

Welcome

All Souls, seeking to be a church not just for ourselves, exists to be a vibrant expression of who God is—gracious, present, hospitable.

Launched in 2010, we are a worshipping community rooted in the belief that the historic Christian gospel is true, compelling, and promises to change our lives powerfully, in the direction of freedom, wholeness, and hope.

We seek to embody and articulate this gospel of grace, bringing about spiritual, social, and cultural renewal in Seattle and, through it, the world.

Please feel the freedom to participate actively in worship or to just listen and observe at your discretion. It is a time to process freely and safely the audacious claims of Jesus, and the inevitable tension between the beauty and scandal of God's grace, freely given to you.

As a church, we are part of that historical, counter-cultural community that Jesus started and continues to build, sustain, and perfect.

Anyone is welcome in worship, and we encourage you to come as you are. We understand that visiting a church for the first time can be intimidating. So it's our commitment to walk you through each component of the worship service so no one feels like an outsider. There will be no obscure, tribal language. No 'in-house' moments.

Our worship is structured, with liturgy and rich music that connects us to the church of old and those who've gone before us— we are deeply rooted in something much larger than ourselves or our own cultural moment. But worship should be accessible and enjoyable if it's to be meaningful.

We haven't heard the gospel for what it really is if we don't find it at once horribly offensive and staggeringly beautiful.

It is both heart-breaking and heart-mending.

So let us explore. Let us worship!

Exploring?

Do you have questions about the Christian faith?

Do you wrestle with intellectual barriers that make belief seem implausible, even irresponsible?

Do you struggle to reconcile a good God with a hurting world?

We recognize that belief is hard. That's why:

- We value questions, and the people who ask them
- We prize being a community where you can belong before you believe
- We assume, each Sunday, that there are people present who are not convinced
- We desire to talk to skeptics not about them
- You are welcome here...

So, be curious. Doubt. Ask. Explore.

How do I get connected?

visit allsoulsseattle.org for the latest

All Souls Kids + Youth

allsoulsseattle.org/kids (/youth)

How can I serve?

allsoulsseattle.org/connect

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Giving as part of worship

cover art by Lori Bailey

What is your only comfort in life and death?

that I am not my own,
but belong with body and soul,
both in life and in death,
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1



Please help us to be hospitable:

Face covering required indoors for all. Maintain six feet of space with people outside of your family or bubble. Participate online if you have symptoms of Covid-19 or have known exposure to someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

Please silence all devices for the duration of worship.

The Youngstown Movement Studio next door is available for those of us who need to wiggle while worshipping. Parents please accompany your children.

The Church calendar begins anew with the first Sunday of Advent. During this season we are called by the Church to remember that Christ came into the world at his birth, and that we are to anticipate that he will come again at his return. In both instances, Jesus comes as a light shining into a world that has been darkened by sin and death. Advent, then, is a word of hope that Jesus has come and is always coming into the darkness to make a way forward.

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader. Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

If you, or someone with you this morning, has special needs we do not want to miss an opportunity to serve you.

Please introduce yourself and let us know how we can support you best. Our community gathers on Sundays to enter the presence of the Lord and offer him praise, as he graciously invites us to do. We come to sing, pray, encounter God's Word, celebrate Communion, and to simply be together. We're glad you're here, and as you're getting settled we invite you to sit toward the aisle, allowing access for others along the edges. Thank you.

Call to Worship

Drive Out the Darkness

In the Bible, God calls us to worship, because it is not our natural impulse to come to Him. But He calls, reminding us of His pursuing love, and we respond in gratitude.

words and music by Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell, Dan Marotta, John Swinton

Come, O Come, be our light Drive out the darkness Come, Jesus, come Come and end all the violence Come and do not be silent Come, we cling to your promise Come, you'll break all injustice Come, Jesus come

Lighting the Advent Candle

based on Isaiah 9:2; 7:14

Each Sunday in Advent, we light a candle on this wreath as a sign of the coming light of Christ, the hope that breaks apart the darkness and rescues the world.

