

The First Church in Belfast  
United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Congregation  
**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**  
November 4, 2018  
10:00 a.m.

*WE ARE GATHERED IN*

**WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

**PRELUDE**

Barbara Kemp

Pianist

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

The gathering of the saints has begun –

**our beloved the from near and distant past.**

They are here in a spirit of love!

**Those beside and around us, beloved of the present.**

We are here in a spirit of hope!

**Even the saints of the future join in our communion,**  
for the eternal God knows no time.

**Sainthood comes in every age, is of every color,**  
and every faith tradition.

**Let us celebrate the lives of the saints!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God” #295

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**CALL TO REMEMBER**

*Beloved Members and Friends*

Michael Woodbury	Dec. 17, 2017
Agnes "Babs" (Babcock) Ossenfort	Feb. 12, 2018
Albert S. Jackson	Feb. 21, 2018
Marion Esther (Greeley) Whitcomb	March 14, 2018
Katherine “Kay” Ruth (Beal) Reynolds	March 22, 20
Harold Emery Harvey	April 3, 2018
Vickie Sabrina Talbot	April 5, 2018
Baycka Voronietsky	June 1, 2018
Charlotte Field Damon	June 2, 2018
Kenneth H. Kemp	June 5, 2018
Olive Edna (Greenough) Messer	June 17, 2018
Carol (Carpenter) Bisbee	July 26, 2018
Laila Al-Matrouk	August 7, 2018

**SONG OF GRACE** “We Carry Those We Love Inside”  
Tune: ST. ANNE Lyrics: Rev. Kate Winters, September 2016

We carry those we love inside / when they pass on from here.  
Edges of mourning carve the space / to house their spirits dear.

For death brings close eternity / to those who live in time.  
A taste of life’s great mystery, / confounding and sublime.

With past and future in one hand / God’s being will allow  
one vast communion of all saints / within the vibrant now.

We carry those we love inside / and never are apart.  
For with our God all will abide, / in one enfolding heart.

**YOUNG PEOPLE’S CIRCLE**

**GREETING OF PEACE**

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

***WE HEAR THE WORD***

**RESPONSIVE PSALM** Psalm 146 (p. 719, *NCH*)  
John Arrison

**GOSPEL** Mark 12:28-34

**MESSAGE** “*Love Like a Saint*”

***WE LIVE THE WORD***

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

***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.*

**INVITATION TO GIVE**

**INVITATION TO GIVE**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God for all that love has done.  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

*(Note: The First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We offer our gifts with open hands, O God, asking that you bless and use them for good in our midst and in the world. Make this church a loving instrument of hope and justice for all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## CHORAL ANTHEM

“Bread of the World”

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Invitation** The communion table is long and wide.

**It is big enough for the whole world.**

So let us stretch our hearts and take everyone in!

**Our hospitality is of Christ.**

No one is left without or hungry –

**the saints would never have it that way!**

Everyone is welcome!

### Communion Prayer

Holy God, you breathed over the waters...**We praise you!**

You prepared the earth and grew all vegetation...**We thank you!**

You made all creatures, humankind included...**We praise you!**

The world was created in harmony and beauty!

Then we lost our way...**Christ, have mercy.**

We reached beyond our limits...**God, have mercy.**

We forgot that all were brothers and sisters...**Christ, have mercy.**

Then your child Jesus walked the earth in goodness and in truth. He taught lavish forgiveness and had compassion for the suffering. He called all to live in peace.

But not all of us were ready, so Jesus was hung on a tree while creation cried. But this is not the end of the story. He now lives risen among us!

Today we remember that on the night before he died, he met with his friends. While dining, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and said:

**“Take and eat this bread, for it is my body.”**

Let us eat and become one body in Christ.

Then he took the cup, blessed it, and passed it around, saying:

**“Take and drink this cup, for it is my blood.”**

Let us take in the lifeblood of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Recognize the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread!

*(bread is broken)*

Taste the goodness of God in this cup of blessing!

*(cup is poured)*

Holy Spirit, pour yourself into this bread, pour your power into this cup. As we eat and drink, make us one in Christ.

This is the feast of God for the people of God!

## ***WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED***

### **\*CLOSING HYMN**

“For All the Saints”

#299

### **\*BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**