

ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 31, 2021

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

WELCOME

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Come, saints of God, to a new heaven and earth,
to the holy city, God's new Jerusalem.

PEOPLE: **The dwelling place of God is with humanity; God wipes away the tears
from our eyes.**

LEADER: The earth is God's and the fullness thereof, the world and all who dwell
therein.

PEOPLE: **Who shall ascend to the hill of God, and who shall stand in God's holy
place?**

LEADER: All whose hands are clean and hearts pure shall know God's vindication
and blessing.

UNISON: **We give thanks to God, who has qualified us to share the inheritance
of the saints.**

OPENING HYMN: "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart" (#7 Red)

Author: Edward H. Plumptre, 1865. Tune: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1883

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| 1) Rejoice, ye pure in heart;
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.
Your festal banner wave on high —
The cross of Christ, your King.
Rejoice, rejoice,
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! | 3) Yes, on thro' life's long path,
Still chanting as ye go;
From youth to age, by night and day,
In gladness and in woe,
Rejoice, rejoice,
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! |
| 2) With all the angel choirs,
With all the saints on earth,
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
True rapture, noblest mirth!
Rejoice, rejoice,
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! | 4) Still lift your standard high;
Still march in firm array;
As warriors, thro' the darkness toil
Till dawns the golden day.
Rejoice, rejoice,
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! |

5) Praise God Who reigns on high,
The Lord Whom we adore;
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost —
One God forevermore.
Rejoice, rejoice,
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Creator of all life, who could dare to stand before You were it not for Your vindication of us? You are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning, and the end of all things. You take away our disgrace and restore us to wholeness. You swallow up death in the large reality of life eternal. You grant hope for a new heaven and earth even in the midst of our present struggles. Surely You will bless us in this time of worship, unbinding us from our dull routines and freeing us to worship in spirit and in truth. AMEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we are called saints the idea jars us, for we are not saintly people. But we are seekers after God's will, who have been powerfully claimed by Jesus Christ. Remembering who we are intended to be, let us come to God's holy place to find forgiveness, healing, and empowerment.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we have deceived ourselves and other people. The life we have led is not worthy of our Sovereign, Jesus Christ. Our words and actions have imprisoned others rather than setting them free, and we ourselves are bound by our prejudice and judgmental attitudes. Forgive us, O God, for we cannot live in our deceit and unfaithfulness. Hear our confessions. ...

A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

UNISON ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God delivers us from the dominion of evil. We are freed from the graves of our sinful living. There is redemption and forgiveness of sin in Jesus Christ. Be

strengthened by the power of God's glorious might to lead a new life and bear much fruit.

LIGHTING OF REMEMBRANCE CANDLES FOR ALL SAINTS DAY

HOLY SCRIPTURES: John 11:32-44, Revelation 21:1-6a

JOHN 11:32-44

³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied.

³⁵ Jesus wept.

³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

REVELATION 21:1-6

A New Heaven and a New Earth

¹ Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

⁶ He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

CHILDREN’S STORYTIME

SERMON: “Tears”

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

UNISON BENEDICTION

As God wipes away our tears, we are called to be tissue-bearers to the world. When there is pain and suffering, the church has a healing mission. When there is doubt and despair, we offer hope’s embrace. We go out rejoicing in these opportunities to share the love of God.

CLOSING HYMN: “The God of Abraham Praise”

The God of Abraham Praise

United Methodist Hymnal, No. 116

Capo 1: Fm C Fm D^b C A^b D^b F B^bm E^b A^b C
 Em B Em C B G C E Am D G B

1. The God of A-braham praise who reigns en-throned a - bove; An -
 2. The great I AM has sworn; I on this oath de - pend. I
 3. The heaven-ly land I see, with peace and plen - ty blest; a
 4. The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing, and

Fm E^b A^b D^b A^b E^b7 Fm D^b A^b E^b7 A^b
 Em D G C G D⁷ Em C G D⁷ G

cient of Ev - er - last - ing Days, and God of love; Je -
 shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heaven as - cend. I
 land of sa - cred lib - er - ty, and end - less rest. There
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!" cry, "Al - might - y King! Who

C⁷ Fm A^b E^b C⁷ Fm D^b A^b B^bm C C⁷
 B⁷ Em G D B⁷ Em C G Am B B⁷

ho - vah, great I AM! by earth and heaven con - fessed; I
 shall be - hold God's face; I shall God's power a - dore, and
 milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound, and
 was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be: Je -

Fm C Fm E^b A^b F B^bm Fm C⁷ Fm
 Em B Em D G E Am Em B⁷ Em

bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
 sing the won - ders of God's grace for - ev - er - more.
 trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
 ho - vah, Lord, the great I AM, we wor - ship thee!"

WORDS: From *The Yigdal* of Daniel ben Judah, ca. 1400;
 para. by Thomas Olivers, 1760; alt.
 MUSIC: Hebrew Melody, *Sacred Harmony*, 1780;
 harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt.

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