Gathering

Welcome Derek Hicks

* Congregational Song: “All Are Welcome” MUO #4

Centering

All Saints Day Prayer Paul Collins (MDiv ‘20) Melva Sampson

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:34-46 Sarah Vaughn (MDiv ‘20)  
“Love the Lord Your God” MUO #32

Proclaiming

Sermon: “The Subversive Call of Love” Susan A. Minasian

Responding

* Congregational Song: “O For a World”

Sending

Benediction Susan A. Minasian

* Please stand in body and/or spirit.
O For a World

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re-spects each oth-er’s ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis-er-y re-lied,
3 We wel-come one world fam-i-ly and strug-gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool-ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre-par-ing for God’s glo-rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus-tice and with praise.
where truth is spo-ken, chil-dren spared, e-qual-i-ty a-chieved.
that o-pens us to u-ni-ty and gives our vi-sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out-casts be-long, who per-ish-es will rise.
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God’s desire for all earth’s people to live in radical shalom.
Notes for Today’s Worship

About the Worship Leader
Rev. Dr. Susan Minasian is a second generation Armenian American from Richmond, Virginia. She spent the past 10 years serving as the College Chaplain of Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. On March 1, 2017 Susan began serving as the pastor of Sojourners United Church of Christ in Charlottesville, Virginia. She is a liturgical artist, and has served as an adjunct instructor at Lancaster Theological Seminary in the area of sacred dance and speech for the preacher and presider.

Worship
October 31, 2017, marks the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation when Martin Luther offered his 95 theses to All Saints Church and other churches in Wittenberg, Germany to challenge some of the practices of the Catholic Church. Today, we remember those faithful saints within all Christian traditions who have worked to reform the Church to embody God’s call for love, justice, and welcome.

Today’s worship service was planned by Johanna Kelley (MDiv ’20) and Amanda Kerr (MDiv ’18).

The altar design was created by Sophia Russell (MDiv ’18).

The bulletin cover art, “Every Round Goes Higher,” is by Larry Poncho Brown.

The All Saints Day Prayer was adapted from Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church. Accessible at www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/all-saints-day-all-hallows-eve-prayer-with-libation.

Dia de los Muertos Altar
Throughout Mexico and parts of Central and South America, Día de los Muertos is a period of observance around All Soul’s Day during which we remember our beloved departed by gathering at their graves with offerings of things they loved- usually alcohol, their favorite foods, flowers, notes, and prayers. Many parties and parades are held in honor of the dead, during which people share stories of the lives or memories with their beloved departed. This altar was designed by Taina Diaz-Reyes (MDiv/MA ’19) to share this spiritual heritage with us, and is a collection of offerings and prayers for the souls of the beloved deceased from our community.