

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY  
THE  
THOUSAND  
VOICES



Elmhurst Presbyterian Church  
November 3, 2024

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*(\*) PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT*

## THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

### GATHERING HYMN

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease,  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,  
he sets the prisoner free;  
his blood can make the foulest clean;  
his blood availed for me.

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread thro' all the earth abroad  
the honors of Thy name.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# CALL TO WORSHIP

HEBREWS 9:11-14

*Come, let us worship the Living God, Who, through Christ, has entered the Most Holy Place, not with the blood of goats or calves, but by His own blood, securing for us eternal redemption.*

**We gather to remember the saints, those who have gone before us in faith, cleansed and made whole through the sacrifice of Christ.**

*How much more will the blood of Christ cleanse our consciences, setting us free to serve the Living God with joy and hope!*

**We come to celebrate Christ's victory over death, and the eternal promise of life in His name..**

*Let us worship the One who unites us with all the saints, as we lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving.*

TO HEAR THE WORD

## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

*Written by: Susan Palo Cherwin*

READING I  
**THE SONG OF CREATION**

From lonely haunts the song beckons

Like whispered lullabies  
of wind in pines  
the song beckons

the chanting  
of gently waving meadow grasses  
sings the song

the crackle and rustle  
of forest leaves  
the rumble of waves  
that sounds in the body

thousand voices  
sing for us  
beckon us  
exulting around God's throne  
watching us with benevolent looks  
breathing suite alleluias in the ear  
A thousand voices  
beckons us  
from lonely haunts  
to starlit skies  
crowded with chorus  
singing to us  
beckoning to us  
to wonder  
to starlet  
wonder

# SONG OF PRAISE

## GOD OF WONDERS

Lord of all creation  
Of water, earth and sky  
The heavens are your Tabernacle  
Glory to the Lord on high

Chorus: God of wonders beyond our galaxy  
You are holy, holy  
The universe declares Your majesty  
You are holy, holy  
Lord of heaven and earth  
Lord of heaven and earth

Early in the morning  
I will celebrate the light  
When I stumble in the darkness  
I will call your name by night (Chorus)

Hallelujah! To the Lord of heaven and earth  
Hallelujah! To the Lord of heaven and earth  
Hallelujah! To the Lord of heaven and earth

(Chorus)

READING II  
**THE SONG OF INCARNATION**

When the morning stars  
sang together  
Loved shaped the world  
hydrogen loved hydrogen  
unto death

and star  
burst fourth  
into light  
into song

when things human  
and things divine  
came together  
love shape the world  
Christ loved humans  
unto death

and the Morningstar  
burst into light  
into song

# HYMN

## OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN

1 Of the Father's love begotten,  
ere the world began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega,  
he the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been,  
and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore!

2 O that birth forever blessed,  
when a virgin, blest with grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
bore the Savior of our race;  
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore!

READING III  
**THE SONG OF GRATITUDE**

The Wisdom from Aaron Zeitlin:

If you look at the starts and yawn,  
Says the Lord,  
Then I have made you in vain

If you look at the stars  
And yawn,  
Says the Lord,  
Then I have made you in vain.

PRAYER OF  
**CONFESSION**

**God of grace, You call us to be renewed daily by Your Spirit, yet we confess that we often cling to what is familiar and comfortable. We resist change and ignore the call to reform our lives in accordance with Your will. Forgive us when we fail to trust in Your unchanging love and when we stray from Your ways. In Your mercy, draw us back to You, reform our hearts, and renew our commitment to follow Christ, our eternal high priest. In His name, we pray. Amen.**



# HYMN OF ASSURANCE

GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

Glory to God, whose goodness shines o me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen  
World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

READING IV  
**THE SONG OF RESURRECTION**

It is a cool morning  
dry and cool wind on the face  
the violet darkness  
just giving away  
to silver in the east  
the night air still  
clings to the skin  
the night still  
hangs like a shroud  
on the heart  
in sadness.

