

“Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.”

- Matthew 5:4



3410 Lemay Ferry Road  
St. Louis, Missouri 63125  
314-631-9217 <https://afftonpc.org/>

November 1, 2020 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
**All Saints Day**

Meet with us online or via phone at 10 am:  
Look under “Updates” on our site to join online  
or call 312-626-6799 and when prompted enter the Meeting ID:  
942 617 477 (followed by #).

When asks for a Participant ID number, dial #.  
On the phone, dial \*6 to mute or unmute yourself.  
*If asked for a password, enter 3410.*

## **Preparation for Worship**

### **Silent Meditation**

*"We give you thanks, O God, for all the saints  
whoever worshipped you  
Whether in brush arbors or cathedrals,  
Weathered wooden churches  
or crumbling cement meeting houses  
Where your name was lifted and adored.  
We give you thanks, O God,  
for hands lifted in praise:  
Manicured hands and hands strained  
with grease or soil,  
Strong hands and those gnarled with age  
Holy hands  
Used as wave offerings across the land.  
We thank you, God, for hardworking saints;  
Whether hard-hatted or steel-booted,  
Head ragged or aproned,  
Blue collared or three-piece-suited  
They left their mark on the earth for you, for us,  
for our children to come.  
Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices  
made by those who have gone before us.  
Bless the memories of your saints, God.  
May we learn how to walk wisely  
from their examples of faith,  
Dedication, worship, and love.*

*Safia Fosua*

**Prelude** "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring" J.S. Bach

### **Words of Welcome & Announcements**

#### **The Responsive Call to Worship (from Heb. 12:1)**

One: We remember, O God.....

**Many: The countless saints of history  
who have blazed a trail of courage through time.**

One: We remember, O God.....

**Many: The tender touch of loved ones,  
the examples of heroes,  
the healing words of comforters,  
the remarkable acts of fearless ones.**

One: We remember, O God.....

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

One: We remember, O God.....

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

One: We remember in every time and place the saints of God who  
have shown us the Lord.

**Many: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of  
witnesses, let us worship God with joy!**

**Hymn 568: "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"**  
Jackie Maze, Vocalist

***Invitation to Confession***

For God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
that whoever believes in him

should not perish but have eternal life.  
For God sent the Son into the world,  
not to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved.  
Let us confess our sins before almighty God.

***Unison Prayer of Confession***

**Gracious and merciful God, you know us.  
You know our hearts, you know our thoughts,  
you know our actions.  
You know our successes and our failures,  
that which commends us and  
that which condemns us.  
We know ourselves, too:  
we know the good we have done, and  
we know how we have fallen short.  
We want to know you better, so that the burden of  
sin will not weigh us down.  
We want to know you better, so that the freedom  
of your mercy will enable us to fly.  
Forgive our sins, dear Lord, and restore to  
wholeness, we pray.                      Amen**

***Assurance of Pardon***

Friends, believe the Good News!  
Who is in a position to condemn?  
Only Christ,  
And Christ died for us,  
Christ rose for us,  
Christ reigns in power for us,  
Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.  
The old life has gone;  
A new life has begun.  
Hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

**The Unison Response**

**Hymn 68:** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Vocalist: Jackie Maze

***Passing the Peace***

One: As God's forgiven people, let us share our joy with one another with the ancient words of the church:

"The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many: and also, with you."**

**+Proclamation of God's Word+**

**Prayer for Illumination**

O Lord, our God,

your word is a lamp to our feet

and a light to our path.

Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love,

that we may be obedient to your will

and live always for your glory;

through Jesus Christ our Savior.

***Scripture***

*Matthew 5:1-12*

***Sermon*** "God's Sinner Saints"

Rev. Jay Summerville

***Hymn 307:*** "Fight the Good Fight"

Vocalist: Jackie Maze

**Offering**

One practical way that we show God that we have accepted God's grace with gratitude and share that grace by enabling the work of the church is through our tithes and offerings. Please give generously to the life and work of Affton Presbyterian Church, as generously as God has treated us.

