

South Avenue and Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Churches



ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY
November 3, 2024

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. **Large Print Bulletins:** We have bulletins in **LARGE** print available. Please ask an usher for one. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

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Pastor Russel contact information: Phone: (412) 735-5072

Order of Worship
10:30 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHERING WORDS

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

People: All flesh is grass, and withers away.

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

People: And reluctantly give them back to God.

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

PRELUDE

'Adoration'

Florence E. Price

(As the prelude begins, you are invited to center yourself for worship)

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN

'For All the Saints'

No. 711. Vs. 1 & 2

*For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia*

*Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: How many times in our lives have we felt lost, alone, abandoned.

People: Yet there is One who will never leave our side. We can depend upon God's loving presence to rescue us and to heal our brokenness.

HYMN

'Amazing Grace'

No 378, V. 3

*Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come; tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.*

Pastor: Even though we have been battered and blown by storms and struggles, we still can place our trust in God's abiding presence.

People: It is the grace of God that has brought us through and will continue to be with us all our lives.

HYMN

'Amazing Grace'

No 378, V. 6

*When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.*

Pastor: Our lips shall sing and shout forth our praise of God.

**People: Let our hearts and spirits rejoice and continually be praising God for all God's mercies.
AMEN.**

OPENING PRAYER

Healing God, we come to you today acknowledging that this has been a painful year. A year in which so much was lost. A year of grief in which we, too, may have cried out the same words of Jesus and the psalmist of: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And yet, we also acknowledge, Almighty God, that in our crying out, we are still calling out for you: to save us, to heal us, to provide a balm for our broken and wounded hearts. Today we come to you for comfort and healing as we boldly proclaim together the promise of the resurrection in Jesus Christ our Lord. Comfort us in our grief. Open our hearts and our lips to speak once more of your hope that always exist, always perseveres, and always conquers darkness even on our hardest of days. Remind us of the gift of the body of Christ, as we mourn together corporately in this place. Heal us Lord, so that we may be your healing hands to the world. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

INTROIT

'Precious Lord, Take My Hand'

No. 474, Vs. 1 & 3

*Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

*When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

ANTHEM

'This Is My Word'

Pepper Choplin

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

'Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us'

J. M. Stevens

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Receive these offerings that we bring before your altar today, as we remember those who have gone before, those who are present now, and those who will be here after us. All of us share in your great work. May that work be advanced by our combined efforts across time into eternity. These things we pray in your wonderful name, God of glory, God of time, God of the living, both those who live in this world, and those who dwell richly in your kingdom. Amen.

HEARING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts;

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"The Word"

No. 601 (Refrain only)

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

FIRST LESSON

Revelation 21-1-6a

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALTER

“Psalm 23, Response, “Shepherd Me, O God’

TFWS No. 2058

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Pastor: He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

People: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

Pastor: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

No. 186

“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia”

*GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. John

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL IS READ

John 11: 32-44

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI

“Glory Be to the Father”

No. 70

***Glory Be to the Father and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.***

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

HOMILY

‘Standing on the Promises of God’

Pastor Russel Shuluga

Verse 1

*Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing.
Standing on the promises of God.*

REFRAIN

*Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.*

Verse 2

*Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail.*

REPEAT REFRAIN

**CELEBRATION THROUGH REMEMBERING
(CELEBRATING OUR SAINTS)**

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Pastor: We have gathered to celebrate the lives of those who died in the last year.

People: We give thanks for their lives; we receive their deaths as gifts; we commend their spirits to God's eternal being.

Pastor: The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there, no evil can touch them.

People: They are in peace, and their hope is full of immortality.

Pastor: Let us recall all the saints who have found peace, the shalom in which they now rest.

NAMING OF THE HONORED DEAD

(As each name is read, friends and family are invited to stand. A family member(s) is/are invited to come forward to light a memorial candle and receive a flower.)

Our honored Saints:

With thanksgiving we remember...

Ethel Winwood Barry, Lillian L. Cracraft, Mignon McVictor Emmert, Dorothy Cracraft Hawkins, David Murawski,
Daniel Edward Rice, Nancy Lee Hayes Shuluga, Shirley H. Sye, Regulus Teotico,
Reverend Robert C. Wilson

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE CONITINUES...

