

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

100 Pitney Rd // Absecon, NJ 08201

609.641.1265 // abseconumc.com

abseconumc@comcast.net

The Reverend David L. Ledford III, Pastor

ReverendDaveLedford@gmail.com

**Priscilla Cunningham,
Director of Music and Organist**



We're Surrounded!

November 1, 2026

Today's Lay Reader: Jessica Yorke

Welcome

Prelude

Face to Face

arr. John Innes

Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Come from near and far; in-person and virtual, live on Sunday and all week long! Come! Come and prepare to take your next step in faith. Come and worship Jesus Christ together!

People: **We come, remembering the Saints who still surround us.**

Leader: This week, we pause to remember all they had to endure to share their faith.

People: **When we have trials and tribulations, we won't see them as reasons to quit. We will see them as even more reason to be the Church!**

Hymn

For All the Saints

(verses 1, 2, 4, and 6)

1. For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who
 2. Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,
 3. O may thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,
 *4. O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!
 5. And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,
 6. From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through

thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
 fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old, and
 We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet
 steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, and
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,

name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 win with them the vic - tor's crown of gold.
 all are one in thee, for all are thine.
 hearts are brave a - gain, and arms are strong.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



Opening Prayer

Lord, thank you for all the saints who came before us, and now surround us as a cloud of witnesses. On this day after Halloween, we remember the true and original purpose of this season. To remember those who have served before us, and now rest from their labor. Help us to make them proud and continue building the Church that they loved so much. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!

Pastor's Preview

Young Disciples Chatting with The Rev

Chorus

Holy Holy

Holy, holy, holy, holy,
 Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty;
 And we lift our hearts before You as a token of our love,
 Holy, holy, holy, holy.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah;
 And we lift our hearts before You as a token of our love,
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Senior Choir

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Scripture Lesson

Hebrews 11:32-12:2

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made

strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

Message

We're Surrounded!

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Supplication

Frank Asper

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



A Service of Word and Table

Please see the Communion Liturgy on [page 7](#) of this document.

Communion Anthem

Peace Unto You

Gilbert M. Martin

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Sing with All the Saints in Glory

(verses 1, 2, and 4)

1. Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, sing the res - ur -
 2. O what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing all that eye has
 3. Life e - ter - nal! heaven re - joic - es: Je - sus lives, who
 4. Life e - ter - nal! O what won - ders crowd on faith; what

rec - tion song! Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry,
 yet per - ceived! Ho - liest hearts, for a - ges plead - ing,
 once was dead. Join we now the death - less voic - es;
 joy un - known, when, a - midst earth's clos - ing thun - ders,

to the for - mer days be - long. All a - round the
 nev - er that full joy con - ceived. God has prom - ised,
 child of God, lift up your head! Pa - triarchs from the
 saints shall stand be - fore the throne! O to en - ter

clouds are break - ing, soon the storms of time shall cease; in
 Christ pre - pares it, there on high our wel - come waits. Ev -
 dis - tant a - ges, saints all long - ing for their heaven, proph -
 that bright por - tal, see that glow - ing fir - ma - ment; know,

God's like - ness we, a - wak - ing, know the ev - er - last - ing peace.
 ery hum - ble spir - it shares it; Christ has passed th'e - ter - nal gates.
 ets, psalm - ists, seers, and sa - ges, all a - wait the glo - ry given.
 with thee, O God Im - mor - tal, "Je - sus Christ whom thou has sent!"

Benediction

Postlude

Come Thou Almighty King

arr. Felicide Giardini

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license A-731620.
CCLI: CSPL099122*

A Service of Word and Table

Invitation

Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession and Pardon

People: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 all forgiven!

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

All: Thanks be to God!

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion, remembering God's mighty acts of salvation, and concludes: And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The people sing their response:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of
 power and might. Heav - en and earth are
 full of your glo - - -
 - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
 san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high -
 est! Blest is the one who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
 san - na in the high - est!

WORDS: From *The United Methodist Hymnal* (Isa. 6:3; Matt. 21:9)
 MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

Music © 1999 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Co. Used by permission.
 Source: *The Faith We Sing*, no. 2257-b.

The pastor continues the Thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes: And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The people sing their response:

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again. Ho -
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
san - na in the high - est!

WORDS: From *The United Methodist Hymnal*
MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

Music © 1999 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Co. Used by permission.
Source: *The Faith We Sing*, no. 2257-c.

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding: All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen!

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Cup