

Prayer for Communion

God of all saints,
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. Renew our communion with all your saints, especially those whom we have named before you aloud or in our hearts. Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

(From the United Methodist Book of Worship)

Giving the Bread and Cup Prayer after Communion - unison

Lord of heaven, in this eucharist, you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(From the Book of Common Prayer, the Church of England, <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/churches-year/times-and-seasons/all>)



November 3, 2024

Our Savior's United Methodist Church

Gilmanton United Methodist Church

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

Invitation

No Christian is solitary. Through baptism we become members one of another in Christ, members of a company of saints whose mutual belonging transcends death:

*One family, we dwell in him,
one Church, above, beneath;
though now divided by the stream,
the narrow stream of death.* (Charles Wesley)

All Saints Sunday celebrates this mutual belonging. It celebrates men and women in whose lives the Church as a whole has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for that grace, and for the wonderful ends to which it shapes a human life; it is a time to be encouraged by the example of the saints and to recall that sanctity may grow in the ordinary circumstances, as well as the extraordinary crises, of human living. The commemoration of the faithful departed allows us to remember with thanksgiving before God those whom we have known more directly: those who gave us life, or who nurtured us in faith.

(<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/churches-year/times-and-seasons/all>)

Litany of Remembrance

Living God, our Guide and Guardian, who sits on the throne and delivers us into eternal life, we give you thanks for the saints of every time, tribe, and tongue who now rest in the shelter of your embrace. We set aside this moment to remember Those saints who are dear and precious to us who have died and entered into glory during the last twelve months.

(As each name is called, a family member (or a close friend) of the person named comes forward to light a candle in honor of each person and the other family members or friends rise where they are sitting.)

Our Savior's United Methodist Church:

Bonnie J. Miles
Iris Baudendistel
Zelma "Dolly" Beck

We bless you for the life and love of these dear saints, and rejoice for them that they have entered into the fullness of life in your presence.

We also remember those saints who we hold in our hearts who have not been with us for some time, yet whose life and witness continue to form and shape us as your disciples. We honor them now by lifting their names aloud or in our hearts.

(If anyone in the congregation would like to lift up the name of other loved ones, you may do so from the pew and after all names are mentioned—a candle will be lit in their memory.)

We light one more candle in memory of other loved ones that you are aware of who have passed during the last twelve months.)

On this All Saints Sunday, we also remember that we too are living saints, members of the family of God with all the saints of the past, the present, and the future.

And so, we remember:

We are God's children.

What we shall be has not yet been revealed; but we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

So today and every day, may we put on Christ and live as saints who tend the poor, comfort the mourners, learn from the meek, affirm those who seek righteousness, offer mercy alongside the merciful, and work for peace with the peacemakers until Christ comes in final victory and we feast as the family of God at his heavenly banquet. Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2023)

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

All who hunger for love, Come to the bread of life.

Here, all are fed.

All who thirst for the cup of blessing, Come to the table of grace.

Here, all are made whole.

All who need mercy and grace, Come to the Lamb of God.

Here, all find a home.

(Written by B. J. Beu and Mary Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023)