

Living Out God's Call To Joy and to Justice



First Presbyterian Church
McAllen, Texas
All Saints' Worship
with Communion
November 1, 2026

Gerárd Valcin
Visit to the Departed

Opening Sentences

- From every nation, race, clan, and culture, God's people gather to worship the One-Who-Is-Without-Peer.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Please rise in body or in spirit for the Call to Worship.

What kind of love has God given us?

A love that proclaims we are God's very own.

What kind of promise has God given us?

God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

What kind of future has God given us?

God will lead us to springs of life-giving water.

Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving,

honor and power and might

be to our God, forever and always!

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Prayer of the Day

God of all,
Lamb of salvation and Shepherd of your people.
we long for the day when trials are ended,
when hunger and thirst will cease,
and when sorrow and suffering will be no more.
Until that day,
guide us by your Word and Spirit,
that we may find our place among the saints,
whose very lives proclaim your promise;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Call to Confession

In the face of God's goodness,
we recognize our failings.
Hungry for God's mercy,
let us tell the truth about our lives,
that we might receive grace.

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,
you call us your own children
and cover us with your love.
We would seek to be as merciful as you are,
and to show compassion as you do,
but we fail to live the life to which we have been called.
Where we ought to forgive, we condemn;
the evil we should shun, we embrace.
Forgive our sinful ways,
tame our wayward wills,
and make us more like Christ,
until we are raised in perfection on the last day. Amen**

A moment of silent prayer.

Assurance of Grace

Friends, no one who takes refuge in God will be condemned.
Hear and trust the good news of the Gospel:
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and made whole.
Thanks be to God.**

Act of Praise

Lord, Prepare Me

GG #701

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord be with you all. / **And also with you.**

Time with the Younger Church

Our Hearts are Filled with Saints

Life of the Church

Prayer for Illumination

Faithful God, how blessed are those
who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit
so that we may glorify you
in the company of the faithful;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anthem

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

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 receive 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 for righteousness’ sake, for theirs
is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all
kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for
your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the
prophets who were before you.”

The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God.**



Joel School-Tanis
BE-Attitudes

Sermon

Hymn

By All Your Saints Still Striving, v. 1 and 5

GG #325

By all your saints still striving, for all your saints at rest,
your holy name, O Jesus, forever more be blessed!
For those passed on before us, we sing our praise anew
and, walking in their footsteps, would live our lives for you.

We pray for saints we know not, for saints still yet to be,
for grace to bear true witness and serve you faithfully,
till all the ransomed number who stand before the throne
ascribe all power and glory and praise to God alone.

Response to the Word: A Remembrance of Saints

This morning we are celebrating All Saints' Day.

Saints' days began as a way to mark the anniversaries of the deaths of martyrs – their birthdays as saints through the completion of their baptism. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, remembered and forgotten, known and unknown. It has been celebrated on or around November 1 since the ninth century.

In our Reformed Tradition, the emphasis of this festival is on the ongoing sanctification of the whole people of God. While we may give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past, we also give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of believers in this and every age.

On All Saints' Day, we give thanks for the lives of those who have come before us and for God's trustworthy and all-sufficient grace which has welcomed them into eternal life. We also acknowledge that we grieve their death, and that our lives are changed by the loss of loved ones.

I invite you now to record the names of saints who have touched your lives. Use as many hearts as you like – there are plenty more here if you need them -- and then bring those hearts forward and weave them into the ropes. If you prefer to remain seated, please hold your completed hearts up high enough for us to see and we'll collect them and add them to the display.

Musical Interlude – 3-4 minutes

Let us pray:

Everlasting God,

in the beginning there was you.

Ever since, you have made yourself known to us
through ancestors, siblings in faith,
and loved ones who have left us.

We remember each of the many saints
who touched our lives and, however imperfectly,
showed us your way of love.

Keep us in the great cloud of their witness,
that we may be guided by them and by you,
now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Having received so much from the Lord,
let us make an offering
to the one who offered himself for us,
joining in the labors of the saints
to the glory of God
and the blessing of God's servants

Offertory

Act of Dedication

Lord, Prepare Me

GG #701

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.

