

## Sermon: “Connected to the Cloud, Rooted in the Vine”

John 15:1-5 and Hebrews 12:1-2.

Are you connected to The Cloud? Not Microsoft or Google Cloud... the Hebrews 12:1-2 picture. All Saints Day is a day of remembering our great heritage of the faith and honoring those who have gone before us.

### 1) The Cloud and the Vine or “the Stadium and the Soil”

a) "We picture the 'great cloud of witnesses' as a massive, distant stadium crowd, looking down, watching us live our lives and cheering us on from heaven, to do good and live for Jesus. Hebrews 12:1-2.

b) How do we stay connected to a cloud that is in heaven? We do it by abiding in the same dirt, rooted in the same Savior. Jesus says, "I am the vine, you are the branches." Jesus is The Source that Sustains Us (John 15:1-5)

c) INSERT: A Chart/Picture/timeline of Christianity and it’s branches and where we are.

### 2) Why do we celebrate ALL SAINTS DAY?

a) All Saints' Day reminds each of us that your life is interconnected with the saints of yesterday, sustained by Christ today, and vital for the church of tomorrow.

b) All Saints' Day emphasizes a profound Christian belief—that the church isn't just a local gathering; it’s a single family connected across time.

### 3) Inspiration for the Journey

a) The lives of the saints also give us deep inspiration for living today. They serve as examples of courage, love, and devotion to Christ, encouraging us to press on toward a path of holiness.

4) Conclusion: "You do not run this race alone, and you do not produce fruit on your own strength. Abide in the Vine, look to the cloud of witnesses, and remember that the same grace that sustained them is pumping through your veins right now.



November 1, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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# Welcome

November 1, 2026 - 9:00am

Welcome and Announcements : Cooper Holmgren

Time of Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship (from Revelation 7:10, 12)

Leader: With all the host of heaven, from every nation, in every language, we cry out:

**People: “Salvation belongs to our God, and to the Lamb!”**

Leader: Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving,

**People: and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen!**

Song: Holy Holy Holy

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon - from Ephesians 3:18-19

Holy God, we confess our failings and shortcomings. Forgive us, where we have let you down. In our human frailty and sin, we stand in constant need of mercy and help. Forgive us, O Lord. May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith, and may we be rooted and grounded in love. Grant us strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ.

Leader: What shall we give the Lord for all his benefits toward us?

**People: We will take up the cup of salvation and call on the Lord's name.**

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

**People: Amen.**

Choir: It Is Well With My Soul

Scripture: John 15:1-5 and Hebrews 12:1-2 - Mike Chunko

Sermon: “Connected to the Cloud, Rooted in the Vine”

Song of Preparation: The Churches One Foundation

The Lord’s Supper

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

Offering and Doxology

Song: Worthy Of It All

Blessing

Go in peace to love the Lord your God, with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. Amen. (Mark 12:29–31)

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Check out our Roof Campaign umbrella, in the narthex. We will keep that updated with the total amounts that come in.

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The library received a generous donation of books from Joanne Mayes’ personal collection. If you would like to take any home with you, we have put them on the “Free Table” next to the library. Several books have her personal notes and thoughts in them.

Adult Ed

Join us in an exciting study of the 5th Chapter of Acts during the month of November. This was a great time for the Church in its infancy and many things were taking place. This study will provide a "Cliff Notes" account of the action that will pave the way for thought provoking parallels to today and engaging discussion. We'll look at the signs and wonders taking place at the time, the arrest and release of the Apostles (talk about a jail break!), and the wisdom of the teacher Gamaliel who unlike many of his peers, knew that something huge was going on in the area that would affect not alone the current Jewish culture but society hundreds of years down the road. Grab your coffee and cookies and join us for this insightful discussion led by Mike Chunko beginning November 1 - 22 at 10:00 A.M. in the Adult Ed room.

Book Review

Joseph: Cultivating a Life of Dependency on God

This book is an easy read that is well worth your time, If you love the old Hymns, you will be pleasantly surprised. Bill Crowder does an excellent job of explaining the relationships and traits of Joseph and family. He also gives current day examples, some from his personal life. Bill Crowder shares the struggles of generational sin, God's work in all their lives and joys of reconciliation and repentance,

Marilyn Overby

Please join us in prayer.

A group meets in the prayer room to lift our church in prayer as we go through this time of transition. We are asking God for His will, His way and His almighty favor. Stop in to hold our church in prayer.

Sundays: 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.

Jeremiah 29:12 You will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

Youth Group Update

Junior High Youth group continues to have new youth every week. They enjoyed painting pumpkins this past week and Pastor Mark gave a talk on anxiety. The theme this month is dealing with anxiety from a biblical perspective and the other youth leaders, Mike, Emma, and Dylan, have also given talks on this topic. It's a serious problem among youth nationwide, and they requested it as a topic when we did our planning meeting in August.

Our Senior high youth group watched a clip from “The Chosen” TV show about Mary Magdalene and then watched the actress Liz Tabish as she faced her fears on a challenge with Bear Gryllis, a famous special forces military survival expert.



Our 2-5th grade youth group put together 100 pencil bags! Thanks to their help, we can send these packs in our shoeboxes!

(and after their hard work, they had a little snack!)

# CHURCH calendar

## SUNDAY, November 1

9:00 a.m. Worship, Communion  
10:00 a.m. Adult Ed, Shoebox Packing Party  
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group  
6:00 p.m. Chunko Small Group  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## MONDAY, November 2

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

## TUESDAY, November 3

7:00 p.m. Session

## WEDNESDAY, November 4

11:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting  
6:00 a.m. Choir  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## THURSDAY, November 5

7:00 a.m. Kiwanis  
4:00 p.m. 2-5th Grade Youth Group  
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts

## SATURDAY, November 7

4:00 Chili Cookoff for Honduras Mission Trip  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## SUNDAY, November 8

9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed, Sunday School  
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group  
6:00 p.m. Chunko Small Group  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting



For our Joint Mission Trip in March with New Hope Church to Honduras, the team is hosting a chili cookoff. Please come and enjoy! We have 6 Presby. team members : Chris Hickey, Jeana & Xav Valdivieso, Rachel Thorson, Brad Chapman and Callie Ackland

If anyone would like to help us, we'll be going to Feed My Starving Children on November 21st. Please use this link to sign up on their website. You'll be added into our group automatically with this special link. If you'd prefer, please contact Sara Slattengren and we can get you added as well.

## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Feeding kids. Feeding spirits. Empowering communities.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21**  
in Aurora, IL

- Leave the church at 3:45pm
- Our shift is 5:00-6:30pm
- Plan to return between 9-10pm
- We will go to Portillos for dinner afterwards, with everyone being on their own ticket.

{if you can drive a carload of kids, please let Sara or Mark know}

**EVERYONE** going needs to sign up on their site

