



November 1, 2020
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Pastor
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Pianist
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A Celebration for All Saints Day

All Saints Day is celebrated on November 1 or the first Sunday of November. The ancient church set aside such a festival day to remember martyrs and saints not honored on special days. Today, we often celebrate not only historic figures of the church, but the company of all those baptized who we have known and revered. By remembering those of the past, the church is inspired to live faithfully as Christ's disciples in the present.

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am

November 1, 2020
Grace 11:00am

22nd Sunday after Pentecost – All Saints Sunday

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

Bless the Sovereign at all times.

Salvation belongs to our God.

The Sovereign heard our cry and delivered us from our fear.

Salvation belongs to our God.

All who take refuge in the Sovereign will be comforted.

Salvation belongs to our God.

* *Opening Hymn* *“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”*

Mt Hope VH #23

Greenfield CH #21

Grace VH #23

vs. 1-4

vs. 1-3,5

vs. 1-4

Gathering Prayer

Sovereign of Creation,

all that we have comes from you.

Physically distanced, we gather in your presence,

surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

people from every tribe and nation,

every kindred and tongue,

to lift our voices in praise,

to be transformed into your saints,

to be sent out to gather others to share the eternal banquet.

Hear the praise we offer,

work in us and through us.

You alone are holy,

you alone are the Most High,

you alone are worthy of our praise.

Glory to you O God,
and to the Lamb, our Shepherd,
and to the Spirit that unites us all,
today and ever more.
Amen.

Prayer of Confession

The chorus of an old hymn, echoing today's passage from Revelation, asks,

*“Are you washed in the blood,
In the soul cleansing blood of the Lamb?
Are your garments spotless?
Are they bright as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?”*

We may not use that particular imagery anymore, but the truths of the questions remain. Does the experience of sin weigh on you? Have you surrendered to God all that you have done or left undone that would separate you from God or God's creation? Have you been forgiven? I invite you to take these moments of quiet reflection to cast your cares upon God. Let the river of life refresh you and carry your sin as far from you as the east is from the west. Let God wipe the tears from your eyes and welcome you home. Let us pray.

Time for personal reflection and confession.

Salvation belongs to you, O God. Forgive us our sin. Renew us, refresh us and help us rebuild our lives so that they are reflections of your love for all people. We pray in the name of the Lamb that was slain. Amen.

Words of Assurance

(Rev. 7: 12b)

Salvation belongs to our God.
Our sins are forgiven.

Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

* Doxology

* Offertory Prayer

TH # 551

Living God, we are your people, 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, whom with you and the Holy Spirit, reign in our hearts and lives, one God now and forever. Amen.

Epistle Reading

1 John 3:1-3 NIV

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

Matthew 5:1-12 NIV

Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)

TH #497

Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and
falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice
and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the
same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message

Dedication of Bibles in Memory of Tubby Berkhimer (Mt Hope)

* *Meditation Hymn*

“In the Garden”

Mt Hope VH #228

Greenfield CH #635

Grace VH #228

Today's Message



All Saints' Sunday Prayer

In the midst of life, we are in death, O Lord our God!

Who, but you, O Lord, can help us and give us hope?

We praise you this day, as we remember all who have lived, all
who have died, all who are now in your loving care.

With sorrow, we are parted from those we have loved, and in time
we will be taken from among those who love us.

**You alone, O Lord, can give purpose and meaning to life and
death.**

We beseech you this day, to give us such a sense of your presence, that we may feel oneness with all who have trusted you.

You have declared, and we believe, that a day is coming in which you will bring to fulfillment all that you have promised to your people.

In that day, all things and every person will be made new, and our mortal nature will take on immortality.

So, on this day, O God, we remember all your saints, those made holy by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ the Savior.

**All Saint' Sunday Hymn "For All the Saints" vs. 1,2*
Mt Hope PH #306 Greenfield CH #767 Grace TH #418

On this All Saints' Sunday, as we remember our loved ones who have died in Christ and gone to Heaven, take heart, for they are experiencing a life in the beauty of love, before the majesty of God, in the company of Christ, beyond anything that this earth could possibly offer. If you yourself are struggling with mountainous problems, or groaning under crushing burdens, or crying rivers of tears, or being persecuted by merciless adversaries, hold onto the vision of God's great reward in Heaven for those who keep the faith. The destination is a thousand times better than the journey, and its experience will wipe away all the sorrows and pain and discouragements of the pilgrimage on earth. We are traveling toward a new Heaven, where God is at the heart of his people forever, and Christ is the pattern for every life, and joy will not be shadowed by sorrow, and all things will be new by the majesty of God.

We remember and entrust to you, all those of our fellowship, family, and friends whom we now name:

George Burket	April 3, 2020
Edna 'Tubby' Berkhimer	April 26,2020
Joel Claar	May 10, 2020
Joanne Smith	Sept 2, 2020

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.**

Declaration of Faith

Praise God for his Good News of Salvation!

**Our faith is in Christ whom God raised from the dead, and
who now reigns with him in heaven!**

And that glory shall be ours by the same power of God which
raised Christ from the dead!

**Glory be to God! By his Spirit we know we are his and we
rejoice in the salvation of all the saints!**

*I invite the congregation to come forward
and light a Candle of Remembrance for your departed loved ones*

...

Blessing for All the Saints

Living God, we give you thanks for calling forth these blessed
ones.

**O God, keep them forever in your arms. May they stay
forever in our hearts. Because of their living, teach us to
live faithfully. Amen.**

* *All Saint' Sunday Hymn* "For All the Saints" vs. 1,4
Mt Hope PH #306 *Greenfield CH #767* *Grace TH #418*



* *The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

* *Sung Response* “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord” TH # 501

* *Closing Hymn* “When We All Get to Heaven”
Mt Hope VH #443 Greenfield CH #772 Grace VH #443

* *Benediction*

Go forth from this time of worship
as a flowing stream through a parched desert,
pouring the love of God upon the hearts and lives
of all you meet so that hope might take root and blossom.

As you go, know that the
God who created you,
the Christ who redeems you
and the Spirit who empowers you
is with you today and ever more.

In the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. **Hallelujah! Amen!**

* *Three-Fold Amen*

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle* TH # 558

* *Postlude 2/Exiting the Church*