

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."  
"Romans 12:10"



Sunday, November 3, 2024  
All Saints' Day  
10:30 AM



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City  
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"We Can Only Imagine"

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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon  
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

# Order of Worship: Sunday, November 3, 2024

## All Saints' Day

**We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:** "In his holy flirtation with the world, God occasionally drops a handkerchief. These handkerchiefs are called saints." - Frederick Buechner

### Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude

#### Call to Worship:

**Elder Marty Cropper**

We remember, O God...

The countless saints of history  
who have blazed a trail of courage through time,

We remember, O God...

The tender touch of loved ones,  
the example of heroes,  
the healing words of comforters,  
the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

We remember, O God...

The gentle strength of grandmothers,  
the loyalty of friends,  
the kindness of strangers,  
the joy of children,  
the sacrifice of parents.

We remember, O God...

The supreme love of Jesus,  
the blessing of his Spirit,  
the reminder of his words,  
the sharing of his suffering,  
the glory of his resurrection:



"Love others so radically  
they wonder why."

DAY BY DAY WE ARE GIVEN NOT WHAT WE  
WANT BUT WHAT WE NEED. SOMETIMES IT  
IS A FEAST AND SOMETIMES...SWEPT  
CRUMBS, BUT BY FAITH WE BELIEVE IT IS  
ENOUGH.

- BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR -

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shown forth in the lives of his disciples,  
young and old,  
dead and living,  
articulate and silent,  
strange and familiar,  
brilliant and ordinary.

We remember in every time and place the saints  
of God

who have shown us the Lord.

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of  
witnesses...

let us worship God with joy!

**Choral Introit: "One Bread, One Body"**

**\* Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"  
# 97**

**\* Passing the Peace - *Please turn to your  
neighbor and pass the peace of Christ***

**Call to Confession:**

Our lives are full of mistakes and errors – places  
where we follow self-generated idols instead of  
the One True God. We are not alone in these  
mistakes – all of those who have come before us  
also were plagued with temptation and sin. Let us  
come before God, just as generations of believers  
have done, and pray for God's forgiveness and  
grace.

**Prayer of Confession: (unison)**

Beloved God, who was known to our mothers and  
fathers, and even to our spiritual forebears, have

mercy on us. We do not always love as you would have us love. We do not always do as you would have us do. In our stubbornness, we turn from you when we should turn toward you. Hold us, dear One –comfort us when we mourn the passing of friends and family, and help us to know that they are rejoicing in your presence. We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors, especially the ones that we don't share with any but you.

### Assurance of Pardon:

Friends, hear the good news! Though thousands upon thousands of our ancestors did not follow God's ways perfectly, we have hope in the one who did! Jesus, a man of a particular people in a particular time, taught through his words and deeds that God has already forgiven us. Thus, we and all who have come before us are rightly known as saints – the holy ones of God!

Thanks be to God for God's mercy, grace, and love! Amen!

### \* Gloria Patri: (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen. Amen.

### Invitation to the Offering:

With glad and generous hearts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to the God who has so richly blessed us.

### Offertory

## Current Prayer Concerns:

Diane Ayres, Virginia Miller, Billie Jones, Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, Pat and Ben Steele, Joey Martin, Robert Wilkins, Bob & Dee Lebo, Margie Baugher-Cramer, Graison Wainwright and family.

## Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Nov 10	<b>Thanksgiving Dinner</b>
Nov 17	Dawn Butler & Robin Quinn
Nov 24	Vickie Cairns & Jan Owens
Dec 1	Marty Cropper & Carol Reese
Dec 8	Karen Eberle & Mabel Rogers
Dec 15	Beth fisher & Peggy Webster

## Questionnaire Reminder:

If you have not yet picked up your questionnaire for the Mission Study Team, please pick one up today and sign your name on the sheet so that team members will know that you have taken one. Those not signing the sheet will have questionnaires mailed to them. Please note that the questionnaire is 2 sheets.