It is a cool morning  
the sense of cypress  
on the breeze  
spring in the air  
the unnoticed, stars  
blink and fade  
their song faint  
and hushed

when, rising with the sun,  
a steering of the song  
the rising of sweet song  
the sweet whispering of alleluias  
from the voice  
of the Easter Christ

# SONG

## IN CHRIST ALONE, MY HOPE IS FOUND

In Christ alone, my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All

Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live, I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

READING V  
THE SONG OF HOPE

And what was  
that Easter song?  
A skipping song  
a dance, a jig,  
a rondo rondelay:  
that death is dead  
that fear is past,  
and we, we too, shall rise;  
that death is dead  
and fears past,  
and we, we too, shall rise -

rise as the stars  
breathing suite alleluias  
into the night air

shape by love  
singing wonder  
into the world

sounding forth  
the trumpet  
of salvation

shaped by love

rising like stars

# HYMN

## BLESSED ASSURANCE

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending, bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]

READING VI  
**THE SONG OF THE SAINTS**

From lonely haunts the song beckons  
like whispered lullabies  
it's power not diminished  
when divided and borrowed

marveling at the stars  
creates the song

loving unto death  
creates the song

weeping at the grave  
creates the song

Exulting at the rising Sun  
creates the song -

the song of a thousand voices  
saints in rock and root and flesh  
A thousand voices  
the saints bursting into light  
the saints rising into song

the morning stars

singing

together

# HYMN

## SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

1 Shall we gather at the river,  
Where bright angel feet have trod;  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

Yes, we'll gather at the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river;  
Gather with the saints at the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

2 On the margin of the river,  
Washing up its silver spray,  
We will walk and worship ever,  
All the happy golden day. [Refrain]

3 Ere we reach the shining river,  
Lay we ev'ry burden down;  
Grace our spirits will deliver,  
And provide a robe and crown. [Refrain]

4 Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace. [Refrain]

# REMEMBERING THE SAINT

DON PALMER

JOANNE TOBLESKY

SEAN PRESLEY





## READING VII A PRAYER

Creator of the stars of night,  
who shaped the world in love  
and sweetly saying to us the great alleluia,  
accept now our hearty and faltering hymns of wonder  
and join us into the morning stars  
and all the galaxy of saints,  
through Jesus Christ, the risen Morningstar.  
Amen.

# TO RENEW COMMITMENT

## **MOMENT FOR GENEROSITY**

## **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

*Collection plates will be passed at this time. To make a donation to EPC via text message, text the word "GIVE" to (630) 230-8989 and follow the prompts.*

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING/ LORD'S PRAYER**

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

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

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **\*COMMUNION**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

# TO DISPERSE IN MISSION

## SENDING SONG

### BENEDICTION (MY FRIENDS, MAY YOU GROW IN GRACE)

My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.  
To God be the Glory, now and forever,  
Now and forever, Amen.

To God be the Glory, now and forever,  
Now and forever, Amen.

## BLESSING

# NEW COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

We are introducing a new modified intinction method, using gluten-free bread for all.

## ORDER OF SERVING

We will serve the band first so they can begin playing afterward.

## SERVERS

Four servers will assist with communion

*Pulpit Side:* Pastor Kelly-Ann and an additional server.

*Band Side:* Two servers with a plate of pre-cut bread and juice cups.

## COMMUNION PROCESS

Participants are invited to form a single file line down the center aisle.

As you approach the front, you may choose either the pulpit side or the band side to receive communion.

## METHOD OF SERVING

*Pulpit Side:* Pastor Kelly-Ann will tear off a piece of bread and hand it to each participant, saying, “The Bread of Life.” The participant may eat the bread immediately. Afterward, they will take a cup of juice, with the server saying, “The Cup of Salvation,” and may drink immediately.

*Band Side:* Two servers will provide a plate of pre-cut bread and juice cups. Servers will say, “The Bread of Life” as participants take the bread and “The Cup of Salvation” as they take the juice. Participants may eat and drink immediately.

## CUP DISPOSAL

Receptacles will be available at the end of the first pews for empty cups.

# NEEDS & EVENTS

## ICDI DONATIONS NEEDED

Sarah Akunda from ICDI has communicated about ICDI's changing needs. They have asked that we hold all clothing donations other than small and medium sized men's clothing. The migrant families are no longer receiving food stamps, they are in need of gift cards from common, affordable grocery stores like Aldi, Walmart, and Target. You can drop off gift card donations to the church office to help families in need!

