

**All Saints' Sunday
Communion**

November 3, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship



When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.

John 11:33

First Presbyterian Church

Mailing address: P.O. Box 2729; San Bernardino, California 92406

909.882.3308

www.fpcsb.net

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN W. SMITH

MINISTRY OF VISITATION: LAURIE STAFFORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST;

AMY GANO, BELLS

PASTOR EMERITUS: REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

This service is being livestreamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in real time or as a recording. **Large-print copies of this order of service**, as well as **audio enhancement devices** are available **from the ushers**.

We gather on Sunday for 3 reasons:

- **To seek God**- whom we find in sacred text and sacrament, in music and in song, in prayer, in the beauty of this space, in the stillness where we can hear our hearts. We offer God our thanks and praise, our lament and longing, and our resources. We let go of burdens and receive grace and forgiveness. We see the One our hearts love.
- **To practice Community** – rejoice w/those who rejoice, weep w/those who weep. To break bread with those whom we love and those whom we need to love more fully. We practice things our culture does not emphasize: resting, forgiving, sharing. Jesus asked us to love one another as he loved us, and we cannot do so without practice.
- **To listen for our Call**- often an invitation to go out and be or do or remember. God is speaking all the time: through conscience, nature, friends, and certainly scripture. We gather to listen for that Call and to recommit ourselves to discipleship.

Information on our common life can be found on our website www.fpcsb.net, along with sermons and newsletters. You can participate in our work by supporting us financially with a one-time or sustaining donation.

Children are **welcome** in worship. Younger children may go to the Nursery at any time.

OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, December 1st.

Morning Worship†

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

On All Saints' Day, it is not just the saints of the church that we should remember in our prayers, but all the foolish ones and wise ones, the shy ones and overbearing ones, the broken ones and whole ones, the despots and tosspots and crackpots of our lives who, one way or another, have been our particular fathers and mothers and saints, and whom we loved without knowing we loved them and by whom we were helped to whatever little we may have, or ever hope to have, of some kind of seedy sainthood of our own.

Frederick Buechner, The Sacred Journey

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *A Prayer in the Still of the Night* *W. Zeitler*
Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

INTROIT *We've a Story to Tell* *H. Ernest Nichol*
We've a story to tell to the nations, That shall turn their hearts to the right, A story of truth and mercy, A story of peace and light, A story of peace and light. For the darkness shall turn to the dawning, And the dawning to noonday bright, And Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, The kingdom of love and light.

***CALL to WORSHIP** (from Revelation 21:1-4)
Family of faith, let us rejoice in the vision of John:
I saw a new heaven and a new earth!

✘ **I saw the holy city, descending from God.**

A great voice thundered from heaven:

“See, God is making God's home with mortals!

God will live with them. They will be God's people.

✘ **God will wipe every tear from their eyes.**

There will be no more death, or sorrow, or crying, or pain.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN 730 *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* GRAND ISLE

† The symbols you will see in this order of worship mean:

*** Stand if you are able** **✘ The congregation will read.**

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Jesus said: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess together.

✘ **Gracious God, as we sing of your saints,
we are mindful of how often we are not saintly.**

The stresses of our lives and the tragedies in the news make us forget your invitation to trust you, and your promise that all shall be well. Heal us where we have been wounded, forgive us where we have failed. Help us to have the courage to live as your free and faithful people. Amen.

(We remain seated for the kyrie, an ancient song of the church. We will sing it through in Greek first and then in English.)

577 Lord, Have Mercy

Musical notation for the first system of 'Lord, Have Mercy'. It features a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.' Below the treble staff is a bass staff with a key signature of two flats and a 4/4 time signature, containing a simple accompaniment of whole notes.

Note: Lower voices may hum.

Musical notation for the second system of 'Lord, Have Mercy'. It continues the melody from the first system. The lyrics are: 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.' The final measure of the melody includes a triplet of eighth notes. Below the treble staff is a bass staff with a key signature of two flats and a 4/4 time signature, containing a simple accompaniment of whole notes.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Dinah Reindorf, 1987; arr. Sing! A New Creation, 2001
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf
Music Arr. © 2001 Faith Alive Christian Resources

KYRIE ELEISON (Reindorf)

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(We stand for the assurance of forgiveness and Alleluia)

*ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

The mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. Let us believe the good news of the Gospel:

✘ **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole.
Alleluia. Amen.**

*ALLELUIA

William Zeitler

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

TIME with the CHILDREN

[After Time with the Children, our children are encouraged to worship with us. There are activity bags and books in the Narthex.]