## Calendar, Birthdays, Flowers

Tues Nov 5	Setup Grace Parker	10:00 AM
Wed Nov 6	Grace Parker Breakfast	7:00 AM
Wed Nov 6	<del>Hand Bells Practice</del> cancelled	
Wed Nov 6	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Thu Nov 7	Bible Study-Philippians	11:00 AM
Fri Nov 8	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM
Sun Nov 10	<b>Church Thanksgiving Dinner</b>	11:45 AM—After Worship
Tues Nov 12	Session Meeting	1:00 PM

**Birthdays:** Lou Spock (11/3) Alex Ayers (11/7)

**Flowers: Flowers in the chancel vase are given:**

~ To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Marty Cropper's mother, Katherine Hornicek and the celebration of her November 9th birthday with Jesus.

**\* Doxology:** (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication:**

Now, as God's saints in this time and place, we have the opportunity to feed others from the abundance of all we have, to swallow up the pain and suffering of others, to wipe away the tears of children who are lonely and fearful. May the gifts we offer, and the lives we lead, reveal the One for whom we have waited and who invites us to spread grace over all the world. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Choral Anthem: "Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You"**

**Prayer for Illumination:** (Unison)

We wait for you, Lord, our souls wait for you, and in your Word we hope. Open our hearts and minds to hear your Word read and proclaimed, that we may have hope and believe in the good news. Amen

**1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9**  
[NRSV]

**Nancy Wright**

<sup>6</sup> On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. <sup>7</sup> And he will destroy

on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; <sup>8</sup> he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. <sup>9</sup> It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

## 2nd Scripture Reading: Revelation 21: 1-6a [NRSV]

**Pastor Debbie Johnson**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then 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 as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.



## Join us at the Movies!

We will be going to the movies as a church group on **Monday, November 11** at the **Flagship Cinema in West Ocean City. Please meet at 2 PM** so we can get tickets as a group. We

are going to dinner following the movie if you would like to do that.

## Congregation Financials as of September 30, 2024:

(\$110,558.25 from giving; remainder from parking, building use, etc.): **\$170,740.07**

**Total parking lot receipts for Oceans and Country Calling (5 days): \$14,393**

**- Year-to-date disbursements: \$124,358.91**

Note: A bookkeeping change was made to charge \$20,166 against Capital Improvement for the new windows installed in the

Charge  
Benediction  
Postlude and Response: "God Be With You"

*Liturgy credit: Worship blogspot, Laughing Bird.net, The Rev. Philip Gladden for The Presbyterian Outlook.*

**Bible Study in Progress—All Are Welcome!**

We will be continuing our Bible study of the book of Philippians **this Thursday at 11 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. Please read in advance: **Philippians 4: 1-9.**

**Pastor Debbie's information:**  
**djhj3675@gmail.com.**

**Cell phone: (843) 568-6480.**

**Always available by texting or calling.**

Time with Children & Youth  
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon: "We Can Only Imagine"  
Pastor Debbie Johnson

**\* Hymn: "O God, We Give Thanks for the Saints Gone Before Us"**

- O God, we give thanks for the saints gone before us — remembering well how they walked Jesus' Way. They valued the truth and would rise to defend it. They knelt to be kind to the poor day by day. They welcomed in immigrants, honored new neighbors, put love before greed, and sought peace over strife. May we in our homes and our churches and nations recall Jesus' teachings and welcome this life.
- O God, we give thanks for the saints now among us — for teachers and helpers and activists, too, for those in our families and those who work with us to make the world better, to make the world new. We thank you for those who seek justice for others, for those who seek Jesus and live by his grace. May we in our homes and our churches and nations give thanks for their witness of love in this place.
- O God, we give thanks for the Way Jesus shows us; may we seek to follow his reign from above. The world often calls us to hatred and violence, but Christ's Way is welcome and mercy and love. Like prophets, apostles, and martyrs before us, like those who bear witness to you every day, may we in our homes and our churches and nations be saints who are eager to choose Jesus' Way.

*Tune: Traditional Welsh melody ("Let All Things Now Living")*  
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## **The Nicene Creed** (Unison)

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the  
Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the  
living and the dead, and his kingdom will  
have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of  
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic  
Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

Let us lift up our hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O  
God, for you are preparing a rich banquet for all your  
saints that we might rejoice forever in your  
salvation.....

### **Words of Institution**

### **Communion of the People**

The body of Christ broken for you.

The blood of Christ poured out for you.

### **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**\* Hymn: "For All the Saints " # 546**