EDWARDS CHURCH *of* **NORTHAMPTON**

United Church of Christ

November 1, 2026 **Sunday, 10:00 AM**



The Communion of Saints

United in Christ's love, we are committed to creating a just and loving world where all feel valued and free to be themselves. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we welcome you to be a part of shaping this community as it continues to evolve. We invite you to bring all that you are to this church: your gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, family structure, race, color, ethnicity, culture, age, range of ability; your economic, educational, and immigration status, and your unique perspective.

Welcome to Edwards Church

Take a moment to read through the bulletin to familiarize yourself with the order of worship.

Please see an usher for:

- ❖ Large-print bulletins.
- ❖ SoundMate assisted listening devices.
- ❖ Childcare and Spiritual Formation Classes which are provided downstairs.
- ❖ Sunday services at Edwards Church are recorded and livestreamed, if you prefer not to be photographed or filmed, please inform an usher.

Give Online

Scan Here

Thank you volunteers:

Head Usher: Marc Waller
Scripture Reader: Melissa Mattison
Fellowship: Ella Stocker & Michele Whiting

Edwards Church of Northampton
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EDWARDS CHURCH of NORTHAMPTON

Our Staff:

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Jennifer Geary
Music Director: Adam Simon
Treasurer: Sabra Aquadro
Office Manager: Keith Barnicle
Sexton: Justin Clifford
Childcare: Shannon Ryan, Denisse Barron, Edie Parker Yourga
Livestream Services: Alex LaMarche, Thomas Campbell

Order of Worship

↑ Indicates standing in body or spirit.

B = Black New Century Hymnal, R = Red Pilgrim Hymnal.

~ We Gather to be Present to God ~

Prelude Slow Dance Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958)

Welcome

Introit

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, we gather as a community to worship you. We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses who have joined you in eternal peace. Bless this gathering with your presence. Open us to the movement of the Spirit. Guide us in our thoughts and actions. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

↑Sharing the Peace of Christ

Use whatever gesture or words feel best for you to greet each other with the Peace of Christ.

↑Hymn B # 68 *God is Truly With Us*

Scripture Revelation 7:9-17

Anthem Hallelujah William Walker (1809 - 1875)

And let this feeble body fail,
And let it faint or die;
My soul shall quit this mournful vale,
And soar to worlds on high,

chorus:
And I'll sing hallelujah,
And you'll sing hallelujah,
And we'll all sing hallelujah,
When we arrive at home.

Shall join the disembodied saints,
And find its long-sought rest,
The only bliss for which it pants,
In my Redeemer's breast.

Oh what are all my suff'rings here,
If, Lord, Thou count me meet
With that enraptured host t'appear,
And worship at Thy feet!

Give joy or grief, give ease or pain,
Take life or friends away,
But let me find them all again,
In that eternal day.

Scripture **Litany of the Beatitudes** (Matthew 5:1-12) by John Dalla Costa, October, 2019. Adapted.

Rite of Remembrance

Please come forward and say the names of all the saints of your life you wish to honor. Then move to the table to light candles in their memory using both sides.

↑Hymn B # 376 *God We Thank You For Our People*

Stewardship Moment Sarah Briggs

Offering

Offertory O Taste and See R. V. Williams

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:
blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

↑Sung Presentation V 3 562 *Take My Gifts*

Take whatever I can offer – gifts that I have yet to find,
Skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,
Things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:
Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

↑Unison Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, thank you, thank you. We lay this offering before you in deep gratitude for all of the blessings and challenges we have received. Guide us in the use of these riches that you might be glorified. Amen.

Sharing

Prayer

Lord's Prayer *Use the words most comfortable for you. If you are unfamiliar with this prayer, here is one version. Other versions can be found on page 9 in the black hymnal.*

Our Nurturer who is in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup *Our bread is gluten free; our cup is alcohol free.*
Please eat the bread at your own timing.
Please hold the cup; we will drink together.

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you God, for the healing we receive through this sacrament. Thank you for this community that restores us through sharing life together. Thank you for giving us the courage and strength to do your will. Grant that we leave this table filled with your love, and overflowing with grace for the world. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Announcements

↑Hymn # B 299 vs 1, 3, 5 *For All the Saints*

↑Benediction by Michael McSherry

↑Sung Blessing *As You Go on Your Way*

As you go on your way, may God go with you
May God go before you to show you the way
May God go behind you to encourage you
Beside you to befriend you
Above you to watch over
Within you to give you peace

↑Postlude Quick Dance R. V. Williams

During the Postlude, feel free to sit or to make your way to fellowship time.

