

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Hold fast to the faith of God's saints, past and present.

**Congregation: In our living and in our dying,
we belong to God.**

Pastor: Trust the example they left for us to follow.

**Congregation: In our loving and in our service,
we are heirs with Christ.**

Pastor: Walk in the puddles of light
the saints left as footprints for us to follow.

**Congregation: In our journeys of faith,
we are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord.**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All people: Amen.

POSTLUDE

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 3, 2024

All Saint's Day

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Mr. Kevin Crone

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

Acolytes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Enter God's presence,
you who yearn for the day
when death is no more.

Congregation: From age to age, God is with us.

Pastor: Enter God's presence,
you who are filled with hope
and you who find it hard to hope.

**Congregation: From age to age, God is with us.
Let us worship the Lord, beginning with prayer.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All people: God of the generations, on this day, we remember the ancestors of our faith and of our own families and communities. May the roots of their love and wisdom continue to nurture us as we grow, so that the branches of this community might provide shade for generations to come. Surround those for whom grief still feels fresh and those who live with grief as part of daily life. May we remember the promise of the resurrection and look to the future with hope. Amen.

HYMN

For all the Saints

Blue Hymnal, #637

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against sin and evil. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: O Christ, when you saw that Lazarus died, you began to weep. So you weep with us too, O Lord, when we are surrounded by death and decay. Unbind us, O Lord, from the destructive forces of this world. Unbind us from greed, power, and shame. Unbind us from solitude, self-righteousness, and self-doubt. Bind us instead to one another and to you. Forgive us when we do not live like your new creations, and, by your grace, free us from all that keeps us bound. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Saints of God, let us stand firm in our faith. We are covered by the saving grace of God and are now ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen!

HYMN OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* **Blue Hymnal, #35**

JESUS SAID, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME"

HYMN *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* **Blue Hymnal, #86**

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Isaiah 25:6-9

EPISTLE READING – Revelation 21:1-6a

GOSPEL READING - John 11:32-44

SERMON & PASTORAL PRAYER **Rev. Laura C. Baker**

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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

OFFERING INVITATION

(Please place tithes and offering in the white box, on the 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 song and prayer as we give thankfully and abundantly, so that God's will might be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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, our Savior, the firstborn of the dead. Amen.

HYMN *Shall We Gather at the River* **Blue Hymnal, #701**

Pastor: At this time, I invite to come forward, a family member of our sister in Christ, Cora R. Reed, to light a candle in her honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

Pastor: O God, our Shepherd and Savior, we have entrusted to your eternal care: Cora R. Reed, born to life December 7, 1945; born to eternal life, August 14, 2024, at the age of 78 years, 8 months, and 7 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

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

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 and 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 your promise of grace and gift of eternal life.

Pastor: Almighty God, we give you thanks for all of these saints, 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:

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.*

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

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah Blue Hymnal, #622

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, 2023.

Congregation: We do this while celebrating the good news of the 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 brother in Christ, Richard W. “Rick” Engles, 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: Richard Engles, born to life: March 9, 1951, born to eternal life, November 3, 2023, at the age of 72 years, 7 months, and 25 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

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

Pastor: I invite to come forward, a friend or family member of our brother in Christ, John Henry Dacheux II, to light a candle in his honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

Let us pray: O God, our Strength and Redeemer, we have entrusted to your eternal care: John Dacheux, born to life November 29, 1952, born to eternal life, November 6, 2023, at the age of 70 years, 10 months, and 7 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

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

Pastor: I invite to come forward, the family members of our sister in Christ, Catherine M. Shaffer, and our brother in Christ, David Shaffer, to light a candle in their honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

O God, Giver of Life and Conqueror of Death, we have entrusted to your eternal care: Catherine Shaffer born to life, January 7, 1928, born to eternal life, November 27, 2023, at the age of 95 years, 10 months, and 20 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

Pastor: O God, our Alpha and our Omega we have entrusted to your eternal care: David Shaffer born to life, June 9, 1961; born to eternal life, February 18, 2024, at the age of 62 years, 8 months, and 9 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

Congregation: We praise you for your steadfast love for Catherine and David all the days of their earthly lives. We thank you for all that they were to those who loved them and for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: At this time, I invite to come forward, the family members of our sister in Christ, Connie D. Eckenrode to light a candle in her honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

Pastor: O God, Giver of Life and Conqueror of Death, we have entrusted to your eternal care: Connie Eckenrode born to life, August 8, 1969; born to eternal life, June 20 2024, at the age of 54 years, 8 months, and 12 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

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

Pastor: At this time, I invite to come forward, a friend or family member of our brother in Christ, Robert A. “Bob” Strohm, Jr. to light a candle in his honor and memory.

(Candle is lighted)

Pastor: O God, our Creator and Sustainer, we have entrusted to your eternal care: Robert Strohm, Jr. born to life, October 3, 1936; born to eternal life, June 24, 2024, at the age of 87 years, 8 months, and 21 days.

(Tolling of Chime)

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