## NEW EPC WEBSITE HAS LAUNCHED!

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our brand new church website! Visit us at [elmhurstchurch.org](http://elmhurstchurch.org) to explore all the features and resources we have to offer. Our new site highlights all of the amazing things being done at EPC now and historically. A huge thank you to Anna Lu for her dedication and hard work in bringing this project to life!

## THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN TRUNK OR TREAT!



## NEEDS & EVENTS

### THANKSGIVING FEAST

Join the Radical Hospitality team for a Thanksgiving Feast after service on Sunday, November 24th! Start thinking of those great family recipes, food sign ups and RSVP's coming soon!

## CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES

### LOST AND FOUND

Missing something? We have a few items in the Lost and Found located in the Church Office. Come by during office hours to see if you've left something behind! **Office hours are Monday - Friday, 9am-12pm**

In need of a card for an occasion? Stop by the church office to find cards for birthdays, celebrations and more.

During this interim phase, please reach out to the contacts below for information outside of regular office hours:

Treasurer - **Doug Fitzgerald**: (630) 660-7581, [epctreasurers@gmail.com](mailto:epctreasurers@gmail.com)

Clerk of Session - **Patti Berner**: (312) 286-4606, [epc.clerkofsession@gmail.com](mailto:epc.clerkofsession@gmail.com)

Deacon Moderator - **Susan Leslie**: (630) 624-7796, [kcleslie206@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kcleslie206@sbcglobal.net)

### CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

Do you have an event or activity you would like to promote on social media or our in our weekly e-notes? Scan the code here to submit a request!



# ELECTION WEEK SUPPORT

## PRE-ELECTION CALL TO PRAYER

We invite you to join us for a special time of communal prayer on Monday, November 4, to invoke the presence of the Holy and to seek love, justice, and peace in our hearts and communities.

Please submit your prayer through the QR code **by the end of the day**. A digital prayer card will be created and shared across social media platforms tomorrow. As the prayers are posted, please share them to inspire peace, unity, and hope.



## ELECTION DAY

Interim Pastor Kelly-Ann will be available in the EPC sanctuary on Election Day, **November 5 from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM**, offering space for prayer, reflection, and pastoral care.

## POST-ELECTION GATHERING

St. Peter's UCC has graciously invited us to join them for Pizza and Prayer on Wednesday, after the election. Let's come together to "break bread," pray, and gather for a special liturgy lifting up hope, peace, and love in our communities.

**Wednesday, November 6th at 6:30**  
**125 W Church St, Elmhurst**

*Contact St. Peter's at 630-530-6000 to RSVP or if you have any dietary restrictions.*

# SESSION NEWS

## LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 IN CALVIN HALL

Did you know that the Leadership Breakfast is FOR EVERYONE? Join us **next Sunday, November 10 at 9:30 a.m.** to learn more about what we do and how you can get involved in our church, community, and beyond. Can't make it this time? No problem! Reach out to the chairperson to express your interest.

***Your time, talents, and treasures are deeply appreciated and valued here at EPC.***

Building & Grounds - Steve Mortensen

Communications & Technology - Edward Mbewe

Congregational Care & Radical Hospitality - *Currently Seeking Chairperson*

Faith Formation - Clare Collins

Finance & Administration - Doug Fitzgerald

Human Resources - Patti Berner

Mission & Outreach - Anna Lu

Music & Worship - Carol Ewert

Nominating - Carol Ewert

Stewardship - Art Pitz & Doug Fitzgerald

The Deacons and Session had a dinner (first one in two+ years) on 10/24 and had a 3-hour planned vision training on 10/27. We are excited to be a part of where Pastor Kelly-Ann and the Spirit will lead EPC this year! Members had a thoughtful discussion about a modified intinction method of communion.

Mark your calendar for **Dec. 1** when Jim Davidovich will preach and administer communion. EPC has been busy this fall! You've witnessed the Pastor Potluck, Diaper Drive, Fall Cleanup, Leadership Breakfast a Wedding and a Celebration of Life. The HR team along with your entire Session and Kelly-Ann, is busily working on adding new policies and revising outdated ones. Doug, our illustrious Treasurer is busy working on the 2025 budget as well.

