



Kenilworth Union Church
Service of Worship
November 3, 2024
All Saints' Day Vespers
4:30 p.m. Sanctuary Worship
[Connect to Worship](#)

In Preparation for Worship

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. Hebrews 12:1-2

Who are you here to remember today? Who of the "great cloud of witnesses" is on your heart? During the Prayer of Remembrance and Thanksgiving, names will be read aloud. To submit your loved one's name, please print their name on a notecard, and bring the notecard forward during the candle lighting.

Prelude

Elegy

William Grant Still

Call to Worship

***Opening Hymn**

Give Thanks For Life

#528

**Give thanks for life, the measure of our days;
Mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
Yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Give thanks for those who made their life a light
Caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night,
Who touched the truth, who burned for what is right,
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And for our own, our living and our dead,
Thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
A love not changed by time or death or dread:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Leader: *Sorrow is how we learn to love.*
If sorrow is how we learn to love,
then let us learn.
Already enough sorrow's been sown
for whole continents to erupt
into astonishing tenderness.

**People: Let us learn. Let compassion grow rampant,
like sunflowers along the highway.**

Leader: Let each act of kindness replant itself
into acres and acres of widespread devotion.

People: Let us choose love as if our lives depend on it.

Leader: The sorrow is great. Let us learn to love greater—
riotous love, expansive love,
love so rooted, so common
we almost forget
the world could look any other way.

**People: Lord, increase my hope and comfort me.
Let your goodness and mercy follow me.
Lord, hear our prayer.**

Scripture Readings

John 14:1–4, 25–27
Matthew 5, excerpts

Readings

Emilie Townes, *How My Mind Has Changed*
Emily Heath, *Saint Sammy*
Jan Richardson, *The Blessing of Hope*
Vivek H. Murthy, *Meditation on the Power of Love*

Ministry of Music

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

My Shepherd, you supply my need,
most holy is your name;
in pastures fresh you make me feed,
beside the living stream.
You bring my wand'ring spirit back.
when I forsake your ways;
you lead me, for your mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.

When through the shades of death I walk,
your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Your hand in sight of all my foes,
does still my table spread;
my cup with Blessings overflows,
your oil anoints my head.

Your sure provisions gracious God
attend me all my days;
oh, may your house be my abode,
and all my work be praise.

Here would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger, nor a guest,
but like a child at home.

Invitation to Candlelight

Prayer of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

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 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. Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

Day Is Done

#544

**Day is done but love unailing
Dwells ever here;
Shadows fall, but hope prevailing,
Calms ev'ry fear.
Loving Father, none forsaking,
Take our hearts, of love's own making,
Watch our sleeping, guard our waking,
Be always near.**

**Dark descends, but light unending
Shines through our night;
You are with us, ever lending
New strength to sight:
One in love, your truth confessing,
One in hope of heaven's blessing,
May we see, in love's possessing,
Love's endless light!**

**Eyes will close, but you, unsleeping,
Watch by our side;
Death may come, in love's safekeeping
Still we abide.
God of love, all evil quelling,
Sin forgiving, fear dispelling,
Stay with us, our hearts indwelling,
This eventide.**

Benediction

Postlude

How Firm a Foundation

Wilbur Held

Please stand as you are able

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Participants:

Joel Fox, Director of Media Production

Christine Kraemer, Organist

Katie Snipes Lancaster, Senior Associate Minister

Readers, Cam Avery, Chris Beer, Jeremy Diamond, Judy Dold, Beth Fritz, Katie White, Roger Winship

Sheridan Singers

Usher, Rob Faurot

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Additional Stephen Ministers available for continued conversation after worship: Mike McGill, Melanie Flynn,, Beth Fritz, Cam Avery

Bakers: Melanie Flynn, Katie Narhwold, Beth Sawyer

The All-Saints Vespers Service of Remembrance is an extension of the care ministries at Kenilworth Union Church. Thank you to the Congregational Care Committee, including the Stephen Ministry team. Tonight's readers are Stephen Ministers. Several Stephen Ministers will be present and available after the worship service if you'd like to spend more time talking about the loved one you are remembering today. Often, having space to speak your loved one's name aloud and share about a loved one's life can be healing. Stephen Ministers welcome your stories, your tears, your expressions of love and grief. Whether simply to have a listening ear tonight, or to be paired in a longer-term relationship, Stephen Ministers are one of the ways that Kenilworth Union Church lives into Jesus' call to "love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one lay caring ministry that is grounded in a biblical understanding of Jesus who says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." It helps those who need someone to walk alongside them in faith and prayer in seasons when they are overwhelmed, such as loss of a loved one, loss of a job, becoming an "empty nester," moving to a new location, coping with a chronic or terminal illness, caring for a loved one who is sick, or other situations. When you are paired with a Stephen Minister, you will typically meet once a week for about an hour. Your Stephen Minister will continue to meet with you as long as needed. You will decide together when you're ready to bring the caring relationship to a close. Every person and their situation is different, but most people we work with say having a Stephen Minister is a comforting and healing experience.