Hear the word of the Lord:

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

The Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and he shall be called Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'

Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

from the Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Music at All Souls is comprised of "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs" (Eph. 5:19).

These are often works that date back as far as Jewish antiquity, anchoring us in the ancient roots of Christian faith. Sometimes these are newer works that reflect prayerfully and prophetically on our current moment.

They contain theological richness and focus on God's character and redemptive work. They also lend poetic voice to our deepest emotional expressions: praise and thanksgiving, anger and sorrow, hope and joy.

We sing because we believe God is with us— present in our worship; inhabiting the praises of his people.

seated

Confession happens within the context of relationship, both with God and each other. We confess together, in community, before a gracious God who has given us himself. Confession both acknowledges our need for mercy and celebrates its abundance in Christ.

Sin, in its essence, is a word that means, "an obsession or worship of oneself." Martin Luther described sin as "curving in on oneself," which causes a relational breach not only with people we harm, but also with God by not giving God the place he deserves in our lives as our loving Creator and Savior.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

words: Latin hymn, tr. John Mason Neale & Henry Sloans Coffin music: VENI EMMANUEL

O come, o come Emmanuel And ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear

chorus:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee O, Israel O come, O come, great Lord of might who, to thy tribes on Sinai's height, in ancient times did give the law in cloud and majesty and awe

chorus

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine advent here Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadows put to flight

chorus

prayer of confession

Here is a saying that is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15)

Lord of mercy,

always with us, always coming:

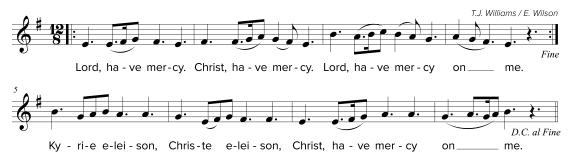
We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent.

We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.

Forgive us.

Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us.

Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming.



Receiving of Grace based on Isaiah 40:1-2

We serve a God of limitless power and might. Yet, in all of his power he looks on us with mercy, and draws us into his family, because of what Jesus Christ has done.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Your sin is pardoned. The penalty is paid.

God's grace abounds for us, even in our weakness.

Let us remember the hope of the gospel: In Christ, we are forgiven.

standing

Reading

It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the Bible read during worship. We do this because we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's Word.

Luke 21:25-33

25 "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26 People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27 At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

29 He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. 30 When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. 31 Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

32 "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

Psalm 50:1-6

- 1 The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets.
- 2 From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth.
- 3 Our God comes and will not be silent;
- a fire devours before him, and around him a tempest rages.

- 4 He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that he may judge his people:
- 5 "Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice."
- 6 And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for he is a God of justice.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Homily 'God shines forth'

standing

the Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed has for centuries helped people understand who God is, and the essential truths of Christian faith. Who is God? As we speak the creed now together it unites us with the Church globally and across the ages. We say this together as a community, because we need each other in life with God, and so that as a community we may grow as a vibrant expression of who God is.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

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. Rev. R.J. March

Prayers of the People

We regularly pray for needs in our community, our city, and the world as an act obedience and love, and to align our concerns with the Lord's. If you have children with you, please feel free to use this time to teach them to pray with us, as we ask God to honor our hope that we are becoming a vibrant expression of who God is—gracious, present, hospitable. You can send prayer requests to prayer@allsoulsseattle.org.

We give you thanks, Lord, our rock, our fortress, our deliverer,

for the continual evidence of your mercy in our lives;

for your goodness, for your unyielding grace.

We want to be anchored in your compassionate love.

We thank you for calling us to faith in Christ, and equipping your sons and daughters to seek and invest in what would honor you.

Give us hearts that are aligned with yours.

Teach us to love well, and courageously—purposefully, deliberately.

We thank you for putting your Spirit within us, for giving us the mind of Christ, for gathering us into your family, the church.

We thank you for calling us to a life of gratitude— give us grateful hearts.

