we are baptized. ***Thanks be to God.***

Commemorations with the tolling of the bell.

...For Your beloved martyrs. ***Thanks be to God.***

...Bring us with all your saints to the river of life. ***Hear us, O God.***

INTROIT

“In This Very Room”

Chancel Choir

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Responsive**

Liturgist - John Tieken

Giving thanks for all the saints,
who from their labors rest.
We gather to worship God,
who loves beyond life or death.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - Unison**

Gracious God, we offer our thanks, for the communion of saints and for the ministry of the church worldwide. Having shared this bread and cup may we each be restored for the work of proclaiming your kin-dom. At this table may we be united as children of your promise, sent boldly together into the world as servants of your peace. Amen.

Sending

***HYMN #730**

“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

Scott, 1929

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

The blessing of the holy, triune God, who was and is and is to come—first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega—be with you now and always. *Alleluia!*

Go in peace to love the Lord your God with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. *Amen.*

***CLOSING RESPONSE #742** *“We Will Walk with God”*

Swaziland melody

***POSTLUDE**

Selected

With the cloud of witnesses,
by the grace of Christ,
in the presence of the Spirit,
let us worship God.

***HYMN #326**

“For All the Saints”

How, 1864

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CONFESSION

SILENT REFLECTION

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*You have said that the poor are blessed,
the outcast beloved, and the mighty powerless,
for your gospel message turns the world upside down.
Forgive us when we do not live
in the light of your great reversal:
when we operate as if success were the highest goal
and happiness the most worthy aim.
Forgive us, Lord.
Convict us, and heal us.
Enlighten us to know your truth
and empower us to try again.*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

“Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.”

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you. *And also with you.*
Please exchange signs of our Lord’s peace with those around you.

***GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

Word

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Our younger Christians may come forward for their special time. After, children are welcome to stay in the sanctuary for worship, or may choose to go to our supervised playroom.

ANTHEM

“Nothing Is Lost”

Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GREEK SCRIPTURE

II Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Bibles,p.199/LG.p.249

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

GOSPEL

Luke 19:1-10

Bibles, p.77/ LG. p.100

This is the word of truth, the gospel of our salvation. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Rev. Michele R. Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

*HYMN #754

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

Temple, 1967

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Unison

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.10

The risen Christ is the Savior of all people.

Those joined to him by faith are set right with God

and commissioned to serve as God's reconciling community.

Christ is head of this community, the church,

which began with the apostles and continues through all generations.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Responsive

As you hear these prayers, please respond by saying, *“we seek your grace.”*

Eucharist

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Selected

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION - Unison

*To you, O God, we offer our lives—
our abundance, our poverty,*

*all that we have, all that we are—
a sign of our great thanksgiving
for the treasure of your grace.
Take and use us for good
in the world that you so love;
we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

*INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The people may be seated.

...from all times and places, who forever sing your praise:

HYMN #565

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Haugen, 1984

... and we offer ourselves in your service.

HYMN #566

“Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen”

Haugen, 1984

... Holy Three-in-One, now and forever.

HYMN #568

“Amen”

Haugen, 1984

LORD'S PRAYER - Unison

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are encouraged to come to Christ's table.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Special selection from the Choir