REMEMBERING our SAINTS

A LITANY of REMEMBRANCE ¹

At the rising of the sun and its going down, we remember them.

✘ **In blowing wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.**

At the opening of the buds and the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

✘ **In the shining sun and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.**

At the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.

✘ **At the beginning of the year and at its end, we remember them.**

As long as we live, they will live; for they are part of us, as we remember them. Amen.

Refrain 635

Laudate Dominum²

Jacques Berthier

Laudate Dominum, laudate Dominum, omnes gentes, alleluia!

Laudate Dominum, laudate Dominum, omnes gentes, alleluia!

SCRIPTURE:

Revelation 21:1-6a

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. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

¹ **We Remember Them** by Jack Riemer and Sylvan Kamens

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“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
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.”

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.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

John 11:32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days. Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God? So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’

SERMON

Pastor Wendy Lamb

ANTHEM

Hallelujah! By and By³

arr. Mary McDonald

³ Text by William Walsham How, Tune: SINE NOMINE by Ralph Vaughan Williams from The English Hymnal. Words & Music ©1906 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

(As we move into the celebration of the sacrament of communion, we offer our tithes and gifts to be part of God's purposes in the world, and we invite you to take part. You may place your offering in the basket in front or give it to the usher. You may always send gifts by mail or online.)

CELEBRATION of HOLY COMMUNION

Heaven is here, and earth, and the space is thin between them. Distance may divide, but Christ's promise unites those bound by time with those blessed by eternity.

...Let the heavens be joyful! ✘ **Let the whole earth be glad!**

Heaven is here, and earth, and the church above and below is one. Peter is here, and Paul, Martha and all the Marys, Calvin and Francis and Theresa and Luther King; the saints from far back and those who left us not long ago. And only sight prevents us from seeing them, one with us on the other side.

...Let the heavens be joyful! ✘ **Let the whole earth be glad!**

Heaven is here, and earth, and the God who made them is present. Jesus, our brother, sits beside us; the Spirit of God, the Dove makes her resting place among us. God wipes our tears, and sets a rich feast for us.

...Let the heavens be joyful! ✘ **Let the whole earth be glad!**

INVITATION to the LORD'S TABLE

SURSUM CORDA

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.**

GREAT PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

James C. Huffstutler

✘ **Holy, holy, Lord Almighty, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Glory in the highest!**

Blessed! Blessed!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and OUR 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.**

PRAYER of CONSECRATION

THE WORDS of INSTITUTION

SHARING of the BREAD and CUP

*(The cup is non-alcoholic. There is gluten free bread available
Communion will be served by intinction at two stations. As you feel ready,
please come up by the inside aisle to a station, receive bread, dip it in the cup,
eat it, and return to your seat by an outside aisle.
If you would rather remain seated, rovers will bring the elements to you.
During this time, we invite you to sing these prayers.)*

SUNG PRAYER

**Refrain 227 *Jesus, Remember Me*⁴ *Jacques Berthier*
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.**

**Refrain 466 *Come and Fill*⁵ *Jacques Berthier*
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!**

**Refrain 544 *Bless the Lord, My Soul*⁶ *Jacques Berthier*
Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.**

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PRAYER after COMMUNION

✘ In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you.
May we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

***HYMN 326**

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Ann Aguilera, George Biddlecombe, Lorraine Bishop
Elders: Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman
Deacons: Rick Rodriguez, Katie Smith, Rebecca Allen
Pastor Nominating Committee
Shelby Obershaw, Christa Wallis, Neal Williams

GREETERS: Linda McCarl, Meryll Davis

USHERS: John-Paul Fletcher, *Lead Usher*

Marilyn Kraft, Rick Rodriguez, Security Ushers

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

ALL SAINTS 2024

We remember and honor

Elizabeth Thomas

Wendi Kay Bielinski

Jennifer Shenton

Roy Nix

Patricia Ann Snyder

Dwight Murray

Judy Rymer

Deanna Long

Carol Lamb

This Weeks' Celebrations

Nov 3 Curtiss Allen
Steve Nolin

Nov 6 Josie Short

Nov 8 Cliff & Bobbi Cummings

Congregational Meeting. There will be a Congregational Meeting to elect new officers on **Sunday, November 17** immediately following worship.

