



Congregational Church of Westminster West

November 1, 2026

All Saints' Day

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "I'll Fly Away" (arr. Albert E. Brumley)

Call to Worship (Ted Loder):

Gentle me, Holy One, into an unclenched moment, a deep breath, letting go of the heavy experiences, of shriveling anxieties, of dead certainties, that, softened by the silence, surrounded by the light, and open to the mystery, I may be found by wholeness.

Hymn: "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" (NCH #295)

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 one was 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; and there's 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.

Ritual of Remembranc

Compassionate and vital God, we come before you today with our hearts full of love and loss, and our minds laden with memories of those we love who have left us. Hear us, God, as we name them before one another or in the privacy of our own hearts, and hold us in your embrace. We thank you for the time we had with our loved ones, for the inspiration of their spirits, and for the blessing of carrying them with us as we walk our path. We pray in the name of Jesus, your son, whom you loved and lost, and whom we revere. Amen.

(Please come up and light a candle of remembrance if you would like and speak the name of those whom you wish to lift up, aloud or silently..)

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Mother/Father/God 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

Gloria (NCH #756)

Scripture Readings: Joel 2:1-2, 12-1; Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon: "Saints of God?"

Hymn: "For All the Saints" (NCH #299)

For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the world their steadfast faith confessed, your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

You were their rock, their refuge, and their might; you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold, live as the saints who nobly fought of old, and share with them a glorious crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ringed by the cloud of witnesses divine, we feebly struggle, they
in glory shine; yet in your love our faithful lives entwine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear
the distant triumph song; then hearts are brave again and faith
grows strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Offertory: “These Green Mountains”
(Diane Martin and Rita Buglass)

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!

Stewardship Moment

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Everyone is welcome to join us in this ritual of Holy Communion.
If you would rather not come forward, you are welcome to
remain seated in quiet meditation. If you join us in the meal,
please take a piece of bread and a cup of juice back to your seat
and wait until we can all eat and drink together.*

Hymn: “When the Saints Go Marching In”

Oh, when the saints go marching in, oh, when the saints
go marching in—oh Lord, I want to be in that number,
when the saints go marching in.

Oh, when the drums begin to bang, oh, when the drums
begin to bang—oh Lord, I want to be in that number,

when the saints go marching in.

Oh, when the stars fall from the sky, oh, when the stars
fall from the sky—oh Lord, I want to be in that number,
when the saints go marching in.

Benediction

Postlude: “When the Roll is Called up Yonder”
(arr. James M. Black)



Please join us downstairs in the community hall
for refreshments after the service.



Preacher today: Janet Langdon; Musician today: Eric Robinson;
Deacons: Charlotte Gifford and Ray Huessy; Trustees: Guy Payne,
chair; Ministers to the World: the Congregation



Upcoming Services:

Sunday, November 8th:

Gabriela De Golia preaching, with music by Eric Robinson

Sunday, November 15th:

Dan Toomey preaching, with music by Eric Robinson

Sunday, November 22nd:

Gabriela De Golia preaching, with music by Seth Phoenix

As we seek a settled pastor, we are not offering office hours as usual, but the deacons (Karen Blanchard, Lee Crocker, Charlotte Gifford, Adrienne Major, Ray Huessy, and Sue Venman) are available to offer support. You can leave a message on the church answering machine (802-387-1175) or contact a deacon directly. In case of a pastoral emergency, one of the deacons will call on the Rev. Shawn Bracebridge (of the Dummerston UCC church) and put him in touch with you.

For all questions relating to use of the church spaces, please contact Tom Griffith at *tomgriffith1051@gmail.com*.

