



Venice United Church of Christ

November 2, 2025

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC

“Saints, All”

United in Christ’s love,

A just world for all



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Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
Sacrament of Holy Communion
All Saints Sunday
November 2, 2025

Prelude

Playing of the Singing Bowl

Rob Dickason

Welcome and Announcements

We Approach God's Presence

Meditation/Bringing in the Light of Christ

Come to the Table

Nystrom

Responsive Call to Worship

Rev. Harold Steindam

O friends, open your heart to the divine life!

Attune yourself to the Divine Guest within your being!

**Your Word is my heritage forever;
yes, it is the joy of my heart.**

**When I meditate upon your light,
my heart opens with compassion for all life.**

Break open the locks of your heart's door,
breathe deeply of sunlight's freedom and warmth.

**We hold tightly to the hand of faith
for strength through deep valleys;**

Learn to trust in the One,
who is ever your companion and guide.

For, when you come to know the Source of your life,

**Love, the great transformer,
flows through us and radiates outward**

Filling our hearts with Light.

***Hymn**

For All the Saints (Sine Nomine) vs. 1,2,4

Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the
 2 You were their rock, their refuge, and their might: you, Christ, the
 3 Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold, live as the
 4 Ringed by this cloud of witness, divine, we feebly
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the

world their steadfast faith confessed, your name, O Je - sus,
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you
 saints who nobly fought of old, and share with them a
 struggle, they in glory shine; yet in your love our
 ear the distant triumph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.
 were their one true light.
 glorious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 faith - ful lives en - twine.
 gain, and faith grows strong.

This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnal (1869) and set to a tune by that name, Sarum. It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring Sine Nomine in The English Hymnal (1906).

Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4.
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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***Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

Skeletons, adpt

John van de Laar

In each of our hearts is a locked place, God;
Like a forgotten room or a dark cupboard,
We would prefer to forget it even exists,
But inside it are things that won't stay hidden.

Others would never suspect that we carry such a place;
We guard our faces so no evidence appears,
And we keep our lips sealed,
allowing no escape for the stories of the skeletons in our cupboard.

But in the quiet moments, the unguarded times of solitude,
The doors we struggle to hold shut fly open
and the skeletons – these living guilts – come out and dance
Mocking us and reminding us of our secret shame.

**Free us from the power and the prison
of the skeletons in our cupboards, Jesus;
Teach us that mistakes and brokenness and failure
are part of creative and bold living
Remind us that what is hidden holds us in bondage
and cannot be healed;
And lead us through our shame to confident joy in You.**

**Let us know the touch of your forgiveness and healing,
and teach us to pass this acceptance on to other
friends, family and strangers
who, like us, pretend to be whole
While within them, skeletons still dance. Amen.**

***Words of Grace**

Christ has freed us from that which binds us
into creative and bold living.
Adopted and now wholly God's,
be confident in the joy of our Lord
that bursts through the deepest suffering
and is not bound by limits of time or space.

Thank be to God! Amen

Now I Belong to Jesus

Refrain

Now I be-long to Je - sus, Je - sus be-longs to

me; Not for the years of time a - lone, But for e - ter - ni - ty.

TEXT: Norman J. Clayton
 MUSIC: Norman J. Clayton
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ELLSWORTH
 10.10.9.6. with Refrain

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Now I Belong to Jesus'. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. A 'Refrain' section is indicated at the top. The score includes a copyright notice for Norman J. Clayton and a CCLI license number.

We Encounter God in the Word

First Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23
 The Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Inclusive Bible

Story for Young People

Children of God

Martin

**Children of God, let's love one another. Love is a gift, a blessing of God.
 Love one another, sisters and brothers. Love is a gift of God.**

Prayer of Remembrance

"Unlikely Companions"

by John van de Laar

"It was scandalous then, Jesus:

your inappropriate choice of associations,
 your insistence on being with those
 who were least likely to be friends of God.

It's scandalous now, Jesus!

We like to think we're more gracious than that,
 but we still struggle
 with who you choose to include.

Yet, you also include us who, if we're honest,
 are just as unlikely,
 just as undeserving;

And as we walk with you and work with you
we discover others that journey beside us,
and who find us to be just as much the unlikely companions
that we find them to be;

So, we remember unlikely leaders,
who with few resources and little influence,
make significant contributions to the world;

We remember unlikely healers,
who through little more than their compassion,
bring wholeness to broken and wounded others;

We remember unlikely benefactors,
who, with no wealth to speak of,
give generously to those with even less;

We remember unlikely saints,
who, though tainted and stained, broken and imperfect,
bring sacredness and life to hopeless ones.

We remember:

Richard Railsback 12/13/2024

Patricia Hodgkins 12/17/2024

Connie Johnson 01/11/2025

Lenore Washburn 04/21/2025

Wallace H. Appel, Jr. 08/21/2025

Susan Hartung Kotrba 08/26/2025

Linda Levesque 10/23/2025

Majorie Johnson 10/25/2025

...and other loved ones we hold in our hearts

And as we pray, we celebrate all the Zacchaeuses,
who, like us have been touched by your grace and forgiveness,
and have become your unlikely companions
in saving the world.”. Amen.