Deacons' Community Outreach/Thanksgiving Gift Cards

Thanksgiving will be here before we know it and the Deacons are ready to take orders for Stater Bros. gift cards. **The Deacons' plan is for you to deliver these \$50 cards to your needy friends and neighbors.** The sign-up sheet will be in the office beginning November 3rd, and names may be added until Sunday, November 17th. On the sign-up sheet, please list the recipient's name (non-church members only, this is part of the Deacons' Community Outreach ministry) and your name. **The Deacons will have the gift cards ready for you to pick up and deliver on Sunday, November 24th.** If you cannot pick up your gift card(s) that day, please let us know so we can make other arrangements. ***Thank you for helping us help our neighbors!***

More news and announcements are available in your Friday *Keeping in Touch* emails. If you are not receiving these, and you would like to, contact Mimi in the church office.

Music Box

In a small village nestled at the foot of a great mountain, the people depended on streams that flowed down from the heights to water their crops. But one year, the rains stopped, and the streams dried up. The crops withered, and the villagers began to despair.

Among them was a young woman named Dara. She, like the others, watched helplessly as her fields shriveled. Each day she went to tend the land, hoping for rain, but none came. The elders of the village gathered to discuss the drought, reminding everyone that hardship was a part of life. "We must endure," they said. "The rains will return when they will."

But Dara was not content to wait. She remembered stories her grandmother had told her, about the spirit of the mountain who listened to the cries of those in need. One evening, unable to sit in silence any longer, Dara stood before the village. "I will climb the mountain and ask for its mercy," she declared.

The villagers were shocked. "No one speaks to the mountain anymore," they said. "It hasn't answered anyone in generations." "I must try," Dara replied, her resolve firm.

At dawn, she set off, climbing the steep, rocky path that led to the summit. As the hours passed, the sun beat down, and the wind howled around her, but Dara pressed on, her heart filled with hope. When she reached the top, she looked out over the barren valley below and called out, "Spirit of the mountain, have mercy! Our village is dying. We need water!"

Her voice echoed, but there was no answer. She waited, her heart sinking as doubt crept in. Had she been foolish to believe the old stories?

Just as she was about to turn back, she heard a rustling sound behind her. She turned to see an old woman standing in the shadows of a large rock, her eyes bright with wisdom.

"You call out to the mountain," the woman said, "though others have told you it would not answer. Why?"

Dara, though surprised, stood tall. “Because I couldn’t sit and watch everything wither. I had to try.”

The old woman smiled. “There is an ancient spring deep within the mountain, long forgotten. It once fed the streams to your village, but it has been sealed by time. I can show you where it is, but you must bring others to help uncover it.”

Dara’s heart leapt with hope. “I will,” she promised.

She hurried back to the village, telling everyone of the old woman’s words. Though skeptical, the elders saw the hope in Dara’s eyes and agreed to help. Together, the villagers climbed the mountain, digging where Dara had been shown. It was hard work, but Dara’s courage had sparked something in them all.

After days of effort, they finally uncovered the ancient spring. Water burst forth, flowing down the mountain and filling the village’s riverbeds once more. The crops were saved, and the people rejoiced, not only because of the water, but because they had worked together to bring it back.

Dara had shown them that asking for help was not enough – one had to act and believe that even in the face of despair, there was always something more that could be done.

-- William Zeitler



The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional and enduring qualities.

The basic symbols in the seal are the cross, Scripture, the dove, and flames.

As a church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our congregational life is governed by the Ruling Elders of our current Session:

Mary Bolaños, Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños, Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough, Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis, and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Dan Direen, Robin Edwards, Rick Rodriguez, Katie Smith, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Chris Wright-Thomas, Kristine French, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda

In this time of change for our congregation, a Pastor Nominating Committee has been elected by the congregation:

Susan Addington, Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher, Brian Gano, Kendra Lamb, Jim Morris, Shelby Obershaw, Christa Wallis, Neal Williams