

What Is A Saint? November 1, 2020

Mahanoy City First United Methodist Church

Remembering the saints of the church

Proposal Description

Taking a day to remember the saints of the church who have passed away into eternal life in the past year. The pastor or a family member of the deceased will light a candle for each member that has passed away. In addition, the service will include a tolling of the chimes where the organist plays the chime after each name is read. This offers all members to partake in a time of silent reflection about that member.

Included in the service will be a visual representation of the Beatitudes found in the Gospel of Matthew 5, verses 3 through 12. These will define what a saint is according to the gospel and may remain up all year as a reminder to the congregation that we are all saints. In the future I would like to have a professional poster of the beatitudes made to scale with larger text, so it is visible from any seat in the sanctuary. In addition, I would like to include photos of the deceased as another visual element in the service.

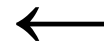
In the future, I will compile prices for the professional poster and present that to the church council for approval.

Set Up Time: No longer than 20 minutes

Photos of the
worship space



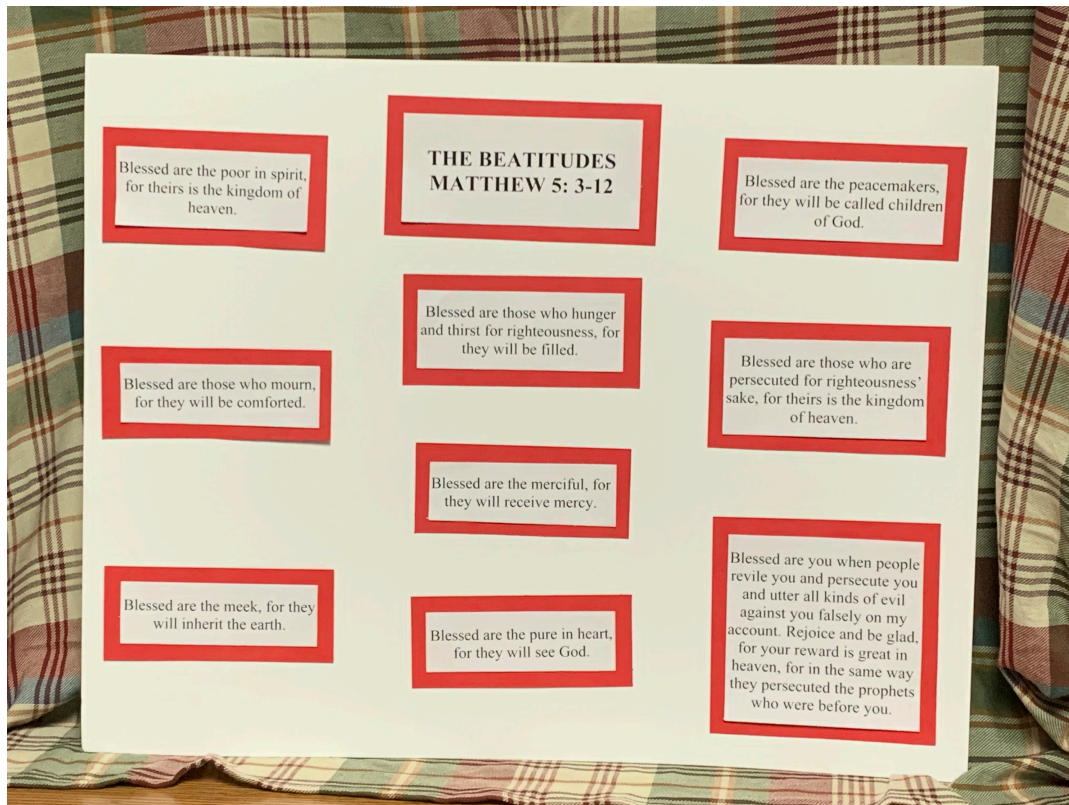
**The
Beatitudes**



Full Altar with
Candles for
Saints

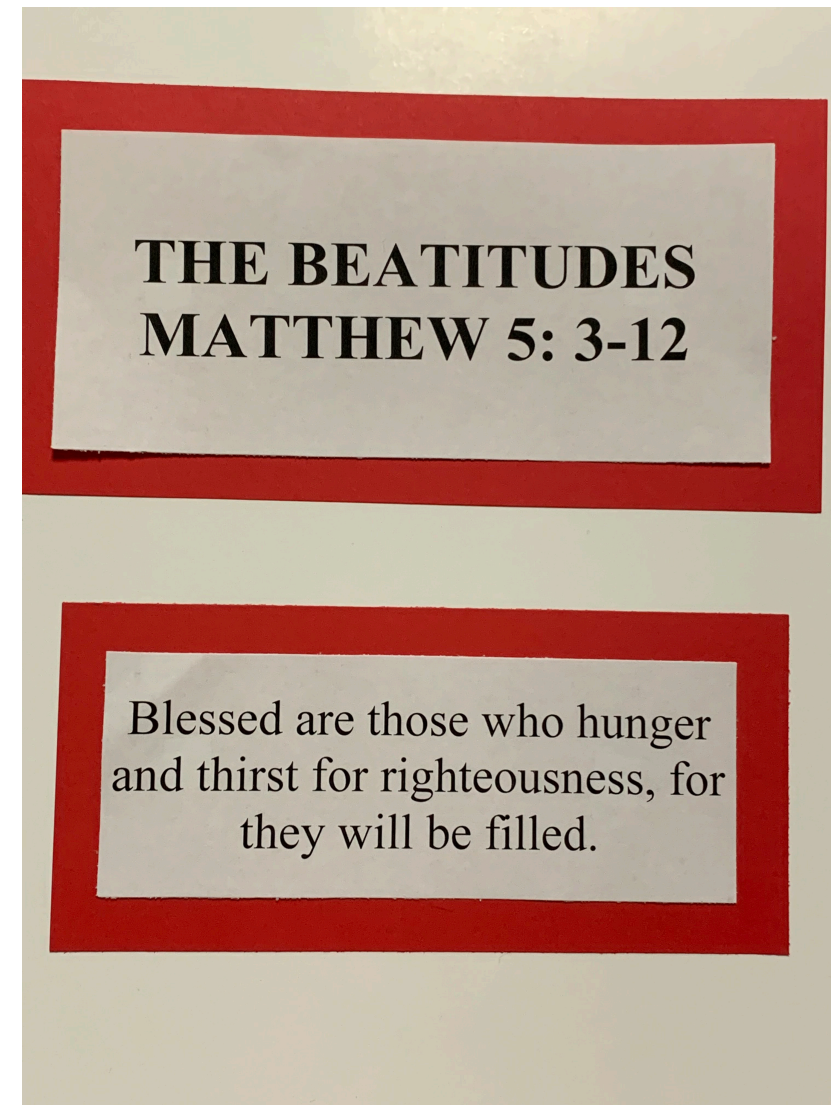


Closeup of →
Candles for
Saints



Closeup of The Beatitudes Poster →

← The Beatitudes Poster



First United Methodist Church

400 E. Mahanoy Street Mahanoy City

Reverend Bridget Wagner

(570) 205-9263

Sunday Worship

10:15 AM

November 1, 2020

All Saints Sunday

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF ALTAR CANDLES

GREETING / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEACE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist: Let us gather today and celebrate for soon we will gather in heaven.

People: For the body of Christ will meet in heaven from all across the ages.

Liturgist: Those we once knew and who have finished their race will be there.

People: Those who are with us now carrying the banner of Christ will be there.

Liturgist: And those we have not yet known, if the Lord tarries, will be there.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord! Come let us worship the Lord.