We thank you for calling us to enduring hope—be our hope, Jesus.

We thank you, Lord,

who satisfies the thirsty, fills the hungry with good things, and heals the hurting, for your faithfulness.

We want to celebrate your abundant goodness— show us how.

We thank you, Lord, that you provide for our needs,

for the food on our tables, for the clothes on our bodies,

for the beds we sleep in, and for the homes that shelter us.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

Because All Souls is a church not only for the convinced but also for those journeying toward trust in Jesus, we gladly extend room for you to consider and dialogue. Use the prayers below during Communion as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.

> PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, and yet, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sin and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

* Hosanna means "save me!" but with Jesus came to mean "salvation is here!"

Communion

Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians.

EXTEND PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of Christ be with you always! And also with you.

GRATEFUL GIVING

Freely you have received; freely give. (Matthew 10:8)



Online giving

INVITATION + THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts! We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. We give thanks to you with those who have gone before us, and with brothers and sisters around the world, and along with the angels and all the company of heaven, we praise you with one voice:



BREAK BREAD

For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Cor 11:23-26)

Therefore, together, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world, for by him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

DRAW NEAR

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Trinity Song

words and music by Sandra McCracken

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit Holy Communion, Three-in-one.

Come with your peace, with your invitation Bind us together in Holy love.

How Firm a Foundation

words: "K" in John Rippon's A Selection of Hymns, 1787 music: FOUNDATION (American Folk Melody)

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!

What more can He say than to you He hath said, You who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

In every condition, in sickness, in health, in poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth, at home and abroad, on the land, on the sea, as days may demand, shall thy strength ever be

"Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply; The flame shall not hurt you; I only design Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The flame shall not hurt you; I only design Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine

Announcements (p.8)

Benediction

Live lives of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord, who takes pleasure in those who trust Him and put their hope in Him. Go now in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us go forth and serve our world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

All Souls welcomes all who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, understand the meaning of the Lord's Supper, and are in good standing with congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive Holy Communion with us.

Please note that we use wine for Communion; non-alcoholic grape juice is in the smaller of the two goblets. For those with wheat allergies, a glutenfree cracker is available in place of the bread (ingredients: water, organic brown and white rice flour).

A word to parents:

Children are welcome at the communion table. To receive the Lord's Supper, a child must have been baptized and received as a communing member by the leadership of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. If you have any question about how this process works, please speak with one of our pastors.

Our pastoral staff and other leaders are available following the service for prayer or to answer any questions you may have about All Souls.

Announcements

Advent Wreath Making



Friday, December 10, 7-9p in the March's backyard. **RSVP by Friday, December 3 using the QR code** so we can get the necessary supplies. Reach out to rsvp@allsoulsseattle.org with any questions.

Advent Vespers

Each Wednesday in December (1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd); 6-7:30p; Youngstown + Zoom



Our Wednesday evening prayer service, called Vespers, is back! Join us for a shared meal + a time of singing and prayer. All Souls Youth will be joining Vespers, in lieu of regular Wednesday eve gatherings.

To RSVP for dinner, follow the QR code.

Lectio at Lincoln

Saturday, December 11, 10a-noon; Lincoln Park, Shelter 3

Come gather around the fire, sip a hot beverage, and read (that's what *lectio* means) Mary's Song (Luke 1:46-55) in a fresh and reflective way. Reach out to Kara Barrett to learn more (kara@allsoulsseattle.org).

Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24, 5-8p; location details TBA. Service followed by a shared meal.

Advent Giving Opportunities

Seeking to be a church not just for ourselves, and a vibrant expression of who God is, please join us in these two specific partnerships this Advent season:

- YoungLives: We are thankful for the continued opportunity to come alongside YoungLives and their
 mentoring ministry to teen moms and their children. We invite you to consider sponsoring a meal or
 Christmas gift for a YoungLives family this holiday season. Contact: Alyssa Reeve (alyssa@allsoulsseattle.org)
- Department of Children, Youth, and Families: Join us in supporting foster care this season by donating to our local DCYF. Bring formula, bottles, and pacifiers on Sundays during December. For a list of which items to donate, follow the QR code or email Nancy Spiro (nancyspiro@gmail.com).

