



# **DOWNTOWN**

## **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

“We give thanks to You, who are the Source of Love;



Whose Light shines forth throughout the universe!”



## 326

## For All the Saints



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who  
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
 3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
 5 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



thee by faith before the world confessed, thy  
 thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
 We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet  
 steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and  
 gates of pearl streams in the countless host,



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
 thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
 all are one in thee, for all are thine.  
 hearts are brave again, and arms are strong,  
 singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints' Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring "fellowship divine" celebrated by this text.

## Centering Prayer (unison)

Source of all goodness, well of mercy and grace, hear our prayer:

We come before you in need of healing: body and soul, spirit and heart, relationships and self. We know that with you, all things are possible. Center us in your desire to restore the world, heal broken relationships, mend fences and build bridges. As you heal these parts of us, may we reach out and heal the world so that all are freed to serve, and love, and dream, and be as Jesus calls us to be. Amen.

First Reading

I John 3:1-2

Kim McConnell

Gospel Reading

Matthew 23:1-12  
from *The Message* translation

Hymn 364

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God  
(Music at the end of the bulletin)

GRAND ISLE

Meditation

"The essence of the Essence"

Rev. Swift

Music for Reflection

Prayer of St. Theresa

David Conte

## Centering in the Essence

Responsive Psalm Reading Psalm 107:1-3

One: We give thanks to You, who are the Source of Love;

**Many: Whose Light shines forth throughout the universe!**

One: Come, awaken our hearts that we might do your Work;

**Many: For, without You, we can do nothing; 'tis your Love that loves through us.**

from *Psalms for Praying: An Invitation to Wholeness*, by Nan C. Merrill

## Prayer Over the Water

Great Spirit, we are grateful for our ancestors in the faith, who followed you through the deserts of their times. They showed us how to keep the faith during challenging times. Today we pray, especially, for each other, and we

ask that you use this time to remind us of your unending love – the faithful way that you give us whatever we need in order to get through the times we are in. Bless this water that it may be a reminder on our skin of how you quench our thirst and water our barren fields.

### Litany of Renewal

One: In the beginning of time,  
your Spirit moved over the watery chaos,  
calling forth order and life.  
Touching water to our foreheads, we say in unison:

**Many: Center us in your Understanding of our Oneness.**

One: In the time of Noah,  
the promise of your rainbow brought about  
hope and new possibilities.

Touching water to our lips, we say in unison:

**Many: Shape our words to be ones that Build Up and bring Comfort.**

One: You led Israel out of slavery,  
through the waters of the sea,  
into the freedom of the promised land.

Touching water to our hearts, we say in unison:

**Many: Mend our broken hearts and give us the Courage to Believe in your future.**

One: In the waters of the Jordan  
Jesus was baptized by John  
and anointed with your Spirit.

Touching water to the top of our heads, we say in unison:

**Many: Fill us with your Peace and remind us of your Loving Grace.  
Spill over us the waterfall of your boundless Life.**

Music for Reflection

Grant Us Thy Peace

Felix Mendelssohn

*"Grant us thy peace, Almighty God, Thou Source of every blessing!  
Feeble and frail, trust we Thy word, all things in Thee possessing.  
In Thee is our hope and safety."*

Prayers of Healing and Transformation

Rev. Swift

Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of Heav'n to earth come down;  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;  
All thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit  
Into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in Thee inherit;  
Let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, Thy new creation;  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in Heav'n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Benediction

Rev. Swift

Postlude

Bachiana  
Jason Cloen, organ

Gordon Young

Thank you to . . .

Participants: Rev. Deb Swift, Kim McConnell,  
Kearstin Piper Brown, Elena O'Connor, Jason Cloen, Alan Jones, and Lee Wright

Choir Members: Hannah Stokes, Joan Sussman, Kathryn Borden,  
Emmalouise St. Amand, Ben Magruder, Mark Darling,  
Rob Brown, and Alan Jones.

Sound Engineers: Donald Fairman, David McDowell, and Ben Magruder (Choral Music)  
Website integration: Mark Anderson

## I Sing a Song of the Saints of God 730



1 I sing a song of the saints of God, pa - tient and  
 2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love  
 3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past; there are hun - dreds of



brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and  
 made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right, for Je - sus'  
 thou - sands still; the world is bright with the joy - ous



died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a  
 sake, the whole of their good lives long. And one was a  
 saints who love to do Je - sus' will. You can meet them in



doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a shep - herd - ess  
 sol - dier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a  
 school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in



on the green: they were all of them saints of  
 fierce wild beast: and there's not an - y rea - son,  
 shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just



God, and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.  
 no, not the least, why I should - n't be one too.  
 folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

Despite the quaintness of some of the language in this text, it has an important message to communicate about the down-to-earth ordinariness of the holy people of God at all times and places. The tune name honors the island in Vermont's Lake Champlain where the composer lived.

## The Downtown Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Pat Youngdahl,

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Kathryn Kelly,

Associate Pastor

Jackie Griffin, Nursery Coordinator

Mark Anderson, Director of Operations

Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor

Ed Verna, Maintenance

Moses Nhial, Maintenance

Robert Clement, Maintenance

Dr. Lee S. Wright,

Director of Music Ministry

Jason Cloen, Associate Musician

Alan Jones, Associate Musician

Penny Crudup, Church Secretary

David Mear, Business Manager

Teresa Ward, Bookkeeper

& Receptionist Coordinator

Keisha Betts, Receptionist

Theresa Reddick, Receptionist

## Parish Leaders

John DeHority, Bill Mackey, Co-clerks of Session

Joan Mackey, Moderator of Deacons

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