St. Francis
in the Fields
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Solemnity of All Souls

Sunday, November 1, 2026 — 5:00 p.m.

What is All Souls Day?

Each year on November 1 (and the Sunday following), the Church celebrates the Feast of All Saints. On the following day, November 2, the Church commemorates All the Faithful Departed, more commonly referred to as All Souls Day or the Solemnity of All Souls.

What is the difference between All Saints and All Souls?

In the New Testament, the word "saints" is used to describe the entirety of the Christian community. Early in the Church's history, however, the word "saint" came to be applied to persons of remarkable or heroic sanctity.

While All Saints technically includes all deceased Christians, there has also long been a tradition of remembering and honoring loved ones on a separate day, and of praying especially for those who died in violence, prematurely, or in ways that make the feasting and joyous celebrating on All Saints complicated for those who mourn them. All Souls Day was set aside to hold space for this grief and to remember that our journey with Christ continues beyond death. This practice, however, was rejected by many Protestant reformers who feared that it was too closely associated with the medieval practice of paying for masses for the dead to assist their souls into heaven.

During World War I, lay people in England recovered the Solemnity of All Souls as a way of remembering, grieving, and honoring those who were dying daily in the deadliest conflict the world had yet seen, with some 40 million casualties. The service grew in popularity amid the brutality of the twentieth century. The 1979 Book of Common Prayer officially restored the observance to the calendar in the Episcopal Church, renaming it the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed.

The solemn tone of tonight's service reminds us that because Christ himself has passed through death, there is nowhere we can go where we are not in the presence of God.

You are invited to light a candle in memory of those you have lost. Before the service, after you receive Holy Communion, or at the conclusion of the service, please visit the Davenport Chapel, where you will see our votive candle stand and matches. You are welcome to remain in the Chapel for prayer after the service.

Welcome to our annual service in memory of the departed. Please respect the reverence and solemnity of this service by refraining from talking in the nave. Immediately following the service, join us for a reception in the Narthex in honor of those we love.

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The Liturgy of the Word

Voluntary GERRE HANCOCK (1934–2012)
Improvisation on St. Clement

All stand as the Choir sings.

Introit

PSALM 121, SETTING: H. WALFORD DAVIES (1869–1941)

Sir Henry Walford Davies was an English composer, organist, and teacher, serving as Master of the King's Music from 1934 until 1941 and acting as music advisor to the BBC for a time. His beloved chant setting, perfectly paired with Psalm 121, was included in his Short Requiem, Op. 44a (1915) and dedicated to the victims of World War I.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills : from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh even from the Lord : who hath made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved : and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel : shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is thy keeper : the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day : neither the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil : yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in : from this time forth for evermore.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost : as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Choir sings

Kyrie (PLAINSONG)
Missa pro defunctis

In late 4th Century Rome, even after Latin became the normative language of liturgical celebration, an Eastern form of litany was adopted in which the congregation responded to the deacon's petitions in Greek: "Kyrie eleison" ("Lord, have mercy"). Eventually, the Western liturgy settled on the now-familiar ninefold pattern: three Kyries, three Christes, and another three Kyries, often sung in various forms of alternation. The retention of ancient Greek in our Anglican liturgy connects us to the Greek Psalms of the Septuagint and Gospels, where the sick and blind cry out to Jesus in these very words.

Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy upon us.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the faithful departed the unsearchable benefits of the passion of thy Son; that on the day of his appearing they may be manifested as thy children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

The First Lesson

WISDOM 3:1–9

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The image of sparks running through stubble is full of hope: the fire that tried them returns as light. The image recalls Daniel 12:3: the wise "shall shine like the brightness of the sky." Those we mourn are not made less by dying.

The choir sings

Psalm 130

ANGLICAN CHANT: H. WALFORD DAVIES

De profundis
Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord : Lord, hear my voice.
O let thine ears consider well : the voice of my complaint.
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss : O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with thee : therefore shalt thou be feared.
I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him : in his word is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord : before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy : and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel : from all his sins.

The Second Lesson

1 CORINTHIANS 15:50–58

What I am saying, brothers and sisters is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

"Death has been swallowed up in victory." St. Paul quotes Isaiah 25:8 and Hosea 13:14. The hope of the Old Testament prophets becomes Easter's proclamation. Death does not defeat us; death itself is defeated.

The People stand.

Sequence Hymn EVENTIDE

Abide with me

The Holy Gospel

JOHN 11:21–27

The People turn to face the Gospel Book during the Proclamation.

✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Martha says the words that many who mourn have felt: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Christ's response to Martha is his response to all of those who mourn.

The People sit when directed by the Preacher.

The Sermon

THE REV. NATHAN DEAREN

The Prayers of the People

In sure and certain hope of the Resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

The People kneel.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace.

Christians pray for those who have died because we believe that our journey with Christ cannot be stopped by death. We pray for those we love and see no longer because they are still with us in Christ, though separated from us in the flesh.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection to the life everlasting.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant us grace to entrust thy departed servants to thy never-failing love; receive them into the arms of thy mercy, and remember them according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, they may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with blessed Francis, and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ.

Lord, in thy mercy

Hear our prayer.

Almighty and everlasting God, thou hast breathed into mortals souls formed in thine own likeness. As dust returns to dust, grant that these souls of thine own making, formed in thine own image, be placed with thy saints in an everlasting home. Gently and tenderly receive them as those who return from Egypt into the land of promise. Send thy holy angels as guides in the way of righteousness, and lead them to the open gates of thy glory. For thou art our strength in life, and our hope in death. **Amen**.