All Souls Youth Group!

Wednesdays, 6-8p, at Trinity West Seattle. All Middle and High school students welcome. Dinner included. Contact Suzanne Case with questions or to sign up to help provide a meal (suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org).

Parents: join the All Souls Youth Parents channel on Instagram @allsoulsyouth_parents

COMING UP

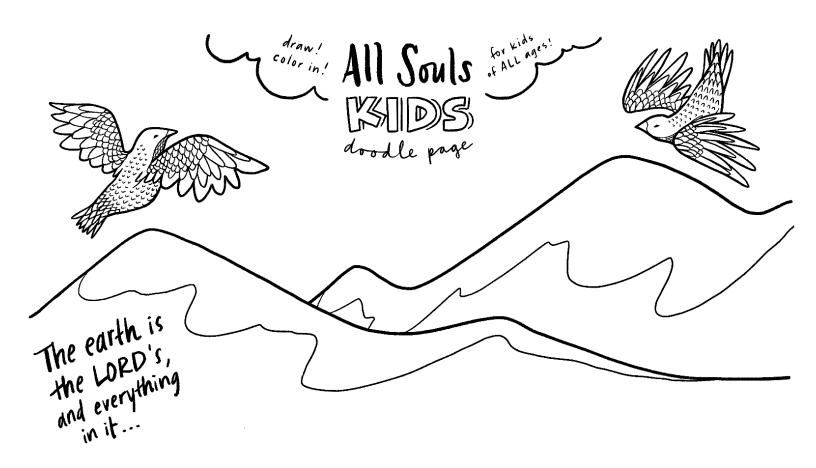
- High School Outdoor Movie Night! December 3, 7p at the Cases' house. Snacks + fire provided.
- No Youth Group Wednesday, November 23— Happy Thanksgiving!
- Summer Service Trip: All Souls is sending a team of 20 teens and adults back to Warm Springs, Oregon this summer. The dates are July 2-9, 2022. Interested? Pick up an informational flyer and plan on attending one of two informational meetings:

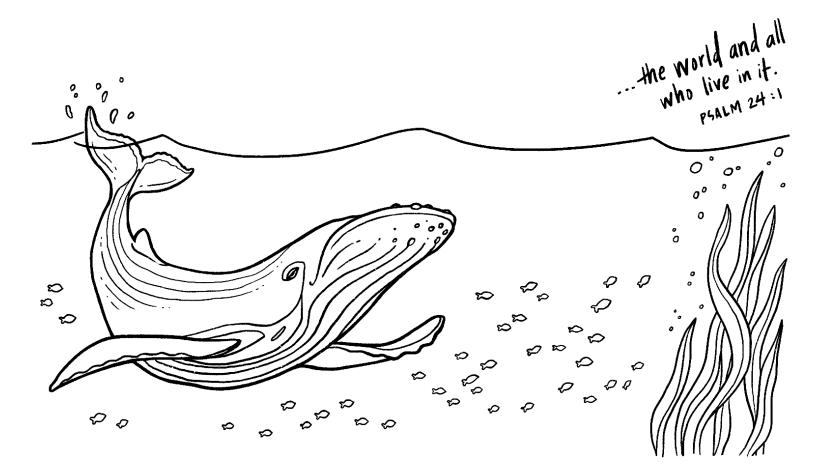
Sunday, December 5th or 12th, 10:40-10:55a in Room 111 at Youngstown



All Souls Kids update: Beginning in January, we are hoping to open up childcare for 1-2 year olds, and Sunday school for 3-5 year olds, during both services. All Souls needs to hire two childcare workers and recruit a team of at least 20 volunteers from our community in order to execute both of these programs. Please be praying that God would provide two amazing childcare team members to love and care for our toddlers! And if you are interested in learning about the requirements for and volunteering in our preschool Sunday school room, please follow the QR code to the interest form. Contact Suzanne Case (suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org) for more information.

	something you - ng worship today?
Did you hear any words that were NEW to you?	ran your IMAGINATION.
What's ONE question You'd want to ask Your parents or pastors?	A.r.
What's ONE question you'd want to ask GOD?	
Who do you want, or need, GOD to be to you today?	PRAY: Ask GOD to take care of everything you need. He always hears you, because He loves you!





