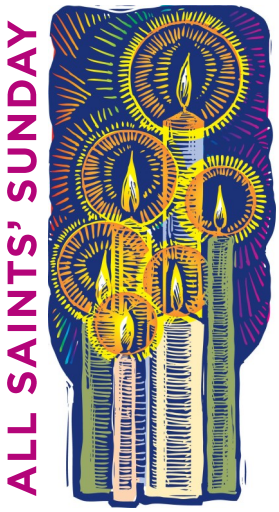
October 31, 2021
10:00 AM

First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



God of the generations,
when we set our hands to labor,
thinking we work alone,
remind us that we carry
on our lips
the words of prophets,
in our veins
the blood of martyrs,
in our eyes
the mystics' visions,
in our hands
the strength of thousands.

- Jan Richardson

CHURCH LIFE UPDATE Margaret LaMotte Torrence

INTROIT *10,000 Reasons* Myrin and Redman

Chorus
Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul.
Worship your holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul!
I'll worship your holy name

Verse 1
The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. (Chorus)

Verse 2
And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come,
Still my soul will sing your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore! (Chorus)

Tag
I'll worship your holy name.
Lord, I'll worship your holy name.

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** Marvin Miller

Blessed are we
when our treasures cannot be quantified.
Blessed are we
when our knowledge is tempered by mystery.
Blessed are we
when our pain is held in the balm of love.
Blessed are we
when we discover home in the community of God's love.

* *Those who are able will please stand.*

*** HYMN 687** *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* St. Anne

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,
Bears all our years away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Margaret LaMotte Torrence

Eternal God,
As we remember friends whose baptisms are now complete,
we sense the urgency of our own days.
As we pledge commitment to your work in the world,
we give thanks for those who lit our path.

Come to us now, and meet us where we live.
Move in the stories we tell,
the offerings we bring,
and the keeping of our watch;
for we would honor you in the living of our days.
Make us bold for the sake of your name.

(moment of silence)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM OF JOY *Adoramus* Matthew Gawronski
(The Chancel Choir)

Glorificamus te! Benedicimus te! Adoramus!
We glorify you! We bless you! We adore!

*** THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Margaret LaMotte Torrence

SONG OF PRAISE *Forever* Tomlin

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm,
Your love endures forever.
For the life that's been reborn,
Your love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!
Sing praise, sing praise!

Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong;
Forever God is with us – forever, forever!

From the rising to the setting sun,
Your love endures forever.
And by the grace of God we will carry on,
Your love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!
Sing praise, sing praise!

Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong;
Forever God is with us – forever, forever!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 31: 1-3a, 6 and John 11: 1-7, 17-44

SERMON Margaret LaMotte Torrence

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** From *A Declaration of Faith,* PCUS 1977
Henry Mills

In Christ, God gave us a glimpse of the new creation
he has already begun and will surely finish.
We do not know when the final day will come.

In our time we see only broken and scattered signs
that the renewal of all things is under way.
We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering
in the world, the church, or our own lives.

But we see Jesus as Lord.
As he stands at the center of our history,
we are confident he will stand at its end.
He will judge all people and nations.
Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation.

There will be no more tears or pain.
All things will be made new.
The fellowship of human beings with God and each other will be perfected.

Jesus is Lord!
He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end.
Even now he is Lord.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

IMAGES OF GRACE *I Can Only Imagine* Millard
(NewSong Band and Chancel Choir)

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 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.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

CALL FOR THE OFFERING Steven Phillips

***HYMN 326** *For All the Saints* Sine Nomine

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! 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! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia! 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! Alleluia!

***BENEDICTION** Margaret LaMotte Torrence

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune in D Major* David N. Johnson

Today we welcome guest organist David Patrick. He has recently returned to his native Sarasota following a distinguished career as music director, voice coach, pianist and organist for churches, colleges, theaters, and theme parks. In addition to a long tenure with the celebrated Fred Waring Singers, he has produced numerous musical events for Walt Disney World and was organist at First Presbyterian Church of Orlando.

The Call to Worship was adapted from a post by Katherine Hawker on *Liturgy Outside.*