"I am not a saint, unless you think of a saint as a sinner who keeps on trying."

~ Nelson Mandela

**November 1, 2026** **Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost** **9:30 a.m.**

Prelude — Keith Ciccone, organ

Welcome and Announcements — Rev. Karen E. Gale

Passing the Peace

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pass the peace with one another...

*Introit *Give Thanks*

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.**
**Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.**
**And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"**
**Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"**
**Give thanks. Give thanks. Give thanks.**

*Call to Worship

In all our weakness and strength, with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,
**We come to be your people, O God.**
Strong in faith and eager with questions, singing our praise and whispering our prayers,
**We come to be your people, O God.**
Filled with saintly determination yet mindful of our human limitations,
**We come to be your people, O God.**
Made strong in your endless love for us, we know ourselves to be yours and
**We come to be your people, O God.**
Inspired by the saints and on the road of sainthood together,
**We come to be your people, O God.**

*Hymn 500 *For All the Saints*

** Indicates all who are able may stand.* *Please silence your cell phones.*

Unison Prayer c.Christine Jerrett, adapt.

**O Lord, You are our God and we are Your people, and we are grateful that You have set us in the company of saints past and present.**
**Your Word opens up new futures where we see no way forward.**
**You know the places in our hearts where we are afraid**
**— afraid of a future we cannot control;**
**— afraid of losing health and independence**
**— afraid for the well-being of our children**
**— afraid that past mistakes will ruin our future**
**Write the stories of your people deep into our hearts so that we may learn to trust you beyond our fears.**
**Give us hearts and minds and spirits ready to trust and follow wherever Your Spirit leads, knowing whatever may come that You have claimed us as your own. Amen.**

A Time for All Ages

Scripture Revelation 21: 1-5

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. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be God's peoples, and God will be with them and will be their God and 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." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

John 11: 32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone.

And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I

knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.**
**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.**
**World without end. Amen. Amen.**

Sermon "All Saints Day" Rev. Karen E. Gale

*Hymn 389 *Be Still My Soul*

Remembering the Saints

Prayer of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father (Creator), 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.**

Musical Reflection

Dedication of the Offering

*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**
**Praise God, all creatures, here, below.**
**Praise God, above, ye heav'nly hosts. Creator,**
**Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

## The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Communion Hymn 530 *Bread of the World*

Words of Institution/Prayer of Consecration

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**For all the saints who went before us who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your fire, we praise you, O God.**
**For all the saints who live beside us, whose weaknesses and strengths are woven with our own, we praise you, O God.**
**For all the saints who live beyond us, who challenge us to change the world with them, we praise you, O God.**
**May we leave this table strengthened for the work of striving to live as saints in all that we do. Amen.**

* Hymn 13 *Bring Many Gifts*

*Benediction

Postlude

## First Church Braintree Announcements




**Drive and Drop Sign Up Sheet**
Please see what month you could help with the food collection for Marge Crispin. Each month our church's contributions make a huge difference in combatting food insecurity and hunger. Sign Up at Coffee Hour or call Deb in the office.

The next Collection is
**Wednesday, November 4th between 5 - 6:30 pm**

**Youth Group "Rake & Run"**
On Sunday, November 8 the Youth Group will hold their annual "Rake & Run" event. What is "Rake & Run", you ask? Just like it sounds...the youth go to the yards of a church member, rake the leaves and run to the next location. Nominate someone's yard for raking by Saturday 11/7 by contacting Mattie.

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