Giving as Part of Worship

All we have is given to us by God. Our offerings express this joyful dependance and our commitment to join God in his work of renewal. Whether we have much or little, God calls us to treasure and trust Him above all. So we are to give as generously as we are able, knowing that He who met our most dire need through Christ will continue to provide for every need we have. All giving goes toward ministry initiatives of All Souls and the relief of those in need.

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, scripture says the Church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. So, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting this as a spiritual practice— that you might grow in faith.

We recognize, too, that as the church, we must consistently remind one another of the truth that everything we have is a gift from the Lord.

The Bible says that 'we know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich' (2 Corinthians 8:9). Jesus' death on the Cross represents the most generous gift ever given— when he gave up everything in order to reconcile us to God.

Giving cheerfully, sacrificially, and consistently is a part of our worship— not because it's something churches do, but because giving in response to the gospel is intended to be worshipful. When we are generous with others we are reminding one another of the great generosity of God.

All Souls seeks to build community, love our neighbors, and work for peace and justice within Seattle. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own financial needs, but to be able to serve those in need in our city and neighborhoods.

There are a few ways that you can contribute financially to All Souls:

Mail a check, or set up automatic bill pay through your bank, payable to:

All Souls PO Box 16613 Seattle, WA 98116

- Visit allsoulsseattle.org/give
- For any assistance or questions about:

Giving on a recurring basis via EFT (electronic fund transfer), stock donation, or non-cash contribution options (e.g. property or vehicle donation) please contact bookkeeper@allsoulsseattle.org

The intentional financial participation of those who consider All Souls their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. If you have questions about tithing or biblical guidelines for giving, please ask. If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give.

Amidst one of the longest seasons of challenge most of us have ever experienced, we want to celebrate how God has continually met our community's financial needs. This has allowed All Souls to continue in her mission, entering our eleventh year of worship together, as a church in and for our neighborhood seeking to be a vibrant expression of who God is—gracious, present, hospitable. 98.5% of our costs from last year were covered by careful cost adjustments by staff, and your continued giving and support. We thank God for your partnership in this work!

This year, as we look at our budget, there are few things to note: Pandemic realities have led to our giving and expenses shrinking around 20% over the last 2 years. However, this year we anticipate additional costs and have built them into our budget as we resume in-person Sunday gatherings. We have budgeted as realistically as possible, though many uncertainties remain about our costs this year. Our new budget of \$600,000 (\$550,000 last year) assumes a 10% growth in giving, and even then we are prepared to dip into our reserves about \$70,000 as we expect our costs to be closer to \$670,000. The pastors and leadership of All Souls invite you to join us in this generous risk, investing in our shared life together this next year.

October Giving Goal: \$50,000 October Actual Giving: \$26,000 Deficit: \$24,000

Online giving:

All Souls

CLERGY COMMUNITY / LITURGY

Rev. R.J. March Charlotte Aljets Rev. Andy Pelander Kara Barrett

Emma Groppe

VESTRY

ART / MUSIC Charlotte Aljets

Peter Barrett Lori Bailey
Joe Berg Alyssa Reeve
Suzanne Case Evan Wilson

Rachel Faunce

Graeme Hanson KIDS / YOUTH

Dan Reeve Jeff Case
Nancy Spiro Suzanne Case
Thad Williams Carrie Mahoney

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It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the other garden plants and becomes a tree, so that birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

Matthew 13:32