This Week at Edwards Church

Monday 11/2
1:00 PM Pastor Open Office Hours
6:00 PM Monday Meditation Group (Edwards Room)

Tuesday 11/3
10:00 AM Pastor Open Office Hours
7:00 PM Gamblers Anonymous (Addis Hall)
Wednesday 11/4
11:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)
7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)
Thursday 11/5
5:00 PM Pastor Open Office Hours
6:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Friday 11/6
7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Sanctuary)
Saturday 11/7
7:00 PM Arcadia Players: English Music for Voice and Viols (Sanctuary)
Sunday 11/8
10:00 AM Worship (Sanctuary)

Announcements

Arcadia Players: English Music for Voice and Viols

Dowland, Purcell and more performed by voice and Arcadia Viols

- Saturday, November 7 at 5 PM
- Edwards Church, Northampton, MA

This concert highlights Arcadia Viols playing fantasies, consort music, and consort songs by Byrd, Dowland, Gibbons, Tomkins, Jenkins, and Purcell. You are in for a feast for the mind and the senses, as you engage in the rich poetry and lush expressivity of this incredible music. It will take you to regions both melancholy and sublime. Learn more and get tickets: https://www.arcadiaplayers.org/concert-season

Monday Meditation Group

Monday Meditation Group is back. Please join us on **Mondays at 6:00 PM** in the Edwards Room. No experience necessary!

2027 Edwards Church Stewardship Campaign: Because of YOU, Our Church Changes Lives!

This autumn, we have been reflecting on the many ways Edwards Church changes lives through worship, service, volunteering, and fellowship. Our annual stewardship campaign invites us to consider how we can continue this important ministry by sharing our time, talents, and financial resources.

Please join us for Stewardship Sunday on November 15, 2026! During worship, we will celebrate our congregation's generosity and bless and consecrate our pledges for the coming year.

This year, we encourage everyone to make their pledge online. An email with a link and instructions will be sent on Wednesday, November 4, at noon. Pledge cards will also be available during worship on November 15, and you may return your card or contact the church office to make your pledge.

This year's pledge card also includes an optional checkbox to give the church permission to send you text messages about important updates, weather emergencies, and church events.

Thank you for being part of a congregation that makes a difference. **Because of YOU, our church changes lives!**

Zoom Bible Study

Join us every **Wednesday at 11:00 AM** as we read together the passages for the upcoming Sunday. Every day is a stand-alone event so come when you can and join our lively discussion.

This week's scripture is: Amos 5:18-24; Matthew 25:1-13

Let the church office know if you would like to have your name added to the weekly Zoom invitation or just join using this link: https://tinyurl.com/fbrph2p5
If you need a Bible, there are a few copies available through the Church office.

Worship Services Online

To watch our worship services online, please go to our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/c/EdwardsChurchNorthamptonMA

In Our Prayers

If you would like to add or remove a name on the prayer list, please contact the church office or Rev. Geary.

Justin	Bert	Kimberly	Michele
Norma Jean	Steve	Margaret	Danny
Stacey	Mark	Nicole	Margaret
Deb	June	Shelia	Bob
Jack	Laura	David	Bill
Rachel	Tom	Laura	Al
Emily	Beth	Kate	Jessica
Ann	Mildred	Charlie	Mark

Those who mourn, the family and friends of:

Rick Aponte	Carla Bee	Marjorie E. Tauer
Evelyn Blakesly	Audrey Easter	Sydney Montague
Janie Thurber	Marc Abel	Kalei
Phyllis Rogers	Craig Zaehring	
Michele McHale	Courtney Coghill	

God Is Truly with Us

Matt. 1:23; 2 Cor. 9:8; Rev. 4:8–11

Gerhard Tersteegen, 1729
Transl. Frederick W. Foster and others; alt.



Gerhard Tersteegen, an important German hymnwriter of the Reformed Church, began preaching at prayer meetings and gained a considerable following. He devoted his life to praying, preaching, visiting the poor, and writing and translating

Tune: WUNDERBARER KÖNIG 6.6.8.6.6.8.3.3.6.6.
Joachim Neander, in A und Ω,
Glaubund Liebesübung, *Bremen, 1680*

God, We Thank You for Our People

Ruth Duck, 1986



Ruth Duck created this text at the request of Harold (Hal) McSwain, Jr., for a family reunion. She found her inspiration in the stories of Harold, Sr., and in her own family heritage. The hymn speaks to any community that has shared life together for a long time.

