

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Centenary United Methodist Church

2300 W. Friendly Avenue

Greensboro, NC 27403

November 1, 2020 - All Saints Sunday

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Director of Music

Announcements for Missions and Ministry.

Choral Call to Worship.....*Forward Through the Ages*

Call to Worship

One: Let us gather, Friends, with the Saints in Light:

Many: **Who live to praise and glorify God,
The One who promises comfort to all who grieve.**

Opening 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.

Hymn: The Church Is One Foundation..... #545 vs. 1,3,5

*The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.*

*Though with a scornful wonder
we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.*

*Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.*

Scripture: Matthew 5: 1-12

Sermon: A Gathering of Saints

Anthem.....*Open the Eyes of My Heart*

CONCERNS AND JOYS OF CONGREGATION

Recognition of All Saints:

- † Hilda Layton , October 25, 2019
- † Maureen Esterline, November 22, 2019
- † Bettie Jones, November 24, 2019
- † Aaron Ganoë, January, 23, 2020
- † Mildred Rives, January 27, 2020
- † Bob White, February 12, 2020
- † Larry Swindell, February 14, 2020
- † Betty Causey, March 9, 2020
- † Virginia "Ginny" Taylor, October 27, 2020

Leader: We remember the great ancestors of our faith, from Abraham and Sarah, to Paul and Phoebe:

People: Ancestors of the faith, we remember you.

Leader: We remember the prophets and priests, the ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God:

People: Teachers of the faith, we remember you.

Leader: We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles, those who have gone before us in our lifetime:

People: Family of our faith, we remember you.

Leader: We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives and parents whose lives ended too soon:

People: Those close in our heart, we remember you.

Leader: We lift up to You, O God, the names of those we have lost in this past year from our lives, knowing that they are with Your heart forever. As we read these names, we will pause after every name to remember, pray, and give thanks for their life.

Hilda, Maureen, Bettie, Aaron, Mildred, Bob, Larry, Betty, Ginny

Leader: We celebrate the lives of those we have named, O God, and lift up many more names in our hearts.

People: Family of God, we remember you, and we honor you. We know you are with us in the spirit of worship, and you will not be forgotten.

We give thanks, O God, for all who have gone on to join with You beyond this life. We trust in the hope of resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ, and know that in our grief and celebration, O God, You are with us through it all, and we are not left alone.

In the name of Christ, in whom love lives forever, we pray.

Amen.

Invitation

Confession:

Pastor: One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Pastor: O God, our merciful redeemer, People: we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor's face. We turn our ears from voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for † his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

Offertory.....*Let Us Break Bread*

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty
Creator of heaven and earth:
God of Abraham and Sarah,
God of Miriam and Moses,
God of Joshua and Deborah,
God of Ruth and David,
God of the priests and the prophets,
God of Mary and Joseph,
God of the apostles and the martyrs,
God of our mothers and our fathers,
God of our children to all generations.
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."
When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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 previously named before you—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 (God), now and forever.

Amen.

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And now with the confidence of the children of God let us pray the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples:

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer following Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN.....*For All the Saints* #711 v. 1&6

*For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

*From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Benediction

Choral Benediction *Blest be the Tie that Binds*

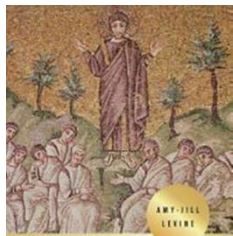
Prayer Concerns

If you have a prayer concern or praise, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation.

The Prayer Chain has received requests to pray for the following people: Joann Martin fell and broke her left hip. Peggy Bowles at Friends Homes Guilford. Margaret & Patrick Miller - Margaret will be moving into Whittier Center at Friends Homes Guilford. Mike Crabtree had knee surgery and doing well to recover at home. Amy Coffee's grandmother-Ruby Foland who is hospitalized with a stroke. Jackie Thompson's mom-Lucille Crawford for anxiety and depression from not being able to be visited and seen by family in retirement center. Friend of Betty Durham-Julia Willis with heart complications. Please continue to pray for Judy Milligan, Noah Demmitt, Amy Coffee, Don & Clara Ellis, Frank York, Chuck Farabee, Trudy Sillmon, Rachel Sheppard, and Pat Stevenson. Please, keep all in your prayers as so many who are dealing with many anxieties over the coronavirus.

Our Condolences to Chris Bagwell on the death of his father October 20.
Our sympathies to Adele & Leith Singletary on the death of Adele's mother, Ginny Taylor October 27.

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643 or call Kelley at the parsonage. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation or only with the pastoral staff.



New Bible Study – *Sermon on the Mount* by Amy Jill Levine

When: Monday Mornings @ 11:00 am and Monday Evenings @ 6:30 pm

Dates: November 2-December 7 (6 weeks)

Where: via zoom

SERMON *on*
the MOUNT
A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7, contains some of Jesus' most profound and most memorable teachings. What might these teachings have meant to his disciples, and to the others who first heard them? How do they enhance our reading of the rest of the Gospel of Matthew, and how do they speak across the centuries to listeners today? How, if we pay careful attention to his words, does Jesus provide us a road map to living as God would have us live?

In *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine introduces the major topics in the Sermon on the Mount, explains historical and theological contexts, and shows how the words of Jesus echo his Jewish tradition and speak forward to reach hearts and minds today.

You may order *Sermon on the Mount* from Amazon, Cokesbury, or Christianbooks.org. We will discuss the first lesson on the first gathering, November 2. Have your book and Bible. Please contact Rev. Kelley Groce at 336-299-9643 or kgroce@wnccumc.net and let her know if you plan to participate.

Ad Council Meeting

All Administrative Council members are asked to attend the monthly meeting on Sunday, November 8 at 4:00 pm, via Zoom on your computer or by phone. Contact Kelley Groce kgroce@wnccumc.net for invitation details.

Charge Conference

Charge Conference will be November 8 at 4:00 pm, at this point the Conference will be via Zoom. All are invited to attend however only elected to Ad Council may vote. Contact Rev. Kelley Groce at kgroce@wnccumc.net for invite.

Zoom Sunday School - Harold Billings, Dave Blackman and Carolyn Townsend are offering Sunday School lessons via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM. They are using the International Lesson. No book is required. Email Kelley at kgroce@wnccumc.net or call her at the parsonage, if you would like a Zoom invitation or the phone number to call in for Sunday School.

Service Project for Room at the Inn which helps Homeless Mothers

Centenary UMC Family we have been made aware of the fact that a local mission, the Room at the Inn, for homeless mothers and their newborns are in need some staples.

During Drive thru Communion this Sunday, Nov 1 from 1-2 – if you would like to help, the donations which are needed are:

Any disposable diapers size 0-12 pounds

Baby Blankets

Baby Wash

Onesies size 0-3 or 3-6 months

We will continue to collect through November if you want to bring the items to the church.