Checks may be mailed to the church

## **Responsive Prayers Remembering the Blessed Departed**

Pastor: Almighty God, our creator and redeemer,  
you are our comfort and strength.  
You have given us our loved ones  
to know and to love in our pilgrimage on earth.  
Uphold us now as we continue to entrust them  
to your boundless love and eternal care.  
Assure us that not even death  
can separate them from your infinite mercy.  
Deal graciously with us in our anguish,  
that we may truly know your sure consolation  
and learn to live in confident hope of the resurrection;  
Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Congregation:**

**Lord God, look kindly upon us in our sorrow as this life has been taken from those we have loved and gather our pain into our peace. Be with us in our grieving, and overcome all our doubts. Awaken our gratitude for your gifts of love and tenderness. As we are able to receive them, teach us the lessons of life that can be learned in death. We pray through Christ our Lord.**

Pastor:

Lead, kindly Light, our only hope in darkness.  
Heal the wounds of sorrow and renew our trust in your goodness.  
Enable us to be grateful for the ties that bind us to those we have loved who are now in eternal rest with you.  
Renew our strength each day to seek your will and lean upon your mercy.  
Keep us ever in the communion of saints and in the promise of life eternal, through Christ our Lord.  
We now lift up to you, O God, names of those dear to us who have run the race, fought the good fight, and kept the faith, and are now in your eternal care.

***[The congregation may now say loudly or softly the names of loved ones who have departed this life or raise them up silently in their hearts].***

**Congregation:**

**God of compassion, in sorrow, we receive from you the  
comfort you alone can give.**

**Enable us to see that you are always working for our good.**

**You are our dwelling place, O God.**

**Comfort and uphold us,**

**until we share together the light of your glory**

**and peace of your eternal presence;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

**+ We Gather at the Table +**

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People will come from north and south

and from east and west

to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke,

when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples,

he took bread, blessed it, and broke it,

and gave it to them.

Their eyes were opened,

and they recognized him.

This is not a Presbyterian table.

Our Savior invites all those who trust hm

to share the feast that He has prepared.

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.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus,

On the night before He died, took bread,

and after giving thanks to you, he broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus:  
Dying you destroyed our death,  
**Rising you restored our life.**  
**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break and the cup we bless  
may be for us the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

In this Sacrament we rejoice that we are united through your Holy  
Spirit with all of your saints, both living and dead, from every time  
and place, and with the Lamb on the throne of heaven.

Let us lift up together the prayer our Lord taught us to pray, saying:

**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 and ever.**

**Amen**

### **Breaking the Bread**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Take. Eat.

### **Pouring the Wine**

Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches.

Come to me and never thirst.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

### **Prayer After 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,

seeking with all the saints to live our lives in a every possible way

to affirm our acceptance of your great gift of redemption and grace.

AMEN.

**Closing Hymn 546:** *“For All the Saints”*

Vocalist: Jackie Maze

### ***Blessing and Charge***

#### **Hymn 568: God of the Ages**

1. God of the ages, history's Maker,  
planning our pathway, holding us fast,  
shaping in mercy all that concerns us:  
Father, we praise you, Lord of the past!
2. God of this morning, gladly your children  
worship before you, trustingly bow;  
teach us to know you always among us,  
quietly sovereign-- Lord of our now.
3. God of tomorrow, strong Overcome,  
princes of darkness own your command:  
what, then, can harm us? we are your people,  
now and forever kept by your hand.
4. Lord of past ages, Lord of this morning,  
Lord of the future, help us, we pray:  
teach us to trust you, love you, obey you,  
crown you each moment Lord of today!

**Hymn 68: There's a wideness in God's mercy**

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice,  
which is more than liberty.
2. There is welcome for the sinner,  
and more graces for the good;  
there is mercy with the Savior;  
there is healing in his blood.
3. For the love of God is broader  
than the measure of man's mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.
4. If our love were but more simple,  
we should take him at his word;  
and our life would be all sunshine  
In the sweetness of our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn 307: Fight the Good Fight**

1. Fight the good fight with all thy might;  
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;  
Lay hold on life and it shall be  
Thy joy and crown eternally.
2. Run the straight race through God's good grace;  
Lift up thine eyes and seek Christ's face.  
Life with its way before us lies;  
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
3. Cast care aside, lean on thy guide, God's  
boundless mercy will provide;  
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove  
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
4. Faint not, nor fear, God's arms are near;  
God changeth not, and thou art dear.  
Only believe, and thou shalt see  
That Christ is all in all to thee.

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

1. 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!

2. 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. Alleluia, Alleluia!

3. O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,  
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old  
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

4. O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine  
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.  
Alleluia, alleluia!