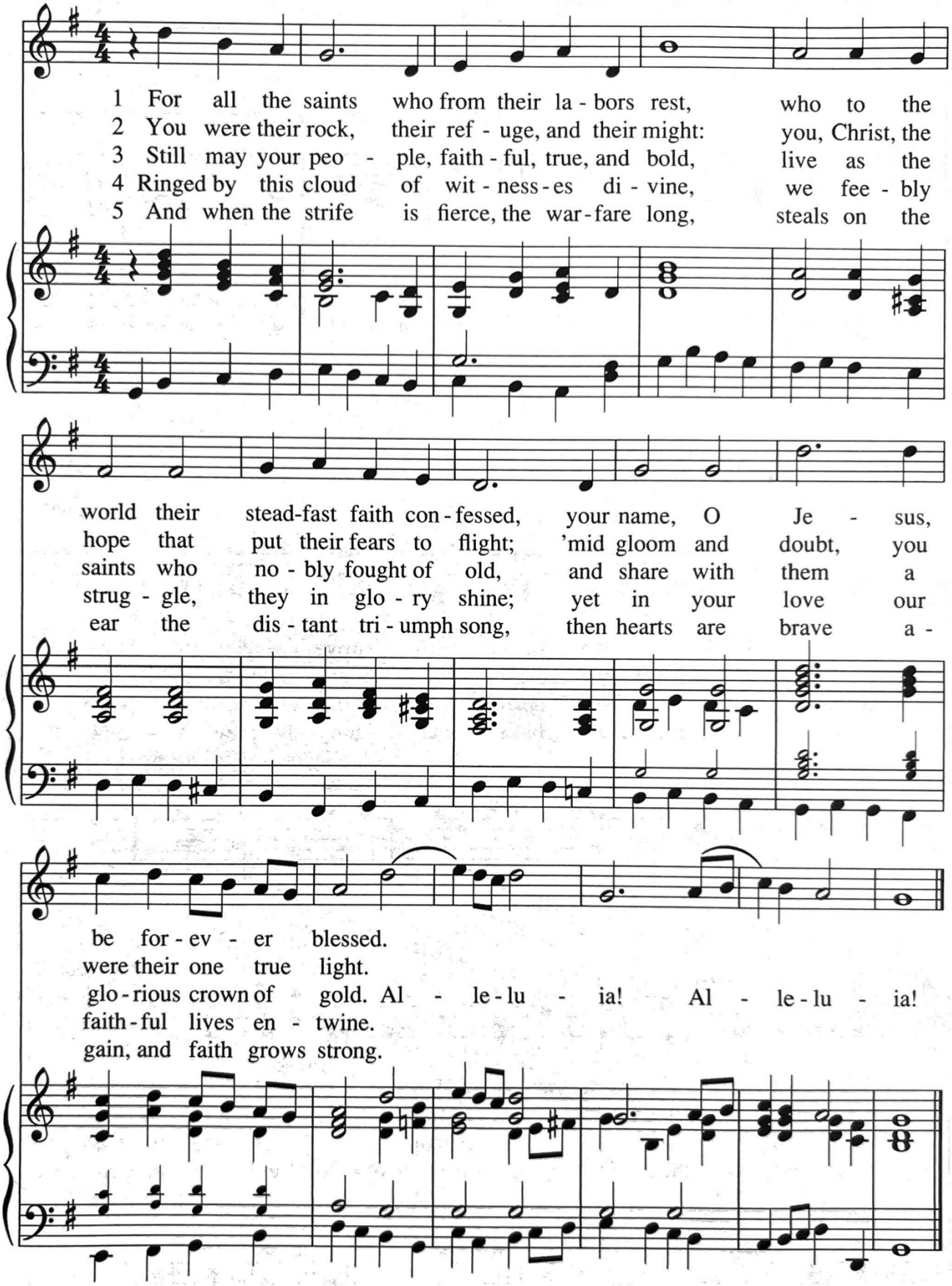
Tune: HOLY MANNA 8.7.8.7.D.
William Moore, 1825

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299 For All the Saints

Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.



This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnal *(1869) and set to a tune by that name,* Sarum. *It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring* Sine Nomine *in* The English Hymnal *(1906).*

Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4.
Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Music Copyright ©, Oxford University Press. From *The English Hymnal 1906.*