

Littleton United Methodist Church
November 1, 2009
The Feast of All Saints
Service of Word and Table

Prelude *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones* HOPSON
During the prelude, please silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Members and guests please sign the attendance pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit *Majesty, Worship His Majesty* Page 176

+Greeting

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Thus saith the Lord: That which is dead shall live again!

People: **O Lazarus-man, come out from your tomb!**

Pastor: That which is sleeping shall rise again!

People: **O Lazarus-brother, come out!**

Pastor: That which is broken shall be whole again!

People: **O Lazarus-people, come out from your tomb!**

Pastor: *I am* resurrection; *I am* life!

People: **O Lazarus-world, throw off your shroud! Take up your bed and walk!**

+Entrance Hymn #711 *For All the Saints* SINE NOMINE

Prayer of the Day

God of the living, whose will for us is the experience of steadfast love in all our relationships, and in whose hands death is but an entry into new dimensions of life, keep us, we pray, from denying life, either by avoidance of involvement that may bring loss or pain, or by inflicting on others suffering at our hands. Allow us a role in unbinding those who find themselves in the clutches of death in the midst of life. AMEN.

The First Reading *Isaiah 25:6-9* Lois Weaver, Lay Reader

On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 24



The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein;
for God has founded it upon the seas,
and established it upon the rivers.
Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in God's holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.
They will receive blessing from the Lord,
and vindication from the God of their salvation.
Such is the generation of those who seek the Lord,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

R

Lift up you heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is the King of Glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!
Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of Glory may come in.
Who is the King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
the Lord is the King of glory!

R

The Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trust-

worthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Help Us To Be Like Them* BESIG

+Gospel Acclamation #2043 *Alleluia* CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel *John 11:32-44*
Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *"Bandages, Burial Cloths and Glory"* Rev. Rob Licht

+The Apostles' Creed Page 881

Litany for the Saints and Faithful Departed

Pastor: Let us remember those gone before,

People: **Whose souls are in the hands of God,**

All: **Where torment shall never touch them.**

Pastor: In the eyes of fools, they seem to have died;

People: **In the eyes of sages they appear in glory.**

Pastor: In the minds of fools, their death was destruction;

People: **In the minds of sages, transformation.**

Pastor: They were embattled.

People: **They are at peace.**

Pastor: They were fatigued;

People: **They are at rest.**

Pastor: They were distressed;

People: **They are at ease.**

Pastor: They were alone;

People: **They are one with God.**

Pastor: In life, they fought their own mortality;

People: **In death, they yield to immortality.**

Pastor: In life, they dimmed, their bodies tarnished;

People: **In death, they shine, their spirits burnished.**

Pastor: Like gold in a furnace, they were tried and tested;

People: **Like gold in a wheat field, they reached the harvest.**

Pastor: Yes, let us remember those gone before,

People: **Whose souls are in the hands of God,**

All: **Where torment shall never touch them.**

Pastor: Let us pray-

All: **O God of both the living and the dead, we praise your holy name for all your servants who have finished their course in faith, especially Ellen Newman, Clifton Shearin and all those whose names appear in our bulletin this morning. We pray that encouraged by their example and strengthened by their fellowship, we may be partakers with them of the inheritance of the saints in light; through the merits of your son**

Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Prayer of Confession

Mighty God, we are unprepared to meet you, but we cannot put off this encounter. You continue to summon us to the mountaintop, to feel your presence and respond to your Word. You invite us to lift up our heads and to see the rule of glory but we have stubbornly refused to acknowledge your work among us or to see any purpose emerging from the depths of despair. We fear death. We shrink from life. This is our greatest sin, cutting ourselves off from you. God help us. AMEN.

A Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Pardon

Pastor: 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!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

The Offertory

The Souls of the Righteous

NOBLE

+The Doxology #95

OLD 100th

Hymn of Preparation #712

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

GRAND ISLE

The Great Thanksgiving (Alternate Musical Setting)

Laminated Sheet

The Lord's Prayer

Page 895

+Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Unbind us and set us free for service. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

+Closing Hymn #708

Rejoice in God's Saints

HANOVER

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

Go Now in Peace

Page 665

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

JOHNSON

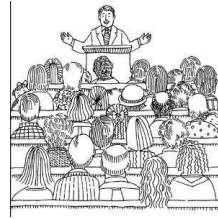
+The congregation will stand as you are able

** Communion rail offerings are designated for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

** Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex.

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 61
Sunday school: 12



Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service
11:20 AM Sunday school

Tuesday: 1:00 Mary Lucy Self Circle

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Study
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday: 9:00 AM Food delivery
7:00 PM Family Movie Night



Our Gifts

Offerings last week: \$1,661.00

Our Mission Statement

Littleton United Methodist Church strives to provide all-inclusive worship of God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are committed to deepening our spiritual growth.

We are to minister in Christ's name to the needy, the sick, the dying, the unchurched, and to each other.

We are to be active Christians, spreading the Good News.

We are to strive to witness for Jesus in our daily lives, in our community and throughout the world.



Our Service

Serving in Worship:

Choir Director / Organist: Tom Parker
Organist emeritus: Trudi May
Acolyte: Martha Sherman
Greeters: Frances Howell (east)
Kay Newsom (west)
Ushers: Sherman Merchant (west)
Bob Workman (west)
Al Prescott (east)
Nursery: as needed
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
Ed Angel

2009 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
Congregational Care: Jean Houston
Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
Age Level: TBA
Outreach: Helen Burtchell
Missions: Richard Sherman
Finance: Mike Herman
Pastor-Parish: Sherman Merchant
Lay Leadership: Rob Licht
Trustees: Shirley Anschutz
Kitchen: Marie Fields
Membership: Marj Prescott
Scholarship: Marvin Newsom III
Memorials: Matt Johnston
Newsletter: Susan Merchant
Sunday School Superintendent: Jean Jarvis

Serving in our Church, Community and World

The **Mary Lucy Self Circle** will meet on Tuesday at 1:00 in the board room.

Our monthly **Family Movie Night** will be this Friday at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. This month's movie will be "**Hotel for Dogs**".

Once again the missions committee will be collecting gift-filled shoe boxes and/or gift items for filling the shoe boxes for **Operation Christmas Child**. The deadline for items is November 15th.

Please take note of the **bulletin insert** which has information about **Poinsettia donations** for the Christmas season.

Please note the addition of "**Extension Person of the Week**" at the bottom of the Prayer List.

On Tuesday November 10th at 5:30pm, there will be "**Soup, Sandwiches & Games**" at **Mordecai's Restaurant**.

Lake Gaston Retirement Village Foundation is having its **Fourth Annual Lobster Dinner** and Auction on Saturday, November 14, 2009-6pm Social and Silent Auction/7-10pm Dinner & Dancing. The event will be held at The Club Resort in Gasburg, VA. Tickets are \$55 person. Contact Sandy Mergehenn at 252-308-2104 by November 3rd to reserve your space.

*****Note—the side door will be locked during the worship service.**