Westminster Presbyterian Church

LITURGY FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2020
ALL SAINTS DAY

Gathering Words *Matthew 5:1-12* **Candy and Ferenc Relle**

Blessed are those who will not trade in their faith for a bushel of fear,
for they know God's heart.
Blessed are those who stand alone at gravesides,
for they are wrapped in God's arms.

Blessed are those who humbly care for the vulnerable,
for they shall create new communities.
Blessed are those who are compassionate, even with those who rub them the wrong way,
for they will be cared for by others.

Blessed are the menders of brokenness,
for they know what it is like to be reconciled to God.
Blessed are all those who model faith for us
in these uncertain days, weeks, months.

Opening Prayer **Candy and Ferenc Relle**

Holy One,
you surround us with saints in every moment,
even these uncertain, confusing ones,
if we but open our eyes to see.

We look for saints in the shadows of fear
and find a neighbor with a candle.
we long for a saint to ease the ache in our emptiness,
and a stranger pours love into our souls.
We seek a saint who will overturn injustice
and a tired woman sits at the front of a bus.

You surround us with saints in every moment,
even these times which seem overwhelming,
Open our souls to pay attention.
Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 326 For All the Saints SINE NOMINE

Scripture Reading Hebrews 12:1-2 Dr. Enikő Ferenczy

12Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, **2**looking to Jesus the

pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reflections — On Whose Shoulders We Stand

Rich Drushal, Juli and David Gillespie, Ferenc Relle, Bill Weiss, Dawn Kridel

Special Music: Bless the Lord (No. 544)

Communion Hymn No. 516 For the Bread Which You Have Broken KINGDOM

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving Dr. Enikő Ferenczy

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe,
for you have created a community,
a people and called it good.

You call out to us, in the voices of prophets,
in the voices of the poor,
in the voices of our friends and family,
and in the voice of Jesus.

Though we have often turned away,
Believing that our way was superior, that we could do it on our own,
still you call us to be your body on earth.

Here at this table, remind us we are part of each other,
part of the whole world,
intertwined with your saints in many places and times.

Broaden our thinking, stretch our imagination,
make us aware that in both giving and taking we are part of the whole.
You have placed in our hands the ability to destroy or build up.
You have placed in our hearts the longing for connection.
You have placed in our minds the certainty that we cannot understand it all.

Here at this table, surrounded by the whole cloud of witnesses,
give us the vision to see your kingdom feast,
table filled with all whom you love,
and always with room for more.

As we do here what you once did in an upper room,
send your spirit again to this place
to guide us in your way of life,
to breathe through our choices,
to hold us when the way is difficult.

Make us again into your body, doing your will,
loving and caring for the world.
We pray in the name of Christ,
who taught us to pray together… ***Our Father…***
Amen.

Closing Hymn No. 306 Blessed Be the Tie That Binds DENNIS

Benediction Dr. Enikő Ferenczy

*Note: Gathering Words and Opening Prayer were adapted from Thom Shuman. The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving was written by Rev. Teri Peterson

Hymn No. 544 led by Ken Shafer, piano.