***PRAYER: (unison) O God, in your wisdom you have granted us the privilege of being a part of your Eternal Church. Touch our hearts, Lord; let us stand with pride beside the Saints from across the ages. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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, the third day he rose from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

TOLLING OF THE CHIMES: Let us remember those of our congregation and families who have gone to rest in the care of the Lord this past year: Carol Byrne, Robert Wagner Jr., Betty Lechler

RESPONSIVE READING:

Ever living God, this day revives in us memories of loved ones who are no more. What happiness we shared when they walked among us. What joy, when, loving and being loved, we lived our lives together.

Their memory is a blessing for ever.

Months or years may have passed, and still we feel near to them. Our hearts yearn for them. Though the bitter grief has softened, a duller pain abides; for the place where once they stood is empty now. The links of life are broken, but the links of love and longing cannot break.

Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

We see them now with the eye of memory, their faults forgiven, their virtues grown larger. So does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight. We remember them with gratitude and bless their names.

Their memory is a blessing for ever.

And we remember as well the members who but yesterday were part of our congregation and community. To all who cared for us and labored for all people, we pay tribute. May we prove worthy of carrying on the tradition of our faith, for now the task is ours.

Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

We give you thanks that they now live and reign with you. As a great crowd of witnesses, they surround us with their blessings, and offer you hymns of praise and thanksgiving. **They are alive for ever more. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: A Reading from Revelation 7:9-17

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God**

EPISTLE READING: A Reading from first John 3:1-3

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God**

***GOSPEL: A Reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew 5:1-12**

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God**

SERMON / PASTORAL PRAYER

JOYS & CONCERNS (Let us name those in need of our prayers)

OFFERING / *PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING / HOLY COMMUNION

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

**All Saints Sunday Bulletin
November 1, 2020**

Materials List

- Candles
- Appropriate Altar Clothes to coincide with the lectionary
- Alter candles
- Posterboard
- Copy Paper
- Red Cardstock
- Future: Professional Poster
- Future: Photo of deceased member(s) of /congregation