

A Season of All Saints:

Ancestors

Homer United Methodist Church

October 25, 2020, 11 am worship

Click the link below to interact live on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HomerUnitedMethodistChurchAlaska/>

OR

Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/gANe21--qRg>

Centering

- Print out or pull up your Worship Guide
- Light a candle as a reminder of the light of Christ that connects us all
- Breathe deeply and remember that you are on holy ground
- Acknowledge the indigenous inhabitants of land on which you live

Land Acknowledgement

In this series, we honor that great cloud of witnesses who came before us, both in our own lives and in our family of faith. We also acknowledge the ancestors of the land on which we live and pray that the indigenous peoples who have survived to steward these lands for generations will continue to thrive in the future.

I am grateful to the Muscogee and Creek people who stewarded the land of my childhood home in Fayetteville, GA, for millennia, and those surviving tribal members who continue to do so today.

If you want to learn more about the land that you inhabit, please explore these resources:

- text your zip code to (907) 312-5085 to learn which people are indigenous to the land you occupy
- www.nativegov.org
- <https://native-land.ca>
- Bunnell Street resources:
<https://backtracks.fm/discover/s/artist-talks-bunnell/362f36ba2dbda951>

Opening Prayer

Thank you, God, for ancestors – the ancestors of this land, the ancestors of our families, and the ancestors of our faith. We are grateful for the lives and sacrifices of all the saints, and we are joyful that they surround us even today as a great cloud of witnesses cheering us on as we run this race. May we learn how to live wisely from their examples, their dedication, their faith, and their lives. **Amen.**

Opening Song

WORDS: Geron Davis
MUSIC: Geron Davis
CCLI Song #21198
CCLI # 11365960

Holy Ground

Ola Mullikin

Series Introduction: ANCESTORS

This week, we hear about another matriarch of Jesus who has a surprising past. This is the story of Rahab.

Scripture

Rahab

Joshua 2 and 6

2:1 "So they went, and entered the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab, and spent the night there. 2 The king of Jericho was told, 'Some Israelites have come here tonight to search out the land.' 3 Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, 'Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come only to search out the whole land.' 4 But the woman took the two men and hid them. Then she said, 'True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from. 5 And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the men went out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can overtake them.' 6 She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof. 7 So the men pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut. 8 Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof 9 and said to the men: 'I know that the Lord has given you the land, and that dread of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before you. 10 For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites that were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. 11 As soon as we heard it, our hearts failed, and there was no courage left in any of us because of you. The Lord your God is indeed God in heaven above and on earth below. 12 Now then, since I have dealt kindly with you, swear to me by the Lord that you in turn will deal kindly with my family. Give me a sign of good faith 13 that you will spare my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death.' 14 The men said to her, 'Our life for yours! If you do not tell this business of ours, then we will deal kindly and faithfully with you when the Lord gives us the land.' 15 Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the outer side of the city wall and she resided within the wall itself. 16 She said to them, 'Go towards the hill country, so that the pursuers may not come upon you. Hide yourselves there for three days, until the pursuers have returned; then afterwards you may go on your way.' 17 The men said to her, 'We will be released from this oath that you have made us swear to you 18 if we invade the land and you do not tie this crimson cord in the window through which you let us down, and you do not gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your family. 19 If any of you go out of the doors of your house into the street, they shall be responsible for their own death, and we shall be innocent; but if a hand is laid upon any who are with you in the house, we shall bear the responsibility for their death. 20 But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be released from this oath that you made us swear to you.' 21 She said, 'According to your words, so be it.' She sent them away and they departed. Then she tied the crimson cord in the window."

6: 22 Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, 'Go into the prostitute's house, and bring the woman out of it and all who belong to her, as you swore to her.' 23 So the young men who had been spies went in and brought Rahab out, along with her father, her mother, her brothers, and all who belonged to her—they brought all her kindred out—and set them outside the camp of Israel. 24 They burned down the city, and everything in it; only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of

the Lord. ²⁵But Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, Joshua spared. Her family has lived in Israel ever since. For she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Untold Stories

Pastor Lisa

Song of Response

WORDS: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs
MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs
CCLI Song # 24140
CCLI # 11365960

Sanctuary

Ola Mullikin

Time of Gratitude

We honor the saints of our lives.

Rieta Walker

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Bill Bechtol

Offering Our Gifts

Thank you for your continued generosity. Your tithes and offerings allow us to continue to be a warm, safe place for the Food Pantry to serve clients on Monday and throughout the week. Unexpected pandemic related expenses have cropped up, such as filming and lighting equipment and sanitizing products. Your gifts help us maintain the work of the church.

Give online: <https://www.homerumcalaska.org/Donate.html>

Give by check: Homer UMC, 770 East End Road, Homer, AK, 99603

Benediction

May God, who has given us in the lives of the saints patterns of holy living, strengthen your trust and devotion so you may live faithfully through all things. Amen.

Closing Hymn

In Christ There Is No East or West

Ola Mullikin

WORDS: John Oxenham, Laurence Hull Stookey
MUSIC: Afro-American Spiritual; arr. Harry T. Burleigh
CCLI Song #: 2927293 / Public Domain
CCLI # 1136596