

**The First Church of Christ in Marblehead
Old North Church, United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 1, 2020

Remembrance Sunday

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

On our pilgrimage of faith, in a changing and uncertain world –
we do not walk alone: our God is with us.

We remember all those who taught us faith –
that cloud of witnesses whose example burns bright in our memory.

God of grace, by whose love the world exists –
show us your face once again and reveal to us your glory.

HYMN

Come Down O Love Divine

S 6

Words: Bianco da Siena, 1434, tr. R. Littledale, 1867; Music: R. Vaughan Williams
Holly Cameron, soprano; Stephanie Scarcella, mezzo-soprano; Maria vanKalken, organ

CENTERING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

A Prayer by John Henry Newman

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

Jesus taught us how to pray, and on this remembrance Sunday, it is especially dear to remember that the words we say have been said throughout these past two millenia, in hundreds of languages, in every place imaginable. These words join us not only to God, but to all the faithful people--past, present, and future-- who will pray them, saying:

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 and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

God is eager to forgive, and to show grace and mercy to all of us.
In the silence, let us unburden ourselves
of all that weighs us down,
confessing our sins and doubts and fears:

SILENT PRAYER

God of perfect justice and abundant mercy, where we have sinned, forgive us. Where we have erred, correct us. Where we have strayed, gather us back. Where we are depleted, refresh us. Make us aware of all the mercy we need, and open our hearts to receive it, for your love's sake. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

Hear this assurance that Paul writes to the church in Corinth: "we are pressed, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body." These words are true for us too. We are forgiven and relieved of our burdens. Thanks be to God!

LISTENING

A MOMENT WITH OUR CHILDREN

Karen Kilty, Director of Children's Ministries

HYMN

Laudate Dominum, from *Vespers*

K321 W.A. Mozart

Holly Cameron, soprano; Festival Chorus (live performance December, 2013)

FIRST READING

Proverbs 16:1-12

Read by Diane Thomas

The plans of the mind belong to mortals,
but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.
All one's ways may be pure in one's own eyes,
but the Lord weighs the spirit.
Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.
The Lord has made everything for its purpose,
even the wicked for the day of trouble.
All those who are arrogant are an abomination to the Lord;
be assured, they will not go unpunished.
By loyalty and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for,
and by the fear of the Lord one avoids evil.
When the ways of people please the Lord,
he causes even their enemies to be at peace with them.
Better is a little with righteousness
than large income with injustice.
The human mind plans the way,
but the Lord directs the steps.
Inspired decisions are on the lips of a king;
his mouth does not sin in judgement.
Honest balances and scales are the Lord's;
all the weights in the bag are his work.
It is an abomination for kings to do evil,
for the throne is established by righteousness.

SECOND READING

Matthew 20:25-28

Read by Bonnie MacDonald

But Jesus called them to him and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.’

SERMON

“Established by Righteousness?”

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

RESPONDING

OFFERTORY MOMENT

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

DOXOLOGY (#45)

Praise God for love we all may share.
Praise God for beauty everywhere.
Praise God for hope of good to be.
Praise God for truth that makes us free. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

OFFERING OF THE BREAD

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

tune: *Kingsfold*,
harm. R. Vaughan Williams

(performed live by the Festival Chorus, Spring 2019)

OFFERING OF THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

A LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

SENDING

HYMN

For All the Saints

#486

Words: William W. How, 1864, alt Music: R. Vaughan Williams

Holly Cameron, soprano; Stephanie Scarcella, mezzo-soprano; Maria vanKalken, organ

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun