

**PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**

**November 1, 2020  
All Saints Day**

*Connecting with the Community,  
Growing Disciples, and Serving Jesus Christ*

*Our Worship can be viewed on our website  
[PantherValleyChurch.org](http://PantherValleyChurch.org)*

*FRIENDS ~ FAMILY ~ FAITH*

PRELUDE

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Take heart! For we are gathered in the Father's presence  
**to proclaim the wonders of the Lord.**

Get up! For we are beckoned by the Risen Son  
**to respond to grace undeserved.**

God is calling us! For we are united by the Spirit  
**to follow Jesus on the way.**

Come, let us worship God, as we pray together saying....

**CENTERING PRAYER**

You are our God and we are Your people, and we are grateful that You have claimed us as your own.  
You have set us in the company of saints past and present, among those who have made bold

witness to Your goodness and Your truth. Your Word opens up new futures where we see no way forward.

You know the places in our hearts where we are afraid

- afraid of a future we cannot control;
- afraid of losing health and independence
- afraid for the well-being of our children
- afraid that past mistakes will ruin our future

Write the stories of your people deep into our hearts so that we may learn to trust you beyond our fears. Give us hearts and minds and spirits ready to trust and follow wherever your Spirit leads, confident that you will not lead us beyond your loving embrace. We ask in Jesus' name whose outstretched arms welcome us and hold us securely in your grace.

## **SONG**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, our thoughts and deeds too often do not reflect the grace you show us. Our speech and actions too often do not proclaim your salvation.

Forgive us, Lord, for the sins that we bear both as individuals and as your Church.

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

Our teacher, let us see again!

Give us the courage to take heart in your grace.

Give us the strength to get up.

Give us the wisdom to hear your calling.

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

### **SCRIPTURE READING:**

#### **Psalms 34:1-8, 19-22**

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD rescues them from them all.

He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

#### **Job 42:1-17**

Then Job answered the LORD:

“I know that you can do all things,

and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

‘Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’

Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,

things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

‘Hear, and I will speak;

I will question you, and you declare to me.’

I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

but now my eye sees you;

therefore I despise myself,  
and repent in dust and ashes.”

After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite: “My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends; for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has. Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly; for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has done.” So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did what the LORD had told them; and the LORD accepted Job’s prayer.

And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring. The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job’s daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children’s children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days.

## MESSAGE

### PRAYER FOR ALL SAINTS DAY

**Holy One, there is a time for every season, and every purpose under heaven. You brought forth humanity from the earth, and You return us to the earth. We are fearfully and wonderfully made, and our days on this earth are short, though You are eternal. May we make each moment count. May we spend our time wisely with those we love, and honor their memories when they are gone. On this All Saints Day, we give thanks for the saints in our lives, the ones we have known, and the ones who have inspired us.**

*In silence we lift up the names of the saints in our lives*

**May we live our lives into the best of their ways. May we continue to learn from them. May we continue to shape the world into Your reign, on earth as it is in heaven, to leave it a little better than we found it. Amen and Amen.**

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Accept and bless these wonderful gifts that they may be used to serve you by serving others in need.  
AMEN.

### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join

their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Christ has died;  
Christ is risen;  
Christ will come again.*

... Through your Son Jesus Christ, with your Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

*Amen.*

#### 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**

#### SENDING FORTH

As you leave this place, may God's love surround you, uphold you, and empower you to be agents of love in this world. Amen.

#### POSTLUDE

Credits: Today's Liturgy is adapted from: Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession, Stephen Fearing. Centering Prayer, Christine Jerrett. Prayer for All Saints, Rev. Mindi.

Song;

#### **Announcements & Upcoming Events**

##### **Bible Study on Zoom:**

Monday Night at 7pm

Wednesday Morning at 10am The Me I Want to Be

Wednesday Night at 7pm *Taste and See*

**Care and Nurture Prayer Shawls and Palm Prayer Squares** are in the coat closet outside Fellowship Hall. People can take a bag to give to anyone who is in need of support and comfort.

**PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH** 1490 Route 517 Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Pastor: Ninabeth Metcalf

Music Director: Diane Van Dongen

Church Administrator:

Office hours: Mon. – Fri. 9:00am – 2:00pm

Website: <http://www.panthervalleychurch.org>

Tel: 908-852-5444 Fax: 908-850-4754

Email: [Panthervalleychurch@gmail.com](mailto:Panthervalleychurch@gmail.com)