Anthem

Jesus Took the Cup

arr. Hopson

Second Reading

Luke 19:1-10

Common English Bible

The Word of our Messiah. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Saints, All”

Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC

We Respond to God's Grace

Prayer Concerns and Sharing Gratitude

Silent Prayers

People's Prayer and our Lord's Prayer (sung)

**Our Father, which 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**

We Share God's Love

Invitation to Generosity *(Offering plates are found by each doorway for your use.)*

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

***Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

Holy One, bless these offerings. May the work of our hands and the gifts we bring be a blessing. We dedicate them to your building of your vision for all of humanity. Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion

Christ has invited everyone to join together in this holy feast.

**We gather with sisters and brothers and friends
from every time zone
around this beautiful sphere God created
and that we call earth.**

As today's sunlight inches across the land and sea, we prepare our Lord's table so that all may come, all may eat, and all might be nourished by the bread Christ has offered that gives us life.

**We gather to eat the bread and drink of the cup
that fills us with God's abundant love,
that reforms us to be a reflection
of God's original blessing, and
that reconnects us to God, God's creation,
and each other.**

(The ministers and servers will prepare the elements; the congregation is then invited to come and receive the bread and the cup. If you cannot come but wish to receive, the servers will come to you. All bread is gluten-free, and the grape juice has no sugar added.)

Communion Meditation *Partake of the Bread of the World* arr. Schram

We Go to Carry the Light

***Hymn** *For All the Saints* (insert)

***Blessing and Benediction**

***Sending Blessing** *Threefold Amen* DANISH

Postlude *Singing Bowl* Dickason

**Please remain seated in silence for the Postlude as the
Light of Christ is carried into the world.
The worship has ended; our service begins.**

Worship materials are taken from
sacradise.com

Supporting Our Service Today

Acolyte: Allison Rowe **Liturgist:** Rev. Harold Steindam

Welcome Table: David Jack **Greeter:** Wendy Seeley

Communion Stewards: Barbara and Bob Zittel

Head Usher: George Ikeda **Usher Team:** Suzi Benscoter, Mel Burrowes,
Jane Chittick, Helen Markus, Nancy Susskind

Technology Team

(Live Streaming, Camera, and Sound Technicians)

Gary Woodrum, Debra Mosely, Maria Groody,
David Jack, Linda Newton, Wally Davis, Patty Fjetland

The **Lord's Table** was decorated by Victoria Augustine

The **Sanctuary Flowers** are given by the VUCC Choir
in Celebration of Barb Quinn's Birthday

The **Church Sign** was changed by Faye Newton and Lisa Sclafani

Sunday Librarian: Barbara Talmage

Fellowship Time: Ellen & Dick Schleicher, Ruth & Rex Ingerick, Posie Gallaher

For All the Saints

D G Am Cmaj7 D C D

1. For all the saints who've shown your love in how they
 2. For all the saints who loved your name, whose faith in -
 3. For all the saints who named your will, and showed the
 4. Bless all whose will or name or love re - flects the

C Em7 Am Am7 D D7 G Am Bm

live and where they move, for mind - ful wo - men, car - ing
 creased the Sav - ior's fame, who sang your songs and shared your
 king dom com - ing still through self - less pro - test, prayer, and
 grace of heaven a - bove. Though un - ac - claimed by earth - ly

Em G Cmaj7 G D7 G

men, ac - cept our gra - ti - tude a - gain.
 word, ac - cept our gra - ti - tude, good Lord.
 praise, ac - cept the gra - ti - tude we raise.
 powers, your life through theirs has hal - lowed ours.

WORDS: John Bell

MUSIC: English folk melody; harm. by John Weaver

Words © 1996 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland), admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.; harm. © 1990 John Weaver

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LM

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Senior Minister**Rev. Barbara Dickason****Music Staff****Barbara Quinn: Music Director****Lynda Weston: Bella Handbell Director****Other Staff****Gary Leidheiser: Custodian****Barb Quinn: Office Assistant**

The church office is open M-Th, 9-1.

Email will be monitored daily when the office is closed.

Pastor Barb's day off is on Friday. Please reach out in case of Emergency.

All other emails received over the weekend will be answered the first of the week.

Would you like to donate to VUCC online? Use your Smart Phone to scan the QR code below, and it will take you directly to our donations page. It is really easy!

**This Week at a Glance****Monday, November 3**

10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Board—CR

12:00 PM SpiritFed!

Noon Bible Study via Zoom (link below)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83576594637?pwd=U2024sKmOPiy3CyMqV4OarYUtofaom.1>

Meeting ID: 835 7659 4637

Passcode: 913882

(The easiest way to connect is to use the link in the Connect.)

3:00 PM Pastoral Relations Committee—Parlor

Tuesday, November 4

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

9:30 AM AAUW Board—Parlor

6:00 PM Girl Scouts

Wednesday, November 5

9:00 AM - Noon Library Hours

10:00 AM Bible Study—CR

10:00 AM Floralia—NH

1:00 PM Cut-Ups—CR

3:30 PM Shamrock Youth Ringers—NH

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

7:00 PM NAMI—CR

Thursday, November 6

10:00 AM Garden Club—NH

2:00 PM Human Resources—P

4:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:00 PM Daisies

Friday, November 7

8:30 AM Men's Weekly Coffee—Panera

Saturday, November 8

2:00 PM Set up for Mission Market—NH

Sunday, November 9—New Members

9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

9:00-9:45 AM Library Hour

10:00 AM Worship in situ and virtual

11:00-11:15 AM Library Time

11:00 AM Fellowship Time—Naar Hall

11:00 AM Mission Market