*Respectfully shared by your humble Clerk, Patti  
Session Minutes Available Upon Request*



# PRAYERS OF JOY'S & CONCERNS

The Joys and Concerns List is updated weekly (with permission) and includes joys, concerns, or other news of church members and their families and friends. The list will be included in our weekly e-notes. To include a joy or concern, you can scan the QR code to be directed to the online form, contact the church office at 630-834-7750, or give them to Interim Pastor Kelly-Ann in person on Sundays.



## CONGREGATIONAL CARE UPDATE

If you are in need of pastoral care or prayer requests, please contact our our Interim Pastor Kelly-Ann at [kelly-ann.rayle@elmhurstpresbyterian.org](mailto:kelly-ann.rayle@elmhurstpresbyterian.org) or, for urgent matters, directly at (434) 327-7330.

## BLOOD DRIVE

The Deacons are inviting the congregation to help those in need by donating blood. There are several local blood drives through Versiti Blood Center in the upcoming weeks. If you are interested in donating, please check their website [Versiti.org](http://Versiti.org) for locations and registration. Your donation could help save lives and bring hope to those in need!

# *Keep Moving Forward*

## A JOURNEY THROUGH HEBREWS

This October and November, join us for a transformative sermon series titled “Keep Moving Forward.” As we explore the Book of Hebrews, we will focus on its powerful message of perseverance, faith, and trust in Christ as our ultimate high priest. This series will remind us that, no matter the challenges we face, we are called to keep moving forward in faith, relying on Christ’s eternal priesthood and the unshakable hope we have in Him.

Here’s what’s ahead:

- October 6 (World Communion Sunday): Breaking Bread, Building Unity – Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
- October 13: Trusting the Word, Finding Strength – Hebrews 4:12-16
- October 20: Interceding for Us, Sustaining Our Faith – Hebrews 5:1-10
- October 27 (Reformation Sunday): Reforming Faith, Renewing Commitment – Hebrews 7:23-28
- November 3 (All Saints Sunday): Persevering in Faith, Honoring the Saints – Hebrews 9:11-14
- November 10: Offering Grace, Receiving Forgiveness – Hebrews 9:24-28
- November 17: Living the Covenant, Embracing New Life – Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25

Aware of our past and excited about our future, the admonition to “Keep Moving Forward” seeks to strengthen and reassure us. The Book of Hebrews was written to a congregation facing challenges much like our own. Their need then, and ours now, is to remember that our story is part of God’s grand story—and that following Jesus into the future “is” the way forward.



## The Pastor and Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Kelly-Ann Rayle (she/her)  
Office Administrator: Summer Equitz (she/her)  
Director of Music: Susan Smentek (she/her)  
Youth Leader: Emerson Azcoitia (he/they)  
Sunday School Teacher: Micaiah Brown (she/her)



ELMHURST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

## Assisting in Worship Today

Elder of the Day: Patti Berner (she/her)  
Worship Leader: Patti Berner (she/her)  
Live-Streaming: Mike Cammack (he/him)  
Worship Technical Director: Keith Baumann (he/him)

## The Session of Elmhurst Presbyterian Church

Clerk: Patti Berner (she/her) Treasurer: Doug Fitzgerald (he/him)

### Class of 2025

Carol Ewert (she/her)  
Clare Collins (she/her)

### Class of 2026

Anna Lu (she/her)  
Doug Fitzgerald (he/him)  
Art Pitz (he/him)

### Class of 2027

Patti Berner (she/her)  
Edward Mbewe (he/him)  
Steve Mortensen (he/him)

## The Deacons of Elmhurst Presbyterian Church

### Class of 2025

Berlirce Chetgna (she/her)  
Susan Leslie (she/her)

### Class of 2026

Connie Nestler (she/her)  
Ted Steiskal (he/him)

### Class of 2027

Dawn Derbigny (she/her)  
Suzanne Pitz (she/her)

## Contact Us!



@elmhurstchurch



office@elmhurstpresbyterian.org



Elmhurst Presbyterian Church

## Elmhurst Presbyterian Church

367 Spring Road  
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am-12pm  
Telephone: (630) 834-7750

***Voicemails are to be returned during office hours of the current or following day***

Sign up for  
our weekly  
e-notes!

