

Sunday, November 5, 2023
All Saints Sunday



Photo by John Crouch

**Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chandra Jackson

JOYS AND CONCERNS

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *I Stand at the Threshold*

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship God.

We come with our needs, bringing with us the needs of the world.

We turn to God, who comes to us in Jesus.

God, who knows by experience what human life is like.

We come with our faith and with our doubts,

We come with our hopes and our fears.

We come just as we are, because God invites us

and promises to meet us here. Let us worship God together!

***HYMN 796** *We Come to You for Healing, Lord*

LAND OF REST

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christ has said, "Blessed are the poor,"

but we cling to our wealth.

He taught, "Blessed are those who mourn,"

but we fear death and dread endings; we do not claim God's promise of new life.

He proclaimed, "Blessed are the meek,"

but pride so often prevents us from asking for help when we need it.

He said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,"

but we allow ourselves to be satisfied with charity instead of seeking justice.

He lived the truth that, "Blessed are the merciful,"

but we are quick to seek retribution and slow to forgive.

He reminds us, "Blessed are the peacemakers,"

but our relationships are fractured, our communities divided, and our nation is at war.

Christ, have mercy on us! We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

KYRIE 287 *Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading*

NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA

Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading;

fashion us all anew.

It's your leading that we're needing;

help us to follow you.

Refrain:

Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God; O sing to our God.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

MOMENT WITH FAITH KIDS

Robin Nemser

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.’

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

MUSIC *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.
(1945–2014)

PSALTER READING Psalm 26

Vindicate me, O Lord,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
Prove me, O Lord, and try me;
test my heart and mind.
For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

I do not sit with the worthless,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;
I hate the company of evildoers,
and will not sit with the wicked.

I wash my hands in innocence,
and go around your altar, O Lord,
singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell,
and the place where your glory abides.
Do not sweep me away with sinners,
nor my life with the bloodthirsty,
those in whose hands are evil devices,
and whose right hands are full of bribes.

But as for me, I walk in my integrity;
redeem me, and be gracious to me.
My foot stands on level ground;
in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.

This is the word of God, for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Kate Foster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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

GRAND ISLE

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Ellsworth Jackson

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.



OFFERTORY *Deep River*

Monea Brown, *soprano*

arr. Moses Hogan
(1957-2003)

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

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

The prayer continues, concluding with

Today, we remember and give thanks for the lives of these saints of Faith Church who have died since last November:

Cathy Billings, Carol Duray, William Brown, Jr., Ann Scheck, and Luther Conrad Slacum.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF COMMUNION

In the sanctuary, you may either receive the juice by intinction (dip the bread in the cup) or with a sealed cup to take back to your pew. Either way, come forward by the center aisle and returned by the outside aisle.

If you are at home, when the bread is broken, please break your bread. When the cup is poured, please pour it or touch the cup if you've already filled it. We give thanks that the Spirit is present wherever we are, knitting us together as the body of Christ in the world.

As we celebrate All Saints' Sunday and remember those whom we love who have died, you are invited to join your hearts and bodies in prayer. When you come forward to receive communion, you are invited to light a candle (or several candles) in memory of someone who you love who has died, giving thanks to God for their life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God who provides, for the meal we have shared, and the times we have gathered with our loved ones around this table, we thank you. May this feast ever remind us of the love we have shared with them and the faith that many of them shared with us. May we have the courage and commitment to follow their example of service, that future generations might also follow in the way, and find us worthy of remembrance. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 326** *For All the Saints*

SINE NOMINE

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *For All the Saints*

setting David Cherwien
(b. 1957)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Kate Foster, *Parish Associate*

Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*

Chandra Jackson, *Liturgist*

Paula Burger, *Elder of the Day*

Lauren Hill, *Usher*

Dawn Shirey, *PowerPoint & Zoom Moderator*

Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera*

Today we welcome **Rev. Kate Foster** to the pulpit. Kate holds a BA from Wesleyan University and an M.Div. from Columbia Theological Seminary. A native of North Carolina, Kate has served churches in Memphis, TN, and in Baltimore. After serving for 11 years on the staff of the Presbytery of Baltimore as the Executive Director of The Center: Mission Outside the Box, Rev. Foster now serves as the Mid-Atlantic Director of Trail Development for the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. She has two daughters, Anna, who is at UNC-Chapel Hill, and Aidan, a student at Tufts University.

****Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com.

This week we pray for:

Faith's homebound members and
those receiving long-term care
Our partners in Cuba

Victims of gun violence
The people of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, and all
those who suffer from war and disaster.

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you find our worship to be meaningful - your presence enriches our community. If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will return soon so that we might get to know you better. To learn about ways to get engaged in the life of Faith, check out our website, www.faithpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org.

KIDS are welcome at Faith! Our PRAYGROUND at the front of the sanctuary is for children 6 and younger during worship. There are books and quiet activities to keep hands busy so ears can listen, and it's close to the action so that our youngest members can experience the beauty of worship in a space that's just for them.

Childcare for our young children is available. While kids are welcome in worship, there is a caregiver and safe play space in the nursery, just out the door nearest the pulpit.

Sign up for our weekly **News & Notes** email by completing the visitor card or go to the website: faithpcbalt.org and navigate to "Contact Us."

The Forum: Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, *Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom.* cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org!

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom Wednesday - Join Cat every Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome! Meeting ID: 818 8551 6595; passcode: 716331

Faith's choir rehearses on Thursdays at 7pm in the chapel. Come and add your voice to the Chancel Choir! See Dr. Samuel Springer for more information.

Children's Sunday School has begun! After the Moment with Faith Kids, kids ages 4 and up are invited to explore the passage of the day with games, crafts, and other activities. They will return at the end of worship to the sanctuary.

ROPAGOFA Youth Group meets every third Sunday at 5:30! Join young people from Faith, Govans, and Roland Park churches to build a durable faith through fun, games, and encountering God together. Every third Sunday –November 19 at Stoneleigh Lanes (Bowling Alley), December 17 at Faith.

New Directory We are updating our church directory! Please submit a recent photo and any changes to your address or contact information to faithchurchbalt@gmail.com.