Pastor: We surrender to God these Saints whom we have named and commend them to God's everlasting care.

People: Embrace them in your loving arms, O God, so that empowered by your Spirit, this great cloud of witnesses may continue to inspire and guide us by their legacy and their love. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

CHIMING OF THE BELLS

(The bells will ring seven times, which, in the scriptures, denotes completeness, wholeness and perfection)

ANTHEM

'Be Not Afraid'

Bob Dufford, S. J.

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: We bless our God's name, for all God's servants who, having finished their course, now rest from their labors.

People: **May God give us grace to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfulness, that our gracious God might be glorified.**



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Danish Amen"

No. 898

*CLOSING HYMN

"Because He Lives "

No. 364, Vs. 1 & 3

1.

*God sent his Son, they called him Jesus;
He came to love, heal, and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.*

REFRAIN:

*Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because he lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future
And life is worth the living just because he lives.*

3.

*And then one day I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns.*

REFRAIN

*POSTLUDE

'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'

Mark Hayes

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD

POWER OF PRAYER – MIFFLIN AVENUE UMC

Judy Arthurs - prayers
Phyllis McLaughlin - prayers
Those affected by hurricane Milton
Those affected by hurricane Helene
Ginnie White – prayers

Big Mac (Barbara Thaw's friend) - brain cancer
Bud Wicks (South Avenue) - prayers
Hope Gaebel - prayers
Judy Spencer Baker - prayers
Prayers for Pastor Russel
Prayers for the Shuluga Family

Chris Clapper (nephew of Ginnie & Sue) - complications from surgery

Those affected by violence
Middle East conflict
Morris's children

Those who need prayers and don't ask for prayers

People who are traveling

Those affected by COVID, RSV and the FLU
Gary White (Ginnie's son) - recovery from rotator cuff surgery
Aubrie (Ginnie's granddaughter) – diagnosed with breast cancer
Joe (Ginnie & Sue's cousin) - diagnosed with myeloma cancer

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball

Rev. Paul Ritchey - Pittsburgh/Greensburg DS

People of Ukraine

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church
United Methodist Church

POWER OF PRAYER – SOUTH AVENUE UMC

All people devastated by the recent Hurricanes
All essential workers
Ball, Bishop Sandra Steiner
Bankston, Beth
Bauer, Bill – friend of Shirley and Frank Oratto
Beck, Donald
Sandy Benjamin – sister of Minnie, door attendant for PUC
Bell, Gail – niece of Frances & John Hardic
Bishop, Belinda & Doug
Burkett, Gaye
Chidester, Joanne and Marv
Cox, Wilma Jones
Davis, Holly
Deaney, Delores and Michael – friends of the Church
Demasi, Emeric– friend of Susan Howe
Dick and Jane, elderly parents of friend of Vicki Craig
Dutch, David
Family of Regus Teotico, brother of Vega Deleonibus
Friends serving on front lines as first responders/medical professionals
Gregory, Sharon
Hamilton, Nancy
Hansen, Denise – Ruth Nelson's niece
Hoener, Jr., Clarence
Israel and citizens of Gaza
Johnson, Randy
Lillich, Bill – Janet's Brother
McLaughlin, Phylis
McMahon, Pat – Frances Hardic sister-in-law's brother
Ball Morrissey, Josefina and Tom – friends of Ruth Nelson
Mroz, Amy and Sarah, Vincent and Nick
Nelson, Carole
Nelson, Janette – Ruth Nelson's sister
Nelson, Ruth
Our military and all people throughout the Middle East
Pendelton, Barbara – Dontae Pendelton's grandmother
Pendelton, Dontae – long term care and recovery
Richard, Nancy
Ritchey, Paul, Pittsburgh District Superintendent
Shuluga, Pastor Russel and Family
Spevitz, Antoinette – sister-in-law of Frances Hardic
South Avenue UMC
Tevis, Gary– friend of Pischke's
The Peacemakers
Ukraine: its people, animals and very earth, as well as those offering help & refuge
United Methodist Denomination
United States of America
Webb, Deborah
Whitezell, Debbi - niece of Mary Lou Whitezell
Whitezell, Mary Lou
Wicks, Bud
Willis, Tony