

# The Presque Isle Congregational Church



## United Church of Christ

*November 5, 2023*

***Celebrating All Saints***

**Prelude**

Barbara Merryman

**Welcoming Music**

*You Are Welcome Here*

**Words of Welcome**

Jennifer Gillis-White

**Introit**

*Come All You People*

**Call to Worship**

In all our weakness and strength, with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,

**We come to be your people, O God.**

Strong in faith and eager with questions, singing our praise and whispering our prayers,

**We come to be your people, O God.**

Filled with saintly determination yet mindful of our human limitations,

**We come to be your people, O God.**

Made strong in your endless love for us, we know ourselves to be yours and

**We come to be your people, O God.**

**ALL: May we truly become your people today. Amen.**

**Opening Prayer (Unison)**

Almighty and loving God, 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 except by guiding hand. You know the places in our hearts where we are afraid. Give us hearts and minds and spirits ready to trust you beyond our fears and follow wherever your Spirit leads, confident that you will not lead us beyond your loving embrace. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

**Opening Hymn**

*Rejoice in God's Saints*

**Two-Minute Message**

*When the Saints Go Marching In*

**Scripture Reading**

Revelation 7:9-17; Matthew 5:1-12

Common English Bible

***Scripture Readings are on a separate page.***

**Proclamation**

Meg Hegemann

**Choral Anthem**

*Gather Us In*

## Service of Holy Communion

### Presentation of Elements

### Invitation

### Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator\*, 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

### Sharing the Elements

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Invitation to Offering and Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, you call us to deep spirituality, bold discipleship, and daring justice. May the gifts given today and online help us be the people and the church you long for us to be. Bless all gifts and multiply them for the sake of our church and the world. Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

*I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

### Community News and Announcements

### Benediction and Sung Response

*God Be With You*

God be with you till we meet again; By good counsel guide, uphold you.  
With a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

## Scripture Readings for All Saints Sunday, Year A

### Revelation 7:9-17

#### The great crowd and seventh seal

**9** After this I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They wore white robes and held palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> They cried out with a loud voice: "Victory belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." <sup>11</sup> All the angels stood in a circle around the throne, and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and always. Amen." <sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders said to me, "Who are these people wearing white robes, and where did they come from?"

<sup>14</sup> I said to him, "Sir, you know." Then he said to me, "These people have come out of great hardship. They have washed their robes and made them white in the Lamb's blood." <sup>15</sup> This is the reason they are before God's throne. They worship him day and night in his temple, and the one seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup> They won't hunger or thirst anymore. No sun or scorching heat will beat down on them, <sup>17</sup> because the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water,<sup>[a]</sup> and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

### Matthew 5:1-12

**5** <sup>1</sup> Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up a mountain. He sat down and his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> He taught them, saying:

#### Happy people

<sup>3</sup> "Happy are people who are hopeless, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

<sup>4</sup> "Happy are people who grieve, because they will be made glad.

<sup>5</sup> "Happy are people who are humble, because they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> "Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, because they will be fed until they are full.

<sup>7</sup> "Happy are people who show mercy, because they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> "Happy are people who have pure hearts, because they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> "Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God's children.

<sup>10</sup> "Happy are people whose lives are harassed because they are righteous, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

<sup>11</sup> "Happy are you when people insult you and harass you and speak all kinds of bad and false things about you, all because of me.

<sup>12</sup> Be full of joy and be glad, because you have a great reward in heaven. In the same way, people harassed the prophets who came before you.