



September 4

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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cover photo by *Thad Williams*

Love is at the root of everything— all learning, all relationships— love or the lack of it.
And what we hear or see... is part of who we become.

Fred Rogers

Order of Worship

HAPPY LABOR DAY / THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



Please help us to be hospitable:

Face covering is optional on the main floor of the building (recommended downstairs). Participate online if you have symptoms of Covid-19 or have known exposure to someone who has tested positive.

If you have any questions about our precautions, check out our website at allsoulsseattle.org/covid or email info@allsoulsseattle.org.

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.

Call to Worship

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 (Psalm 24) and music by Evan W. Wilson

STANDING

The earth is the Lord's
And everything in it
The earth and all who live in it
Come now and receive
Blessing from the Lord
And vindication from our God

Lift up your heads (lift up your heads)
You mighty gates (you mighty gates) Be
lifted up (be lifted up)
You ancient doors (you ancient doors)
That the king of glory may come in

from Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way taken by the selfish
or sit in the company of those who mock,
but whose delight is in the way of the Lord,
and who meditates on it day and night.

**That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do will blossom.**

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 afternoon, 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.

Acclamation

Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord renews the face of the earth:
O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

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.

Amazing Grace

words by John Newton and John Rees; music: American folk tune

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there
ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun. (2x)

BE SEATED

Confession

Merciful Father,
We confess that we get overwhelmed with life, and fail to trust you.

Forgive us.

Capture our minds with your love, with your provision,

and with the abundance you offer in your Son, Jesus.

Renew us completely through your Spirit to rest in you alone.

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.

Let's acknowledge this silently before the Lord, knowing forgiveness and rest are freely available in Jesus. After a brief silence we will sing our confession together:

T.J. Williams / E. Wilson

Lord, ha - ve mer - cy. Christ, ha - ve mer - cy. Lord, ha - ve mer - cy on _____ me. *Fine*

5

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son, Christ, ha - ve mer - cy on _____ me. *D.C. al Fine*

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.

Receiving of Grace

from Colossians 2:13-14

Only by the blood of Christ have we been declared righteous in God's eyes. He has raised to new life those whose trust is in him. And so we remember the hope of the gospel:

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.

In Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

STANDING

the 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.

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

15 Look here! Today I've set before you life and what's good versus death and what's wrong. 16 If you obey the Lord your God's commandments that I'm commanding you right now by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments, his regulations, and his case laws, then you will live and thrive, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. 17 But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and so are misled, worshipping other gods and serving them, 18 I'm telling you right now that you will definitely die. You will not prolong your life on the fertile land that you are crossing the Jordan River to enter and possess. 19 I call heaven and earth as my witnesses against you right now: I have set life and death, blessing and curse before you. Now choose life—so that you and your descendants will live— 20 by loving the Lord your God, by obeying his voice, and by clinging to him. That's how you will survive and live long on the fertile land the Lord swore to give to your ancestors: to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

35 While Jesus was teaching in the temple courts, he asked, “Why do the teachers of the law say that the Messiah is the son of David? 36 David himself, speaking by the Holy Spirit, declared:

“The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet.”

37 David himself calls him ‘Lord.’ How then can he be his son?”

The large crowd listened to him with delight.

38 As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, 39 and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. 40 They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

41 Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. 42 But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Homily

Economics of Grace

Rev. R.J. March

Interlude

Prayers of the People

Rev. Dr. W. David O. Taylor
adapted from “special prayers for back to school”

Dear Jesus, you who promise to be with us always, we pray that you would be with school-children each day as they go to school. Bless their going and their coming. Bless their learning and their playing. Please protect their hearts from fear. Please keep them safe. Please give them good friends. Give them joy each school day and thank you for loving them from head to toe. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Dear Jesus, you who promise to be with us always, we pray that you would be with homeschoolers, as they do their school work. Please help them to do their best, help them not to feel alone, and help them to be patient with their families. Give them joy each homeschool day and thank you for loving them from head to toe.

Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord, you who promise to be with us always, be with high school and college students each day as they begin their schoolwork. Keep them in health, we pray, and keep them from harm. In all that they do and say, may they love you with all their hearts, minds, souls and strength, and may they love their neighbors as themselves, so that they might fulfill your purposes for them and your calling on their lives as a student. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

O Lord, you who promise to guide us through the wilderness and to protect us through the storm, we ask that you would make parents wise where they cannot clearly see the way forward, make them brave where they feel afraid, make them strong in the face of their weakness, and make possible what to them seems impossible, so that they might joyfully entrust themselves and their children into your tender care in these trying and troubling times. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

O Lord, you who have called and equipped the teachers in our community, we pray for them today. Watch over them, provide for them, guide them, sustain them. May you be their sun and shield, so that they might do the work that you have entrusted to them and sense your care in these uncertain times. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

O God, you who have promised wisdom to all who would ask it, we pray today for school administrators, that you would grant them clarity of mind, unity of spirit, strength of will, a heart of wisdom and the gift of your truth-bearing Spirit, so that they might be enabled to make decisions that lead to the flourishing of their teachers, staff, and students and to the wellbeing of the whole community. In Jesus' name we pray.

Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

Grateful Giving

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



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.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

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

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lo - rd, God of pow - er,
hea - ven and ear - th 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.

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.

