

Thursday Worship

Denominational Welcome

Liz Testa
CERCA

Welcome and Announcements

Jami Vandock and Mary Todd Peters
2023 Event Co-chairs

GATHERING SONGS

Everybody here has a place at the table

Melanie DeMore

(P.A.U.S.E.) Pay Attention Until the Spirit Emerges

Gather In

Joe Davis

I'm sending you Light

Melanie DeMore

I will be your standing stone

Melanie DeMore

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Marie Coutts
Moravian Church North America

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

Susanah Wade
CERCA

John 14:1-13

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe^a in God, believe also in me. **2** In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?^b **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

NECROLOGY

As each name is read, we light a candle and ring a bell in honor of these saints who have now joined that great cloud of witnesses
Heather Bailey

Carol Bixby
Sally Brown
Joyce Brunot
Jane Campbell
Donna Cook
Elaine Davis
Phyllis Green
Adele Hensley
Joanne Higgins
Margaret Higgins
Diane Hymans
Maribelle Stephens
Hilda Swisher
Clara Woodson
Donna Wright

GLOBAL PRAYER

Jill Benson
Christian Reformed Church

While we have honored individual saints in our APCE community who have gone before us, we take this moment to name collective grief and the abundance of global tragedies in the past year that have taken so many. From mass shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde and so many other places, to those who have perished due to the war in Ukraine, to the deaths from protests in Iran, to the crowd crush in South Korea, to deaths from more extreme weather from our ever changing climate – from heat waves in Europe to flooding in Pakistan to Hurricane Ian, to continued COVID deaths that total over a million in our country alone and over six and a half million worldwide and so many other events. Our globe grieves.

As we conclude this time of remembrance, Let us pray,

God of lament and promise,

This is a day where the church is both honest about the reality of death and proclaims death does not have the final say. We gather in community to turn toward our grief and say death is real and being separated from our loved ones by death is often unbearable. We pray for the family and friends of the saints named today. We also acknowledge our communal lament at the loss of so many people, due to tragedies around the world. Remind us of the promise and hope of new life in Christ, and bring us comfort in the midst of our anxiety, depression, fear, and the darkest days of our grief. Amen.

HYMN

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE © Oxford University Press

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

**Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia!
Alleluia!**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Bill Lamont
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Psalm 56:8 "You've kept track of my every toss and turn"
You've kept track of my every toss and turn through the sleepless nights,
Each tear entered in your ledger, each ache written in your book.

GOSPEL LESSON

Based on Matthew 14:22-23

Voice 1: Lord, if it's you,

All: We need to hear from you

Voice 2: When we are alone

Voice 3: When we go away to pray

Voice 4: When we have little faith

Voice 5: When we are battered by the waves

Voice 6: When the wind is against us

Voice 7: When we get in the boat

Voice 2: When we're terrified by our ghosts

Voice 3: When we seek you on the mountain

Voice 4: When we cry out in fear

Voice 5: When we start walking on water

Voice 6: When we begin to sink

Voice 7: When we are far from land

Voice 1: Lord, if it's you,
Left side front: speak to us,
Right side front: calm our fears,
Left side back: calm our storms,
Right side back: Strengthen our resolve
All: Remind us who you are
Left side front: Walk to us
Right side front: Call to us
Left side back: Save us
Right side back: Reach out your hand and catch us
All: Quiet the wind around us

Voice 1: Lord, if it's you,
All: help us to hear your voice.

SONG

Calm to the Waves

Mary Louise Bringle & Thomas Pavlechko

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind.
Jesus whispers, "Peace, be still." Balm to our hearts.
Fears at an end. In stillness, hear his voice.

BREATH PRAYER

Chassidy Goggins
Online Spirituality Center Coordinator

During the busyness of our lives, we often miss the presence of God in our midst. As we learn the unforced rhythms of God's grace, we will pray in ways that invite us to tune into our bodies to sense what is going on within us, what is going on between us, what is going on beyond us.

Let us pray,

We begin by lengthening our spine and calling attention to what is going on in our bodies in the present moment. Allow yourself to breathe as you normally would and notice what is going on in your body. Wiggle your toes and sense your feet, your calves and thighs, feel your hips against the chair and notice your abdomen and your chest, move your fingers and notice your arms and shoulders and neck, and finally your head. How do you feel? Hurried and rushed? If yes, notice where you sense that extra energy in your body? Perhaps you feel run down like you've been pushing for too long? If that's

you, where do you feel that exhaustion in your body? Maybe you feel joy and lightness? Where in your body might that be located?

Now I invite you to sit comfortably and begin breathing in long and deep, then breathe out slowly.

Stay. Sit. Linger.

Let your exhale be longer than your inhale.

Tarry. Ponder. Wait.

During exhales, allow your legs and hips to feel heavier.

Sense the rootedness and stability of being in your seat.

You are unmovable, like a mountain.

Just sit, notice God's presence, your reason for being.

Behold. Wonder.

Feel that no one and no event can shake you at your core, because God, who is your Root, your Stability, is within you and around you, always drawing you into love.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE (IN SONG)

When Pain and Sorrow are Too much to Bear Adam L. Tice

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Troubles and the Suffering of the World

Rodolfo Gaede Neto

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leigh Anne Ring
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Merciful God, **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Christ our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

COMMUNION LITURGY

Communion Liturgy (Shepherd Me O God)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,
 O God, for you truly are our shepherd...!

All

Shep- herd me, O God, be- yond my wants, be- yond my fears, from
 death in - to life.

Cantor: God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
 I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Leader: When we rebelled against you refusing to trust and obey you, you did not reject us,
 but still claimed us as your own...

Refrain
 All

Shep- herd me, O God, be- yond my wants, be- yond my fears, from
 death in - to life.

Cantor: Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness
 and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Leader: You sent your only Son to be one of us, to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from
death in - to life.

Cantor: Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup,
that this meal may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from
death in - to life.

Cantor: You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.

Leader: Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory,
and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from
death in - to life.

Cantor: Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Leader: Let us pray...

MUSIC For Communion

Savior Like a Shepherd William Bradberry

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Njalo (Always)

Traditional, Nigeria
setting by Patrick Matsikenyiri

**Always, always, always, always,
always, always, always, always,
Always we pray, always we give,
always we bless, always.**

**Always we pray, always we give,
always we bless, always.**

**Always, always, always, always,
always, always, always, always.**

**Njalo, njalo, njalo, njalo,
njalo, njalo, njalo, njalo,
siyathandaza, siyanikela,
siyadumisa thina,
siyathandaza, siyanikela,
siyadumisa thina,
Njalo, njalo, njalo, njalo,
njalo, njalo, njalo, njalo.**

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Breathe in. You belong.

Breathe out deeply. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God!

CREDITS

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