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| |  | | --- | | November 1st, 2020 – 10:30am Springfield Presbyterian Church Order of Worship All Saints Day Installation of Elders   *A great portion of this liturgy is compiled from resources from the ‘Clergy Emergency League’ for the purposes of this Sunday. Let the different voices from around this country fill you with hope, energy, and peace as we face the coming days.*   *Announcements*   *Lighting the Christ Candle* Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim: **People: Christ is the Light of the world and center of our lives.**   *Gathering of the People* Leader: The Lord be with you! **People: And also with you!** [Greetings and Announcements]   *Call to Worship  (Rev. Stephen M. Fearing) (*Micah 6:8, Ps. 27:13)   Leader: Come, however you are, and lay your burdens on the Lord - **People: Burdens of fear and anger, of anxiety and uncertainty.** Leader: Come, however you are, and turn your heart to scripture’s mandate: **People: To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.** Leader: Come, however you are, and remember the promises of God’s word: **People: That we shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.** Leader: Come, however you are, no matter who you are, and no matter where you are, **People: And let us gather to lean on the everlasting arms of Christ Jesus.**   *\* Hymn* GtG#619 - Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven   *Prayer of Confession (Rev. Melodie Long)* **Holy One, you created us in your image, people meant to be reflections of your love, your grace, and your justice. More often, though, we put our own selfish desires above you, our ambitions above your beloved community, our greed above the needs of others, our justice above your compassion, our fear above your grace. The realization of all that we have done and left undone is heavy indeed for we have damaged the world you have entrusted to us. Free us from ourselves and show us how to live. Amen.**   *Silent Prayers of Confession*   *Words of Assurance (responsive)* (Rev. Melodie Long) Leader: Believe the good news! God loves us and accepts us who we are and where we are – and God believes in who we can become. **People: We know that grace takes us and wraps us in the gift of new beginnings. We are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God!**   *The Peace* Leader: The peace of Christ be with you! **People: And also with you!** (You may greet those around you)   *The Proclamation of the Word*   *Prayer of Illumination* (Rev. Krystal Leedy) Holy Spirit, lamp for all people, guide our way as we open ourselves to be changed by your Word. As we dwell in the majesty of the purple mountains, or our hand grazes through the amber grain, and each time we take fruit from the plain, may we never forget that the land which we inhabit, is only available by your grace. Extend that grace to us today, even if the skies seem less spacious and the sea less shiny, hold up your lamp for all people, that we may see you in the faces of one another, and the voices that come from Scripture, that our pilgrim-feet may find their way back to you. Amen.   *Scripture Lesson* **Genesis 25:19-34** **19**These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham’s son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, **20**and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. **21**Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. **22**The children struggled together within her; and she said, “If it is to be this way, why do I live?” So she went to inquire of the Lord. **23**And the Lord said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.” **24**When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. **25**The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. **26**Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. **27**When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. **28**Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.  **Esau Sells His Birthright**  **29**Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. **30**Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!” (Therefore he was called Edom.) **31**Jacob said, “First sell me your birthright.” **32**Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” **33**Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. **34**Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.   *Sermon* A Nation Divided   *The Response to the Word*   *\* Hymn* GtG#326  - For All the Saints   *All Saints Day*  *Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer*  “For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.” Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”**   Generous God,   Today we remember your people, your beloved servants who have gone before us, but who we remember with great love and respect. We come before you now, and the gathering of our family of faith, to say aloud the names of those missed, loved, and now reside with you in the Kingdom of Heaven.   As we celebrate the saints that have gone before us, we remember those here with us today who are in places of struggle and survival. We pray for those who we are concerned about – who are ailing, grieving, hurting, or facing unknowns. We pray for those who give us great joy – for birthdays remembered, for celebrations, and for all who are experiencing the light of Christ in their lives and spreading the love throughout the canvas of the world. Amen.   And now, in confidence and in gratitude, we say the prayer together that Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, taught us to pray… **Our Father,** **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven and 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**  *Installation of Elders*   *Constitutional Questions*   Beth, Diana, and Elizabeth, you were claimed by the love of God, clothed in the grace of Jesus Christ, and anointed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to share Christ’s mission in the world. Now you are called by God through the voice of the church for service and ministry in Jesus name.   In accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), show your commitment to this calling by responding these questions:   Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? **I do.**   Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you? **I do.**   Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do and I will.**   Will you fulfil your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our Confessions? **I will.**   Will you be governed by our church’s polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God’s Word and Spirit? **I will.** Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **I will.**   Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? **I do.**   Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **I will.**   Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**   And now we turn our questions to the congregation gathered:   Do we, the members of this church, accept Beth, Diana, and Elizabeth, as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**   Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church. **We do.**   Let us pray together:   Gracious God, we give you thanks for your servants Diana, Elizabeth, and Beth as they continue in the ministry to which you have called them. Help them to rely on the gifts of your Spirit and to follow Christ faithfully in this calling.   By the gifts of your Holy Spirit, empower them to build up the church, to strengthen the common life of your people, and to lead with compassion and vision.   Sustain your church in ministry. Ground us in the Gospel, secure our hope in Christ, strengthen our service to the outcast, and increase our love for one another.   Show us the transforming power of your grace in our life together, that we may be effective servants of the gospel, offering a compelling witness in the world to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**   **Welcome**   And now, we celebrate with joy the gift of ministry and this call within Elizabeth, Beth, and Diana. Let us again welcome them into this ministry and grant them our blessing.   *Hymn* GtG#757 - *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*   *Charge & Benediction (Rev. Dr. Rochelle A. Stackhouse)* Leader: May the power of Christ lift us above despair. **People: May the energy of Christ move through our weariness.** Leader: May the peace of Christ settle our anxiety. **People: May the challenge of Christ raise our expectations.** Leader: May the grace of Christ assure us of forgiveness when we fall short. **People: May the love of Christ, greater than we could ask or imagine, set us dancing into the future. Amen.** | |