



Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope



First Church in Windsor, UCC

**All Saints Sunday & Communion Sunday
Illuminated Faith
Sunday, November 7, 10 a.m.**

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Leader: How often have we imagined the God of glory in some far-off place? God is not in some remote heaven, but here

People: We wait for God to show up. Come, Holy God, to wipe away our tears.

Leader: Stretch out your hands and open your hearts.

People: God reaches out to comfort us. We can sense God's hand of blessing resting on us.

Leader: The earth and all things in it belong to God.

People: We are God's people, called by Christ. It is our hope to be numbered among the saints of God.

***Hymn**

For All the Saints

Words by William W. How

Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams

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**For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blessed.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the Lord of glory passes on the way.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

Statement of Faith

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayer of our Savior

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Choir Anthem

Alleluia! Give the Glory!

By Ken Kanedo and Bob Hurd

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Children's Moment

Children aged 3 to 11 may leave for Faith Formation with Erin Newcomb-Moore.

Scriptures

Isaiah 25: 6-8

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. ⁸Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

Revelations 21: 1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this,

for these words are trustworthy and true.”⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

Sermon

Pastor Nicole

“Tears of Grief Wiped Away”

***Hymn**

Shall We Gather at the River

By Robert Lowry
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**Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.**

**As we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver and provide a robe and crown.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.**

**Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.**

Illuminated Faith

Anne Schenck

“I Believe in the Power and Glory of God”

Prayers of the People

**Tree of Life Presentation
All Saints Video**

April Michaud, Parish Caring Ministries

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Elements

Communion Response

Before the Bread

Words adapted from a traditional English blessing
Music by Jane Frogley

**Before the bread, the flour; before the flour, the mill.
Before the mill, the field, the sheaf, the shoot, the seed,
the earth, the air, the sun, the rain,
the beauty of God's will.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We express our gratitude for this meal, Divine Host. We give thanks for the times we spent with our loved ones here at this table, and we thank you that this table is a reminder of our love for you, God. Accompany us into the world with peace in our hearts and strength in the days to come. Amen.

Announcements

If you wish, you may give online [here](#).
Alternatively, checks may be mailed to the church at 107 Palisado Ave, Windsor, CT 06095

*Hymn

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

Words by Lesbia Scott

Music by John H. Hopkins

**I sing a song of the saints of God, faithful their whole lives through,
who bravely labored, lived, and died for the God they loved and knew.**

**And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and another a shepherd in pastures green:
they were saints of God, if you know what I mean.
God, help me to be one, too.**

**They loved their God and they lived that love. It was loving that made them strong.
They did what was right, for Jesus' sake, lived justly their whole lives long.**

**And one was a prophet, and one was a priest,
and another was slain by a fierce wild beast:
there is no earthly reason, none in the least,
why I shouldn't be one, too.**

**They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still.
The world is filled with living saints who choose to do God's will.**

**You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea,
in a church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea:
for the saints are folk like you and like me,
and I mean to be one, too.**

*Benediction

Postlude

Voluntary in D Major

By John Stanley

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The prayers for today's service were adapted and used by permission of Lavon Bayler Led by Love. Cleveland: United Church Press, 1996 (Call to Worship) and <https://michelleorigian.com> (Prayer of Thanksgiving.)

***Please stand as you are able**