

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*The Church is the Body of Christ, and as such it is both heavenly and earthly. The Church is the communion of saints, and it includes as members both angels and shepherds – cherubim and seraphim, and you, and me.* ~ Scott Hahn

PRELUDE

*The Saints Delight*

Isaac Watts

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

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CHORAL INTROIT

*God Welcomes All*

GG: 399

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: For all those who have paved the way for our freedom of worship, we give thanks, O Lord.

**People: For those who have taught us about witness and the power of love, we give thanks, O Lord.**

Leader: For those who work in our church that we may come to know what it means to serve, we give thanks, O Lord.

**People: For all the saints, those who rest from their labors, and those who labor still, we give thanks, O Lord.**

Leader: Praise be to God, who continually inspires and guides workers and witnesses.

**People: Open our hearts and spirits, O Lord, and help us to become good workers for you.**

\*HYMN

*Abide with Me*

GG: 836

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Lord, we take this time to remember all those who have come before us; those who have loved and cared for us, and those who have heeded your call and done your work in this world. Lord, we ask your forgiveness when we have not lived up to those standards. When we have allowed our own priorities and mess to detract from the impact our lives make on others' lives. Forgive us when we have not been the best role-models, employees, friends, or Christians that we could**

**be. Remind us of our place and part in the communion of Saints. Connect us to those who have come before us, to their stories. Let our lives shine as examples of love and hope for all the world to see.**

*(A moment for silent examination and confession.)*

*Amen*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: We are one church across all time and place. Forgiven for our shortcomings, we are joined with all who came before to be one body, one community, whole and redeemed in God's eternal love.

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia for the place God calls us to in the Communion of Saints!**

\*RESPONSE

*Sing Out, My Soul*

GG: 646

**All: Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul.**

**Sing out and glorify the Lord who sets us free.**

**Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul.**

**Sing out and glorify the Lord God!**

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

*I Trust In the Lord*

Joseph M. Martin

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

\*HYMN

*For the Bread Which You Have Broken*

GG: 516

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 103:15-17, pg. 554; Micah 6:8, pg. 866

SCRIPTURE: Acts 6:8-12, 7:51-8:1, pg. 124

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*“Witnesses of the Faith”*

Rev. Abbie Huff

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Jesus, Thou Joy Of Loving Hearts*, St. Agnes setting by G. Young

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

**All: 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.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices  
with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who  
forever sing to the glory of your name:

**All: 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, hosanna in the highest.**

GG. 552

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN

*For All the Saints*

GG: 326

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*Peace of God Be with You*

GG: 448

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For All The Saints*, Sine Nomine

Ralph V, Williams

\*All who are able please stand.

\*\*\*Latecomers seated.