The Confession of Sin

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Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution

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Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

All stand.

The Peace

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The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Anthem WILLIAM H. HARRIS (1883–1973)
Holy is the true light

Holy is the True Light, and passing wonderful,
lending radiance to them that endured in the heat of the conflict,
from Christ they inherit a home of unfading splendour,
wherein they rejoice with gladness evermore.
Alleluia!

from the Salisbury Diurnal by G. H. Palmer (1846–1926)

English organist and composer Sir William H. Harris belongs to the generation of musicians who transitioned from the Victorian Era well into the twentieth century. He studied with both C. V. Stanford and Walford Davies, and after several distinguished posts, served as Organist of St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, for three decades. There, he taught piano lessons to the young Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret. Best remembered for anthems such as "Faire is the heaven" and "Bring us, O Lord God," his setting of the medieval Sarum office antiphon, "Holy is the true light," subtitled a "short anthem for saints' days," is a masterpiece in miniature.

The Necrology

Our Holy Eucharist is offered tonight in memory of all those we love and see no longer, especially those members of our parish, or family of our members, who have died in the last year.

The Great Thanksgiving EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I, BCP P. 333

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The Choir sings

Sanctus (PLAINSONG)
Missa pro defunctis

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus	Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.	Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.	Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in excelsis.	

The plainsong melodies within the Missa pro defunctis or "Mass for the Dead," are ancient, some as old as a thousand years. The stark beauty of these anonymously compiled tunes has inspired centuries of composers, including Maurice Duruflé, who, in his own famous Requiem, Op. 9 (1947), based each movement on the historical chants.

The People kneel. The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption ... By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. The Choir sings

Agnus Dei (PLAINSONG)
Missa pro defunctis

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:	O Lamb of God, who takest away the
dona eis requiem.	sins of the world, grant them rest.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:	O Lamb of God, who takest away the
dona eis requiem.	sins of the world, grant them rest.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:	O Lamb of God, who takest away the
dona eis requiem sempiternam.	sins of the world, grant them eternal rest.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward to the altar rail at the appropriate time. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing; you may indicate you are not receiving communion by crossing your arms across your chest. Those desiring baptism are encouraged to speak to one of our priests. During the administration of communion, the people may be seated. For those who wish to have a gluten free wafer, please close your hand and alert the priest when you are at the altar.

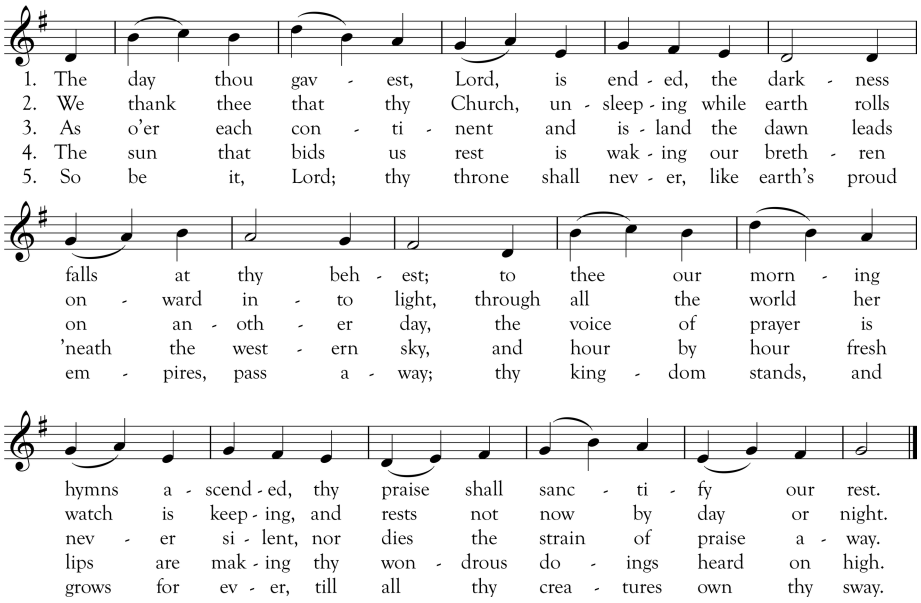
Those who would like to light a candle in memory of a loved one are invited into the Davenport Chapel now, or at the end of the service. Enter through the doors to the left of the altar.

Communion Motet REQUIEM IN D MINOR, OP. 48; FAURÉ (1845–1924)
Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.	Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest;
Dona eis requiem sempiternam.	grant them eternal rest.

Communion Hymn ST. CLEMENT

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended



The People kneel for the post-communion prayer.

The Post Communion Prayer

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Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

This Easter blessing draws on the text of Hebrews 13:20-21 with rich theological imagery. God's covenant with us, through the blood of Christ, is everlasting. It cannot be defeated, even by death.

All remain standing as the Acolytes and Clergy depart.

In Paradisum MISSA PRO DEFUNCTIS (PLAINSONG)

In paradisum deducant te angeli; in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere æternam habeas requiem.

Into Paradise may the Angels lead thee: at thy coming may the Martyrs receive thee, and lead thee to the holy city Jerusalem. May the choir of Angels receive thee, and with Lazarus, once a beggar, mayest thou have eternal rest.

The Dismissal

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Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The People depart in silence.

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