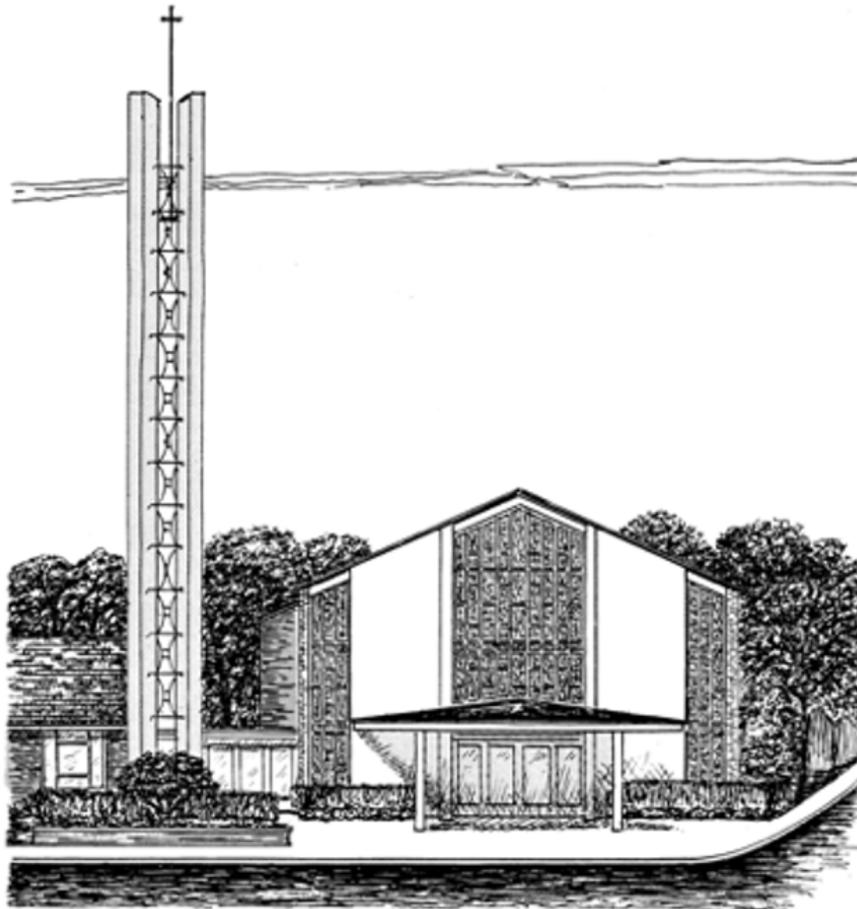


Rockport United Methodist Church

November 1, 2020



R. Jerome Crowley

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All Saints Day

November 1, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Opening Ourselves to Worship

Prelude & Welcome

Call to Worship (People's response in bold.)

Leader: O taste and see that the Lord is good;

People: Happy are those who take refuge in God.

Leader: With hearts and hands and voices, let us praise the Lord.

People: We give all praise and honor to God! Alleluia!

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you call us your own children and cover us with your love. We would seek to be merciful as you are, and to show compassion as you do, but we fail to live the life to which we have been called. Where we ought to forgive, we condemn; the evil we should shun, we embrace. Forgive our sinful ways, tame our wayward wills, and make us more like Christ, until we are raised in perfection on the last day.

Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.**

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

In life and in death you bless us, O God. When trouble overwhelms us, you save us. When sorrow overtakes us, you comfort us. When death overcomes us, you overcome death and raise us to new life. You promise us joy everlasting and, even now, give us glad hope and glimpses of your realm, which is to come when Christ makes all things new. For calling us your children and bestowing upon us such great love, we give you thanks, in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Lesson

Revelation 7:9-17

Music for Reflection

The Children's Time to Lead Us

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 5:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Music for Reflection

Sermon

Rev. Lorrin Radzik

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed Page 881

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Transforming Our Lives & the World

Remembering Our Saints

Prayers of the People

Eternal God, author of our past and promise of our future, we lay before you our private fears and our concerns for the world, knowing that you hear our cries.

Especially today we pray for those whom Jesus

called blessed: for the poor in spirit, for those who mourn, for the humble and meek, for those who thirst and hunger for righteousness, for the pure in heart, for those who show mercy and those who make peace, for those who are persecuted because of Christ.

Pour out your blessings upon them and us, that we may be strengthened in every hardship and joyful at the recognition of every blessing.

We call to mind before you all those who have died, remembering the saints who have gone before us. We pray especially for those who have died in the last year, whom we name before you now *[time of silence]* and for members and friends of Rockport UMC who have died in the last year. We pray for all those who are grieving on this All Saints Day, as we remember more than one million persons around the world and over 225,000 who have died as a result of COVID-19 in the United States. We pray for those who taught us the faith, for those who spoke your truth in the face of evil, for those who cared

for the weak and the suffering, and for those whom we loved and cherished the most.

Thank you that their pain is ended and their joy made complete.

Covenanting God, in baptism you claim us and show us how to live. Keep us in your care until that day when all creation sings your praise and you lead all your children to the springs of the water of life. Through Jesus Christ, our Brother, Redeemer, and Lord.

Amen.

Time of Silent Prayer

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

We magnify your name, O God, and together exalt your name, for you are so good to us and gracious beyond measure. In this life you lead us, comfort us, guide us, and redeem us in countless ways. In death you usher us to even greater blessing, bringing us through the great ordeal, embracing us in your endless light, and welcoming us to your table of goodness and plenty. These gifts we bring are but a token of our thanks, seeds to be planted for the growing of your kingdom, in which we have sure and certain hope. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Liturgy of Open Hands

Proclamation of Thanksgiving – Psalm 150 – Book of Common Prayer

Leader: Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; praise him in the firmament of his power.

People: Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him for his excellent greatness.

Leader: Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; praise him with lyre and harp.

People: Praise him with timbrel and dance; praise him with strings and pipe.

Leader: Praise him with resounding cymbals; praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

People: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

Benediction

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Today's liturgy was adapted from: "Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Volume 2, All Saints Day