

Twenty – Second Sunday after Pentecost October 29, 2023 All Saint's Day

GREETING

Pastor: In the name of the Creator, + the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS & CONCERNS

PRELUDE Amazing, Wondrous Chime Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: A thousand days are but a moment to God;

All: All flesh is grass, and withers away.

Pastor: Still we treasure our days with those whom we love,

All: And reluctantly give them back to God.

Pastor: On this day, we thank God for the saints in our lives.

All: Let us worship God!

HYMN For all the Saints Blue Chalice Hymnal, #637

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor:

Our lives are full of mistakes and errors – places where we follow self-generated idols instead of the One True God. We are not alone in these mistakes – all of those who have come before us also were plagued with temptation and sin. Let us come before God, just as generations of believers have done, and pray for God's forgiveness and grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All:

Beloved God, who was known to our mothers and fathers, and even to our spiritual forebears, have mercy on us. We do not always love as you would have us love. We do not always do as you would have us do. In our stubbornness, we turn from you when we should turn toward you. Hold us, Lord and comfort us when we mourn the passing of friends and family and help us to know that they are rejoicing in your presence. We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors, especially the ones that we don't share with any but you. Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts. (A time for silent confession is observed)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVNESS

Pastor:

Friends, hear the good news! Though thousands upon thousands of our ancestors did not follow God's ways perfectly, we have hope in the one who did! Jesus, a man of a particular people in a particular time, taught through his words and deeds that God has already forgiven us. Thus, we and all who have come before us are rightly known as saints – the holy ones of God! Thanks be to God for God's

mercy, grace, and love!

All: Amen!

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

Red Hymnal, #493

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Revelation 7:9-17

ANTHEM

Lamb of God (Paris)

Chancel Choir

GOSPEL READING - Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON & PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Laura C. Baker

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

All:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

BENEDICTION

Pastor:

Go forth from this sacred time and place, knowing that the + God who created you,

the Christ who redeems you, and the Spirit who empowers you is with you today and forevermore.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

All:

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.

OFFERING INVITATION

(Please place tithes and offering in white box, on table in back of sanctuary, upon entering or exiting the church)

Liturgist:

Having received new life through the generosity of God and the hope Christ brings. Join me in prayer as we give thankfully and abundantly that God's will might be done on earth as it is in heaven. Let us offer our gifts with a song and prayer.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All:

Living God, we are your community of saints, and we carry your presence. Use us and our gifts to accomplish your mission in the world. Multiply our effort to meet every need. This we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN

Sing With All the Saints in Glory Bulletin, Page 8

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven; he is seated on the right hand of the Father; and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy Blue Chalice Hymnal, #4

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Pastor:

We gather now, to commend with thanksgiving, the life of those Starview UCC members and other loved ones, who have passed into eternal rest since November 1, 2022.

Congregation:

resurrection, for it is through Jesus Christ, that we, have obtained an inheritance of eternal life.

Pastor:

Let us pray together:

All:

Holy God, whose ways are not our ways and whose thoughts are not our thoughts, look upon us in our remembering and enable us to hear your Word. Heal our wounded hearts made heavy by sorrow. Through the veil of our tears and the silence of our emptiness, assures us again of the place that you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead. Amen.

Pastor:

At this time, I invite to come forward, the family of our beloved church member, Earl Caswell, to light a candle in his honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

Let us pray: O God, our Light and Salvation, we have entrusted to your eternal care: Earl Caswell, born to life July 29, 1944, born to eternal life, January 1, 2023, at the age of 78 years, 5 weeks and 3 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

Congregation: We praise you for your steadfast love for him all the days of his earthly life. We thank you for all that he was to those who loved him and for his faithfulness to the church of Jesus Christ.

Pastor: I invite to come forward, the family members of our beloved church member, Betty Chapman, to light a candle in her honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

Let us pray: O God, our Strength and Redeemer, we have entrusted to your eternal care: Betty Chapman, born to life, 1930 born to eternal life, February 11, 2023, at the age of 93 years.

(Tolling of Chime)

Congregation: We praise you for your steadfast love for her all the days of her earthly life. We thank you for all that she was to those who loved her and for her faithfulness to the church of Jesus Christ.

I invite to come forward, the family members of our beloved church member, Dennis Altland, to light a candle in his honor and

memory.

Pastor:

(Candle is lighted)

O God, Giver of Life and Conqueror of Death, we have entrusted to your eternal care: Dennis Altland born to life, April 18, 1949, born to eternal life, February 11, 2023, at the age of 73 years, 9 weeks, and 24 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

Congregation: We praise you for your steadfast love for him all the days of his earthly life. We thank you for all that he was to those who loved him and for his faithfulness to the church of Jesus Christ.

Pastor: At this time, I invite to come forward, the family members of our

beloved church member, Michael Nace, to light a candle in his

honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

Pastor: O God, our Alpha and our Omega we have entrusted to your

eternal care: Michael Nace, born to life August 19, 1947 born to eternal life, February 22, 2023, at the age of 75 years, 6 months,

and 3 days.

Christ.

(Tolling of Chime)

Congregation: We praise you for your steadfast love for him all the days of his earthly life. We thank you for all that he was to those who loved him and for his faithfulness to the church of Jesus

Pastor: God of Grace and Mercy, we have entrusted many saints to your

eternal care over the past year, loved ones: family members and friends. We pause to lift their names to you in silent prayer and

light this candle in their memory.

(Candle is lighted)
(Tolling of Chime)

Congregation: We praise you for your steadfast love for our friends and

family members all the days of their earthly lives. We thank you for all that they were to those who loved them and for

their faithfulness to Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Almighty God, we give you thanks for these your servants whom

we remember today. Keep us grateful for their witness and because of their living, teach us to live faithfully. We pray in the name of

Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray, saying:

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