

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 5, 2017

Holy Communion – All Saints Day Service

8:15a 10:30a

Welcome to Trinity United Church of Christ. We seek to offer a warm greeting to our visitors, whether you are visiting the area or seeking a church family. To assist you as you worship, we have large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices available. Please see an usher for assistance. We would be happy for you to sign the guest book in the gathering area while you are with us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you are in life's journey, we are glad that you have come, and pray that you will be blessed by your worship experience. Come and see what God is doing!

denotes the congregation standing as you are able; congregational responses in **bold print*

We are always aware that human relationships are fragile and delicate creations, subject to the painful misunderstandings that lead to brokenness. But human relationships, however fragile and delicate, can become the strength and the foundation of a healthy and whole person as well. Often, the difference lies in relying on God's presence to nurture and to guide us. As we are open to the Spirit, God's love is made known to us and we are able to deal with even the most painful of relationships. Indeed, sadly enough, the relationship may remain broken, but still God's love and mercy are present with us, assuring us again that we can experience forgiveness and be offered new hope, acknowledging our failures but filled with peace. Nothing can separate us from the love of God -- not death, not sin, not betrayal, not even our rejection of God -- for God loves us still and holds us near. In this, the great hope, lies our confidence as we seek to follow the way of Jesus Christ, knowing that all the risks we take for His sake will be blessed by His presence.

PRELUDE – “Some Glad Morning” – A. E. Brumley

A TIME OF SHARING

PREPARING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Along with all the saints who have gone before us
and who now experience the fullness of God in the heavenly realm;
along with all the saints who worship in the majestic cathedrals
and the lowliest of mud huts;
along with all the saints who remain faithful in the midst of temptation
and in the midst of desperation;
along with all saints who follow the way of Jesus
in spite of extreme poverty or great wealth;
along with all those who seek to serve God,
we gather to worship, to praise, to honor, and to receive the presence of God in our lives.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**We come before you, O Holy God,
not because we have so much faith, but because we desire faith;
not because we have arrived, but because we are on the journey;
not because we are so good, but because we strive to become good;
not because we are so holy, but because we wish to share your holiness.**

***GATHERING HYMN # 299 – “For All the Saints”**

TIME OF CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just,
and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
Sisters and brothers, in faith and trust, let us ask for the forgiveness we need.

**God of the galaxies and God of the newborn baby,
we know that you hold all things in your care.**

**We confess that although we want to believe your promises,
we sometimes fail to live as people of the promise.**

**We have sought security in temporary pleasures,
in false hopes, in easy words.**

**Forgive us, O Holy and Majestic God,
and restore to us a renewed commitment to follow the way that leads to you;
a way that is not always free of trouble but a way that leads to eternal victory.**

For we ask it in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

And now let us confess in silence those fears that keep us from loving as Christ has loved us.

WE PRAY FOR GOD’S MERCY

Kyrie, Kyrie, Kyrie eleison

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Once we were strangers, but now we are God’s own.
Once we were enemies, but now we are God’s friends.
Once we were orphans, but now we are God’s children.

Thanks be to God for this magnificent gift of love.

***RESPONSE HYMN - 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**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

And now, experiencing once again the forgiving power of our loving God, let us express our intentions to live as God's people:

We wish to place others before ourselves. We wish to place ethics before expediency. We wish to rate principle as being more important than pleasure. We wish to seek generosity rather than greed. We wish to value love as higher than lust. We wish to place character before charisma. We wish to place Christ before all.

THE GIVING OF OURSELVES AND OUR OFFERINGS

In worship we receive with gratitude the self-giving love of God.
Let us pass on that love to others through our persons and our gifts.

*To our visitors - - the finances of the church are the responsibility of our church members.
As our guests, we ask visitors to simply pass the offering plate to the person sitting next to you in the pew.*

***Please sign the Registration Booklet at the end of each pew, then pass it to the next person.
Thank you***

OFFERTORY – “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” – *E. L. Diemer*

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Help us to mirror the glory of your sacrificial love,
both in our daily lives and in the tithes and offerings we present in this place.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM

“It is Well with My Soul”

By Philip P. Bliss

Setting by John Ness Beck

Senior Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

HYMN # 595 – “Some Glad Morning” (*I'll Fly Away*)

QUIET PREPARATION

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE SAINTS

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This feast is for all who wish to know the presence of Christ
and to share in the community of God's people.

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Mighty and tender God, in Jesus of Nazareth we recognize
the fullness of your grace - the breadth and depth of your love -
the transforming power of your living word.

In grateful thanksgiving we praise you, singing:

795 – Seraphic Hymn

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of the heavenly host;
heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of your glory.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Blessed the one who comes in the name of our God.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

And so it is today that we set this table before you -
and remember how on the night of his betrayal -
the eve of his death, when Jesus ate with his disciples
- with those he called his friends - he took bread, and after blessing it
- as we now bless this bread - the fruit of your earth, O God -

he broke it and gave it to them saying

“Take, eat, this is my body, given for you.”

And we remember too, Jesus took the cup, the cup of blessing, and after giving thanks
-as we now thank you, O God, for this that you give- he passed it to his friends, saying,

“Take and drink, this is my blood, poured out for you,
a new covenant for the forgiveness of sins.”

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace, remembering Christ's
life and death, proclaiming his resurrection, waiting in hope for his coming again.

**Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may offer ourselves to you
and that our lives my proclaim the mystery of faith.**

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

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts that all
who share in the bread and this cup may be the body of Christ:
light, life, and love in the world

**In this hope, and as your people, we praise you.
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.
We praise and adore you and lay our lives before you.
Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout our lives,
that we may know you as the Holy One,
who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF BREAD AND POURING OF WINE
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Take them remembering Christ died and was raised for you.
Give Christ thanks and praise.
**In humble and joyous thanksgiving we will receive the
body and blood of our Savior.**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

*THE SACRAMENTAL BLESSING

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give you thanks, Almighty God, for renewing us with your presence.
Strengthen us through this sacrament, so that we,
may share in the presence of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Fortify our faith, increase our love for you and for one another,
and send us into the world with courage, hope and peace.
Help us always to rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us.
For we ask it in the name of the One who reigns forever and ever, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

* CLOSING HYMN # 295 – “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION
Go forth to become what you have already been declared to be:
God’s own people, a royal priesthood, a people set apart.

POSTLUDE – “For All the Saints” – *R. Hobby*