

***The First Church of Christ in Marblehead
Old North Church, United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation***

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

All Saints Sunday

November 1, 2026 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

One: St Paul wrote to the church in Ephesus,
“Know what is the hope to which God has called you,
what are the riches of the glorious inheritance in the saints,
and what is the immeasurable greatness of God’s power
in us who believe.” (*Ephesians 1:18-19*)

All: We worship as people called to hope,
joined with all the faithful from generations past.
We worship a God of love and power.

* HYMN

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

#494

CENTERING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Christine Hribar

In his Sermon on the Mount, recorded in Matthew 5, Jesus proclaimed a series of blessings. Our prayer of invocation today is a breath prayer, an ancient prayer practice where you silently repeat a phrase as you breathe in and out. As you inhale, pray silently “*blessed are those who mourn*”; as you exhale, pray silently, “*for they shall be comforted.*”

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

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 and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us confess our sins, remembering we never carry our burdens alone: Jesus, you showed us holiness in action through the way you lived your life. You gave away your power in the service of others and turned our understanding of blessedness on its head.

All: We confess the difficulties we experience in living as you lived and loving as you loved.

One: We confess how easy it is to concentrate on our own pleasures - taking note of the plight of many in the world only as the news momentarily grabs our attention.

All: We confess our capacity to be so consumed by our own agendas that our concern for the needs of others shrinks all too rapidly.

One: We confess our failure to act when we see around us pain, suffering and powerlessness.

We confess our reluctance to love our enemies and to do good to those who dislike or even hate us.

All: We confess the ease with which we become conformed to the world's standards rather than facing the challenge of conforming to those of Christ.

One: Stir up your Spirit in us, Lord, that we may experience the gift of being your disciples.

Strengthen us to be people who sing and live your song of love; who willingly serve our neighbors; who seek justice and mercy for all and who truly repent of what is past and look with anticipation for what is yet to come. This we pray in your name and for your sake.

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Let us hear again the word of truth:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

One: Let us live into this newness of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

May you know that you belong here and can always come home.

May you grow, learn, and question.

May you feel the love of God wherever you go.

We invite any children interested to now join their teachers in leaving the sanctuary for Sunday School. They will return to join their families for communion.



OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Saints Bound for Heaven
Senior Choir

arr. Shaw/Parker

* DOXOLOGY (#46)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHORAL RESPONSE

LISTENING

GOSPEL LESSON

1 Kings 3:4-28

Read by Andrea Gilgulin

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you

shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you.

If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.”

Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem, where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. He offered up burnt offerings and offerings of well-being and provided a feast for all his servants.

Later, two women came to the king and stood before him. The one woman said, “Please, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house, and I gave birth while she was in the house. Then on the third day after I gave birth, this woman also gave birth. We were together; there was no one else with us in the house; only the two of us were in the house. Then this woman’s son died in the night because she lay on him. She got up in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your servant slept. She laid him at her breast and laid her dead son at my breast. When I rose in the morning to nurse my son, I saw that he was dead, but when I looked at him closely in the morning, clearly it was not the son I had borne.” But the other woman said, “No, the living son is mine, and the dead son is yours.” The first said, “No, the dead son is yours, and the living son is mine.” So they argued before the king.

Then the king said, “The one says, ‘This is my son who is alive, and your son is dead,’ while the other says, ‘Not so! Your son is dead, and my son is the living one.’” So the king said, “Bring me a sword,” and they brought a sword before the king. The king said, “Divide the living boy in two; then give half to the one and half to the other.” But the woman whose son was alive said to the king, because compassion for her son burned within her, “Please, my lord, give her the living boy; certainly do not kill him!” The other said, “It shall be neither mine nor yours; divide it.” Then the king responded, “Give her the living boy; do not kill him. She is his mother.” All Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to execute justice.

SERMON

“A Listening Heart”

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

PASTORAL PRAYER

*As you sing the hymn, bring your place card forward,
with the names of anyone you are remembering on this All Saints Day,
and place it on the communion table.*

HYMN

In the Bulb There is a Flower

#493

CALLING OF THE ROLL

RESPONDING

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

*Today, we are receiving communion by intinction—
dipping the bread in the cup and receiving both elements together.*

*You will be invited to come forward via the center aisles,
receive communion, and then return to your seats via the outer aisles.*

*If you would prefer, for any reason, to receive communion in your pew,
stay seated and communion will be brought to you.*

All are welcome to receive communion at Old North—young and old, baptized and not.

There are gluten free crackers available on each tray, and we serve only non-alcoholic grape juice.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Panis Angelicus

C. Franck

Kevin Hayden, Rick von Rueden, *soloists*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING

* HYMN

For All the Saints

#486

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE

Go with Us, Lord

#336

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.**

POSTLUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*