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CHURCH OF STATE NAZARENE



Order of Worship 31 October 2021 All Saints' Sunday

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome Worship in Song Call to Worship Worship in Song

We Listen to the Scriptures

Prayer Sermon: "Even Though They Die" Text: John 11: 22-44

We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration The Lord's Prayer We Eat and Drink Together We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life Doxology Blessing and Sending 4:00PM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Prayer Walk

Meet in front of the church building for a 45 minute walk when we'll pray for our neighborhood. Kids and dogs welcome!



Visit the tables in the lobby before/after worship to find a ministry opportunity that is right for you!

join a serve team

Sundays 11/7 & 11/14



Our mission is to learn the way of Jesus together as we invite others to join us at His Table.

Our Common Practices

We Gather

- We gather for worship more often than not.
- We gather in smaller groups to connect, learn, and grow.
- We create hospitable space for one another.

We Grow

- We attend the means of grace daily. (i.e. We attend to the presence of God through Scripture reading and meditation, prayer on behalf of others and myself, breath prayer, spiritual reading and study...).
- We nurture our faith.
- We attend to relationships that promote growth.
- We develop and learn as human beings made in the image of God.

We Give

- We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world.
- We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

We Go

- We follow Jesus into the world as His healing presence.
- We help the vulnerable among us.
- We go into the world offering Jesus' invitation to gather at His Table.

John 11:22-44

²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him ao."



What is All Saints' Day?

In more modern times, Halloween tends to get most of the attention. One news report recently noted that next to Christmas, Halloween is the next biggest consumer holiday in the U.S. However, that historically has not be the case. In fact, for most of Christian history it is November 1st that received most of the attention as the Church would celebrate All Hallows Day.

The earliest known origins of the November 1st celebration date back to the time of Pope Gregory (731-741) who dedicated a chapel in St. Peter's Basilica on November 1st to all saints. In the Eastern Church, the roots of All Saints can be dated back as far as the 4th Century when the Church would honor the martyrs the Sunday after Pentecost.

Although All Saint's tends to focus in the Catholic tradition on the canonized saints, it is observed as a remembrance of all saints known to God. In European countries like Germany and France, it is an observed holiday and businesses are closed and wreaths are place at gravesites. In the Philippines, it is known as "Undas," a day when departed love ones are remembered and honored. In Austria, one tradition is for godparents to give a twisted yeast roll, known as a Allerheiligenstriezel, to their godchildren.

Halloween traditions that we now observe are closely tied to All Saint's Day. Traditionally, the October 31st observance known as "All Hallows Eve" was marked, much like Christmas eve, as a day of preparation for the feast the next day. In Medieval times, it was believed that the saints who protected the living would be busy preparing for the next day's celebration. This meant that the living would not be protected from evil spirits that could wreak havoc on the world. A tradition developed of wearing scary costumes to ward off the evil spirits in Order to "trick" the evil spirts away until the saints returned to protect the living. Thus, the tradition of wearing costumes on Halloween was created.

The celebration of Reformation Day in Protestant Churches also takes place on October 31st. It was on that date in 1517 that Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses, or protests, to the door of the All-Saint's Church Wittenberg, Germany thus sparking the Protestant Reformation. Phillip Melanchthon later commented that this was done by Luther knowing that they would be seen by church goers coming to service the next day.

The Christian festival of All Saints Day comes from a conviction that there is a spiritual connection between those in Heaven and on Earth. The holiday honors all those who have passed on to the Kingdom of Heaven. All Saints Day relates to giving God earnest gratitude for the lives and deaths of his saints, remembering those who were well-known and not. Additionally, individuals throughout Christian history are celebrated, such as Peter the Apostle and Charles Wesley, as well as people who have personally guided one to faith in Jesus, such as one's relative or friend.

On this festival day take time to remember those who have had an impact on your growth in Christian faith. This would be a good time to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for those who are no longer with us that have shaped our faith. If those faith mentors are still with us, consider sending a note thanking them for being a "saint" in your life.

A Blessed All Saint's Day to everyone.