



November 1, 2020

GATHERING		Heather Hinton
GREETING		Darren Cushman Wood
ANNOUNCEMENTS		Amy Sell
PRELUDE	<i>Rise Up, O Saints of God</i>	arr. W. Wold

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in God.

People: With hearts and hands and voices, let us praise the Lord.

OPENING HYMN #711

For All the Saints

***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!***

***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!***

***From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia!***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In your Word, O God, show us heaven.

By your Spirit, show us truth;

through Christ, the Living Word,

in whom we see your face. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

II Kings 2:1, 9-13

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #707

Hymn of Promise

***In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

***In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Amy Sell

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

DOXOLOGY #94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

UPDATE ON STEWARDSHIP

Darren Cushman Wood

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Two Shares of a Spirit

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN #709

Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above

***Come, let us join our friends above who have obtained the prize,
and on the eagle wings of love to joys celestial rise.***

***Let saints on earth unite to song with those to glory gone,
for all the servants of our King in earth and heav'n are one.***

LITANY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: O Lord our God, Creator and Ruler of the universe,
we praise you for saints and martyrs,
for the faithful in every age
who have followed your Son
and witnessed to his resurrection.

From every race and tongue,
from every people and nation,
you have gathered them under your reign.

You have shown them the path of life
and filled them with the joy of your presence.

How glorious is your heavenly realm
where the multitude of your saints rejoice with Christ!

People: I will bless the Lord at all times whose praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Leader: Almighty God, you have knit together your elect

in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son, Christ our Lord.

Renew our communion with all your saints, especially those whom we name before you:

George Edward Alley

Sandra Beaning

Albert Galloway

Marilyn Harmon

Jessica Hederick

Marilyn Krueger

Jean Moland

Mona Nelson

Lancaster Price

Frank Rogers

Janet Yosha

**People: The Lord redeems the life of the servants;
none of those who take refuge in God will be condemned.**

Leader: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us,

looking to Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith,
who will unite us with the redeemed of all ages
on the day of resurrection with singing and shouts of joy.

**People: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God,
now and forever. Amen.**

SOLO *Shall We Gather By the River* arr. A. Copland
Ron Berry, baritone

We invite you at this time to light a candle at home in remembrance of your loved ones.

Shall we gather by the river, where bright angels' feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?
Yes, we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.
Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.

PRAYER

HYMN OF DEDICATION #709 *Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above*

***One family we dwell in him, one church above, beneath,
though now divided by the stream, the narrow stream of death;
one army of the living God, to his command we bow;
part of his host have crossed the flood, and part are crossing now.***

***Ten thousand to their endless home this solemn moment fly,
and we are to the margin come, and we expect to die.
E'en now by faith we join our hands with those that went before,
and greet the blood-be-sprinkled bands on the eternal shore.***

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Postlude on "All Saints"* D. Thorne

The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in honor of the lives of our church members lost this year. We also remember those across our world who have died because of the COVID pandemic, leaving family and friends to mourn their deaths. May peace come to all who mourn. God be near.

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*
Amy Sell, *Minister of Discipleship & Formation*
John Hague & Dick Tiller-Lutchman, *Audio Visual*
Heather Hinton, *Organist*
Ron Berry, *Soloist*

Daily Living in the COVID Era video link is
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ewMyFFXyNt0&t=2s>
OR you can access on the North website
in Livestreaming under Care & Nurture.