Offertory Prayer

We magnify your name, O God,
and together exalt your name,
for you are so good to us,
and gracious beyond measure.
These gifts we bring are but a token of our thanks,
seeds to be planted for the growing of your kingdom,
in which we have sure and certain hope.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
our Savior gathers the multitudes to sit at his table in glory.

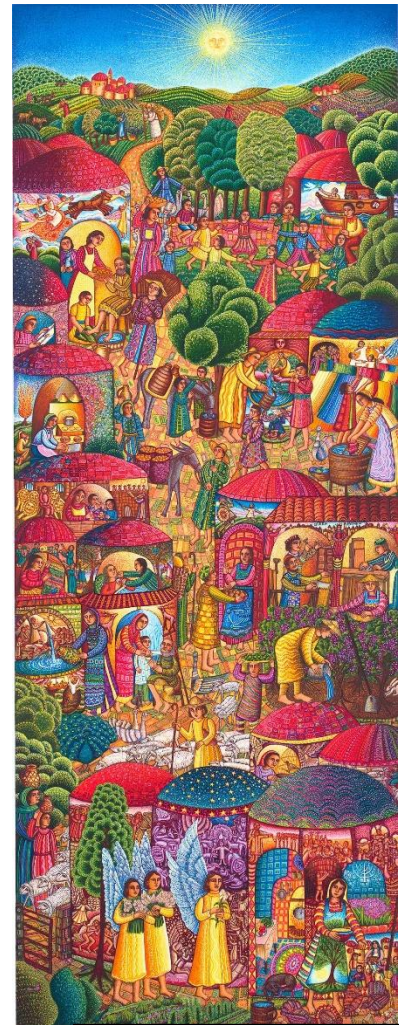
For all who are thirsty, this is the place to receive living water.

For all who hunger, this is the place to be fed.

For all who sorrow, this is the place
where God will taste the salt of your tears.

For all who rejoice, this is the place
where God will rejoice over you with singing.

Come to this table with one another
and with all the saints who have gone before you.
Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good.



John August Swanson
A Visit

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your 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.

Richard King
The Eucharistic Window

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:
You are enthroned in glory;
salvation belongs to you!
You have given your Lamb
to be our shepherd,
to guide us to the water of life,
and wipe away our tears.
Therefore we praise you,
joining the song
of the universal church
and the heavenly choir:
**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.**



Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior:
Jesus taught the way of faithfulness and blessedness:
to be merciful and meek, peaceful and pure in heart—
to such as these the kingdom of heaven belongs.

Remembering your goodness and grace,
we offer ourselves to you with gratitude
as we share this joyful feast.
Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and cup;
make us one in the body and blood
of Jesus Christ our Lord.
You call us your children;
and that is what we are.
Let your will and your way be revealed in us,
as you come into the world to reign in glory.
Through the Lord Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Spirit,
we bless you, God of glory,
now and forever.

Amen.

Let us pray as Christ has taught us, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Sharing Bread and Cup

The Sacrament is Carried Beyond the Sanctuary

We send you out with this bread and cup
to share the feast of the risen Lord.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.**

Prayer after Communion

God of glory, in this holy feast
you have made us one with Christ
and with that great multitude of the faithful –
those who hunger and thirst no more
and worship night and day in your temple.
Lead us in the paths of righteousness
and guide us to the springs of the water of life,
until we join the eternal choir, singing:
Salvation belongs to our God
who is seated on the throne,
and to the Lamb: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn Come, Great God of All the Ages, v. 1 and 4 GG # 309

Come, great God of all the ages; make your earthly mission known;
speak through every deed and person; let your way and will be shown.
Guide the church to true commitment; give direction now, we ask;
fit us for the work of building; dedicate us to the task.

Come, O come, in celebration, household of the one true God;
in commitment and rejoicing let us go where Christ has trod;
as we act in faith and reverence, let us, Lord, the future see;
place us in the church triumphant, now and for eternity.

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response Lord, Prepare Me GG #701

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.

Postlude

Today's Worship Leaders:

Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell

John Adam Tabali

Beverly Avila

Robert Garza

Ale Pacheco

FPC Chancel Choir

FPC McAllen Contact Information:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1029; McAllen, TX 78505

Church phone: 956-682-2836

Pastor: fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com

Church Administrator: fpchurch@sbcglobal.net