

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church

Denver, CO



All Saints' Day

October 31, 2021

*That you may know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

All Saints' Day at FMC

All Saints' Day has been a very solemn and rich experience of remembering those who have gone before. The act of lighting candles in their honor and being surrounded by our church family who are doing the same thing has been a very worshipful time. We have few such times of quiet reflection and remembrance at FMC. Today we continue this tradition as we will hear the names of the cloud of witnesses that we are honoring.

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**Entering Worship**

**Pre-Service Music**

*Be Still, My Soul* (Voices Together 664)

**Welcome & Announcements**

**♪ For All the Saints** (vs. 1, 2, 5) **Voices Together 672**

- Vs 1

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,  
who tee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever bless'd.  
Alleluia, alleluia!
- Vs 2

Thou wast their rock, their refuge, and their might,  
thou, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;  
'mid gloom and doubt, their true and shining light.  
Alleluia, alleluia!
- Vs 5

But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day;  
the saints triumphant rise in bright array,  
as God to glory calls them all away.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

**Call to Worship**

Leader: The countless saints of history  
who have blazed a trail of courage through time,

**People: We remember, O God...**

Leader: The tender touch of loved ones,

the example of heroes,  
the healing words of comforters,  
the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

**People: We remember, O God...**

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

**People: We remember, O God...**

Leader: 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.

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

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

## Passing the Peace

**♪ Call for Children: As I Went Down to the River to Pray** (vs 1) **VT 453**

As I went down to the river to pray,  
studyin' about that good old way,  
and who shall wear the starry crown,  
good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

## Children's Time

As I went down to the river to pray,  
studyin' about that good old way,  
and who shall wear the starry crown,  
good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, brothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, brothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

## Invocation

## Faith Reflection

### Chimes

### Scripture

**John 11:32-44**

When Mary arrived where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died."

When Jesus saw her crying and the Jews who had come with her crying also, he was deeply disturbed and troubled. He asked, "Where have you laid him?"

They replied, "Lord, come and see."

Jesus began to cry. The Jews said, "See how much he loved him!" But some of them said, "He healed the eyes of the man born blind. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"

Jesus was deeply disturbed again when he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone covered the entrance. Jesus said, "Remove the stone."

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said, "Lord, the smell will be awful! He's been dead four days."

Jesus replied, "Didn't I tell you that if you believe, you will see God's glory?" So they removed the stone, Jesus looked up and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. I know you always hear me. I say this for the benefit of the crowd standing here so that they will believe that you sent me." Having said this, Jesus shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come

out!” The dead man came out, his feet bound and his hands tied, and his face covered with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Untie him and let him go.”

♪ ***The Lord Bless You and Keep You*** (“The Lord” version)

**VT 846**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord lift his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace, and give you peace;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you, be gracious  
the Lord be gracious, gracious unto you.  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

**Meditation**

**Candle Lighting and Naming Ritual**

**Words of Introduction**

**Naming and Candle Lighting**

*Venetian Boat Song No. 2, Op. 30 No. 6* (Felix Mendelssohn)

♪ ***The Lord Bless You and Keep You*** (“May God” version)

**VT 846**

May God bless you and keep you;  
may God lift her countenance upon you,  
and give you peace, and give you peace;  
may God make her face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you, be gracious  
may God be gracious, gracious unto you.  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

**Chimes**

**Community & Sharing**

**Offering**

***Holy, Holy, Holy / It is Well*** (arr. Ruth Elaine Schram)

**Prayer & Benediction**

## **♪ Masithi: Amen (Sing Amen)**

**VT 90**

*Xhosa* Masithi: Amen siakudumisa.  
Masithi: Amen siakudumisa.  
Masithi: Amen bawo, amen bawo.  
Amen, siakudumisa.

*English* Sing amen: Amen, we praise your name, O God.  
Sing amen: Amen, we praise your name, O God.  
Sing amen: Amen, amen, amen, amen,  
Amen, we praise your name, O God.

## **Congregational Sharing & Pastoral Prayer**

### **♪ Soon and Very Soon**

**VT 669**

- Vs 1* Soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- Vs 2* No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- Vs 3* No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- Vs 4* Soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

## **Closing Prayer**

# Acknowledgements and copyright

## *Be Still, My Soul*

Text: Catharina A D von Schlegel, 1752, *Stille, mein Wille*; trans. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855, alt.

Music: Jean Sibelius; arr. *The Hymnal*, ©1933, 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

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## *For All the Saints*

Text: William W How, *Hymns for Saints' Days and Other Hymns*, 1864, alt.

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

## *As I Went Down to the River to Pray*

Text & Music: African American spiritual

## *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Text: based on Numbers 6:24-26, Peter C Lutkin, 1900

Music: Peter C Lutkin, 1900

## *Venetian Boat Song No. 2, Op. 30 No. 6*

Composed by: Felix Mendelssohn, 1834

## *Holy, Holy, Holy / It is Well*

Arranged by: Ruth Elaine Schram

Tune: Nicaea by John B Dykes and Ville du Havre by Philip P Bliss

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## *Masithi: Amen (Sing Amen)*

Text: Xhosa; South African traditional; trans. Unknown, alt.

Music: S C Molefe, ©1991 Lumko Institute

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## *Soon and Very Soon*

Text & Music: Andrae Crouch

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**Fellowship Time**

*Join us in the Community Center after worship for fellowship and refreshments.*

**Leadership for this Service**

- Worship Leader:** Claudia Aguilar
- Meditation:** Claudia Aguilar
- Song Leader & Pre-Service Music:** Emily Martin
- Piano:** Romaine Anderson
- Children’s Time:** Claudia Aguilar
- Remembrance Ritual:** Ardell Swartzendruber and Claudia Aguilar
- Sanctuary Arts:** Paul Johnson and Roberta Kandel
- Audio-Visual Booth:** Nikki KandeLind
- Lead Usher:** Dave Harguth

*Thanks to all who generously shared their attention and talents to make this service a time of encouragement and challenge in our walk of faith.*

**Giving**

**Checks:** Write a check to FMC and drop in the offering box.

**Online:** Visit [www.fmcdenver.org/giving](http://www.fmcdenver.org/giving) or scan the QR code to the right. Make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring contribution with a credit/debit card or a direct withdrawal from your checking account.



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