

# ALL SAINTS DAY CELEBRATION

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Borger, Texas

November 1, 2009

*This All Saints Celebration offers us a chance to remember, or learn about, the great cloud of witnesses who have made us who we are today. We lift up exemplars from the long and deep family history of our traditions and from the immediate family story in our local churches.*

*This celebration is an opportunity to nurture all of us, now, in our vocation as Christians. When we the people of God come together, we share the stories of faith with one another, and listen for how God is speaking to them through these stories and through our being together NOW. In doing this we are standing in the stream of history which has been created by these stories. At the same time, we are continuing the creation of the stories and carrying them on into the future. Today, as we gather to commemorate this All Saints Day as the bearers of the Story of God With Us in the community of faith, we, too, will listen for how God is speaking to us individually and to the church that we are together, as we move toward the future into which God beckons us.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The Master Hath Come

Smith

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Death is swallowed up forever – let us wipe away our tears.

**We remember with thanksgiving all those who are dear to us.**

Our ancestors in faith have laid the foundation for this day.

**We remember with appreciation those who paved the way with their faith.**

Teachers, leaders, grandmothers and grandfathers, parents and friends..

**We remember with gratitude God's gifts of people.**

The gifts of many people make us who we are.

**We remember with love and honor the people who blessed us with their lives.**

God brings a new heaven and a new earth – let us live with great hope.

**We look to the future in peace, even as we remember the past.**

\* HYMN

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

356

## CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Eternal God, you promise to dwell with us forever. You promise to wipe away every tear from our eyes. Through the prophet Isaiah you invite your people to a feast of rich food and well-aged wines. We are slow to rejoice in your promises. We are inattentive to the communion of saints surrounding us. O God, forgive us and quicken our hearts. Help us to believe your promises and live into them, sustained by all the faithful who live with you in glory.*

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GLORIA PATRI

A READING OF HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 25:6-9

*The Lord promises to swallow up death and wipe away tears.*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

King Jesus is His Name

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 11:32-44

*Jesus weeps for Lazarus, then raises him from the dead.*

This is the gospel of our risen Lord.

**Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

*Holy and Loving God, as the angels and all the saints gather before your throne and proclaim your everlasting praise and glory, so we gather here today in your holy sanctuary to worship and adore you. Stir up, O Lord, your faithful ones to seek more eagerly your living presence and attend us in this time we have set aside so that we may more worthily magnify your most holy name. Grant us grace to follow those who have gone before us in lives of faith and commitment, that we, with them, may know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you - we ask it through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN.*

SERMON

The Reverend Georgia N. King

HYMN

"For All The Saints"

526

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Jesus Loves Me

Bradbury

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION, INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING:**

For the immense crowd of angels and archangels who praise your name with us today, O Lord, and who present to you our prayer unceasingly;

**Blessed be you, O God, throughout eternity.**

For the immense crowd of saints who overcame the great trial and for the blessings that you worked and still work in and through them;

**Blessed be you, O God, throughout eternity.**

For the immense crowd of saints who live in our midst today and who inspire us and others through their example and their teaching;

**Blessed be you, O God, throughout eternity.**

For the high calling to which you have called us and for the love of your Son Jesus Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in it;

**Blessed be you, O God, throughout eternity.**

Lord God - make us holy as you are holy.

**Lord Jesus - make us worthy as you are worthy.**

Lord God - make us holy as you are holy.

**Lord Jesus - help us be what you have made us to be by your death and your resurrection.**

Receive O God all that we offer to you.

**Accept our offerings, our thanksgiving and our prayers, make them and us holy by the power of your love.**

Hear O God our prayers for ourselves, and for all the saints, and for all those people and those situations who are upon our hearts today:

Lord hear our prayer

**And in your love answer.**

We ask all these things through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

\*HYMN

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

513

**\*INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**\*COMMUNION LITANY**

L The peace of the Lord be with you.

**P And also with you.**

L Lift up your hearts.

**P We lift them up to the Lord.**

L Let us give thanks to our God.

**P It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

It is truly right and our greatest joy . . . who will sing to the glory of your name:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

You are holy, O God of majesty . . . to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.  
Praise to you Lord Jesus.

*Dying you destroyed our death,*

*rising, you restored our life.*

*Lord Jesus, come in glory.*

Gracious God . . . all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

*Amen.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*(This table is open to all who profess their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and have been baptized in his name. The elements will be shared by intinction at the front of the communion table. The ushers will invite you by rows to come forward. Following the taking of the elements, you are invited to light one or more candles in remembrance and honor of those whom have gone to God's kingdom in heaven. Please light the candles beginning at the back row. Please then return to your pew seats by the outside aisle after lighting your candle.)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- |                            |                                |            |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| * HYMN                     | "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" | 521        |
| * BLESSING AND BENEDICTION |                                |            |
| * CLOSING RESPONSE         | Pass It On                     | see insert |
| * POSTLUDE                 | Bouree from "Suite for Trumpet | Bach       |

*\*All who are able, please stand. Please DO NOT feel that you have to stand at any time if it is not comfortable for you. For those wishing to remain seated during communion, the bread and the cup will be brought to you.*