The Lamb Has Overcome

words and music by Luke Morton (2011)

The Lamb has overcome (2x)
The battle's done and the victory is won
For the Lamb has overcome

No grave could hold Him down (2x)
Up from the ground
"He is risen!" was the sound
No grave could hold Him down

chorus:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Glory be unto His name (2x)

At God's right hand is He (2x)
Our Perfect Plea as He lives to intercede
At God's right hand is He

The table now is spread (2x)
This wine and bread,
Broken body and blood shed
The table now is spread / *chorus*

The day is drawing near (2x)
He shall appear
and will wipe away each tear
The day is drawing near / *chorus*

The Lamb has overcome (2x)
The battle's done and the victory is won
For the Lamb has overcome

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 and on-alcoholic grape juice for Communion (labeled on tables). For those with wheat allergies, a gluten-free cracker is available in place of the bread (ingredients: brown rice flour, sesame seeds, potato starch, safflower oil, flax seeds, quinoa seeds, amaranth seeds, chia seeds, millet, tamari soy sauce powder, sea salt).

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.

STANDING

Down by the Riverside / Walk in the Light of God

"Down By The Riverside" words and music: African American spiritual, arranged and adapted by Evan W. Wilson (2020); "Walk In The Light" words and music by Evan W. Wilson (2020)

I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield
Down by the riverside (3x)
I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield

chorus:

I ain't gonna study war (3x) no more

I'm gonna follow the prince of peace
Down by the riverside (3x)

There is love for my enemies / *chorus*

I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield
Come to the riverside

Come, let us walk in the light of God (4x)
Nations will not take up the sword; nor will
they train for war (4x)

Come, let us walk in the light of God

Announcements + Benediction

Philemon 1:25

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. **Amen.**

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

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

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

this week:

Bike Camping! Join us this Friday, September 9, for our annual overnight bike camping trip to Fey State Park on Bainbridge Island. Contact Joshua Groppe (joshua.jc.groppe@gmail.com) for details.

Fall Souls Retreat: Join us at Camp Long for our first-ever all-church retreat, Fri, Sept. 30 - Sat, Oct. 1, as friends new and old come together, freshly returning or simply seeking deeper and broader relationships within the All Souls community. Please RSVP using the QR code.



Community-wide Ordination Celebration: The weekend of October 22, we will gather as a whole community to witness Kara Nichols Barrett be ordained by our Bishop, Todd Hunter, to the diaconate. This will mark a significant milestone in both ours and Kara's journey, as we welcome her to our pastoral staff. Service and after-party details to come.

Serve with Us

Sunday Volunteers: We are looking for a few more volunteers to round out our fall/winter schedule! Our current areas of need are in our set-up/teardown, greeting and entry supervision (during the service) roles. Please take a moment to scan the QR code survey and fill out the survey with dates you are available. You can also reach out to Alyssa Reeve (alyssa@) with questions or for more information!



Group Life

Home Groups: In a world that pushes us toward isolation, we need community— a place where we're known, loved, and belong. We need local 'family'— siblings in Jesus we can lean on, learn with and from, care for, and celebrate growth alongside. Home Groups, designed to invite us into this relational space, are a vital part of our shared life and growth in Christ— places of care and community where we discover and live the Christian life together. Home Groups are one of the main ways we learn to receive and extend the hospitality of Christ in our neighborhoods. **We are seeking to add Home Group hosts and leaders this Fall.** Contact R.J. March (rj@allsoulsseattle.org) to learn more.

Grace Group: More Than a Mom. God has created us whole and good in his image. For those of us who carry the identity of mother, whether to children who are very young or who are approaching or have flown the nest, it can be challenging to find the value and purpose God may have for us beyond this role. Join us for connection, prayer, nourishment and encouragement, through scripture and practical takeaways, as we read *More Than a Mom*, by Kari Kampakis. Join us on **Fridays beginning Sept. 16 from 9:30-11a.** Location TBD. Contact Suzanne Case (suzanne@) to RSVP and for more info.

Youth Group

Weekly student gatherings will resume **Wednesday, October 5, 6:30-8p** at Trinity WS.

Middle school students meet in the commons room. High School students meet in the youth room.

Parents: follow us on Instagram @allsoulsyouth_parents

All Souls KIDS!

What's something you
HEARD during worship today?

A GUIDE FOR
EXPLORING
WHO GOD
IS TO US!

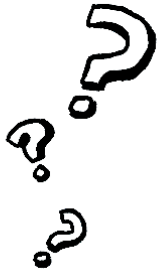
Did you hear any
words that were
NEW to you?



AS YOU
LISTEN...



Draw something that
inspired your IMAGINATION:



What's ONE question
you'd want to ask
your parents or pastors?

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!

draw!
color in!

All Souls KIDS doodle page

for kids
of ALL ages!



The earth is
the LORD's,
and everything
in it...

...the world and all
who live in it.
PSALM 24:1



Giving as Part of Worship

All we have is given to us by God. Our offerings express this joyful dependence 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, in addition to during worship, 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 (ACH now available)
- 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.

Online giving:



All Souls

CLERGY

Rev. R.J. March
Rev. Andy Pelander

VESTRY

Charlotte Aljets
Joe Berg
Suzanne Case
Rachel Faunce, *people's warden*
Graeme Hanson
Dan Reeve, *junior warden*
Nancy Spiro
Thad Williams, *senior warden*

WORSHIP LOCATION

Trinity West Seattle - Sundays, 4p
7551 35th Ave SW

OFFICE

All Souls Loft
4138 California Ave SW, 2nd fl

MAILING ADDRESS

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info@allsoulsseattle.org
Instagram: @allsoulsseattle

ART / LITURGY / FORMATION

Kara Nichols Barrett (ordinand)
Alyssa Reeve

COMMUNITY / LOGISTICS

Charlotte Aljets
Emma Groppe
Kelly Smith

KIDS / YOUTH

Jake Bohling
Jeff Case
Suzanne Case
Carrie Mahoney
Elba Martin



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