

# Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church

All Saints' Sunday – Daylight Saving Time Ends  
November 6, 2022 10:00 a.m. at Lake Ripley Cemetery

## We Gather as God's People

### The Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude

“Highland Cathedral”

Bill McInnes (Bagpipes)

### Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

*One:* The Peace of Christ be with you.

*Many:* **And also with you.**

*One:* Friends, The ways of death in this world are many. Gathering here in this cemetery, surrounded by the graves of loved ones, friends and neighbors, even some with our names written on them, we are reminded of our own mortality. Death cannot be avoided.

*Many:* **But we come now to hear a different Word, a true Word, a life-giving Word.**

*One:* We are gathered here this morning standing firm in the Word which wipes away all tears,

*Many:* **where a banquet table has been set,**

*One:* where death has been swallowed up forever.

*Many:* **We do not fully understand or believe it.**

*One:* And yet here it is: the power of Christ's life within us and among us.

*ALL:* **So let us be glad and rejoice in our salvation!**

### The Scripture

Romans 8:31-39

*One:* What then should we say about these things? Simply this:

*Many:* **“If God is for us, who can be against us?”**

*One:* Since God did not spare the Only Begotten, but gave Christ up for the sake of us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that God will freely give us everything. Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? Since God is the One who justifies, who has the power to condemn? Only Christ Jesus, who died—or rather, was raised—and sits at the right hand of God, and who now intercedes for us! What will separate us from the love of Christ? Trouble? Calamity? Persecution? Hunger? Nakedness? Danger? Violence? Yet in all this we are more than conquerors because of God who has loved us.

*Many:* **For we are certain that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, neither heights nor depths—nor anything else in all creation—will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

*One:* For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us,

*Many:* We give thanks to God!

### The Reflection

.....Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

### The Music

“Abide with Me”

Bill McInnes (Bagpipes)

## The Service of Remembrance and Communion

*One:* Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

*One:* Surrounded by so “Great a cloud of witnesses” and trusting in the assurance that nothing in life and in death can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus, we pause this morning to remember our loved ones who over the past year have died, and surround us in that great cloud of witness and forever in our hearts. (*Silence*)

We pause to remember their name, their face, their voice, and the memory that binds them to us in this season of remembrance. **Doreen Drennan, Ken Bilstad, Jack Spack, Chuck Piper, Dale Brierton, Donald Hawkins, Nancy Ellen Sjoberg and Jim Schilleman.**

*Many:* **May God's eternal love surround them.**

*One:* We pause and remember the pain of loss, the loss of relationships, the loss of jobs, the loss of health, the loss of a way of life we took for granted. We have all experienced so much loss over this past year, and throughout our life times. We pause to gather up our collective pain and offer it to God, asking that from God's hands we receive the gift of peace.

**Many: Refresh, restore, renew us O God, and lead us into your future.**

*One:* We also take time to remember ourselves during this time. We pause and remember these past weeks and months, the disbelief, the anger, the down times, the poignancy of reminiscing, missing the hugs and handshakes of family and friends, who are unable to be safely with us in our life celebrations and grief. Yet, we give thanks for all the new and creative ways people have found to offer us their support and compassion during these difficult and challenging times.

**Many: Let us remember that dawn defeats darkness.**

*One:* And finally, we pause and remember our faith and the gift of hope, which the Faith story offers to us. We remember that God shares our life and promises us a place and time of no more pain or suffering.

**Many: Let us remember the One who shows the way, who brings the truth and who bears the light.**

## **The Music**

“Amazing Grace”

Bill McInnes (Bagpipes)

## **The Invitation**

*One:* Friends, Come to the table as all saints come, as God’s people always do, with love hope and questions...Come to the table with your mourning – old or new or delayed – and your celebration of memories, and your imagination of possibilities for times yet to come, because here you are welcome, in a weeping, laughing communion of saints, in a weeping, laughing communion ... of us. And so now we come, clothed in our own sad times, and our cloud of witnesses to hope – all the saints we have known, the saints we will know, and the saints we are.

## **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*One:* God-with-us in life and in death, bless us and bless these gifts. May the Spirit rest upon this time and this table, surrounded tenderly by our memories of saints as on sacred times and tables long ago. so that this loaf may be broken love, and this cup a well of blessing, for we pray in the words of our ancestors that we claim as our own ...praying...

**ALL: 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.**

## **The Words of Institution**

### **The Sharing of Bread and Cup**

#### **The Prayer** [In Unison]

**Spirit of Christ, stay with us where we stay, as familiar as our daily plates and cups. Go with us where we go, safe and full of love as the mask across our lips. May we, your eager and sometimes awkward saints, carry in us a Communion from which all can share – comfort for loss, courage for speaking, compassion for healing. We give you thanks for both the shelter and the road. Amen.**

## **We Depart to Do God’s Will**

### **The Sending** .....Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

*One:* Friends, In these days, as we grieve and celebrate our beloved dead, may we know how they endure with us, holding our hearts and encompassing us with a fierce and stubborn love that persists across time and distance. May that love help light our way in the life that is continuing to unfold for us. I offer you this blessing by Jan Richardson: ENDURING BLESSING

What I really want to tell you is to just lay this blessing on your forehead, on your heart; let it rest in the palm of your hand, because there is hardly anything this blessing could say, any word it could offer to fill the hollow.

Let this blessing work its way into you with its lines that hold nearly unspeakable lament.

Let this blessing settle into you with its hope more ancient than knowing.

Hear how this blessing has not come alone— how it echoes with the voices of those who accompany you, who attend you in every moment, who continually whisper this blessing to you.

Hear how they do not cease to walk with you, even when the dark is deepest.

Hear how they encompass you always— breathing this blessing to you, bearing this blessing to you still.

**Many: Amen.**

## **Postlude**

“MacPherson’s Lament” and “Scotland the Brave”

Bill McInnes (Bagpipes)



The liturgy this morning is from: Communion Liturgy ~ by Maren Tirabassi; The Sending ~ Jan Richardson; from The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief.