

St. Paul United Methodist Church

A Good Neighbor

501 Grant Street, SE • Atlanta GA 30312

404-688-7501 • fax 404- 688-4421

Susan Allen Grady, Pastor

Doug Hollis, Family Life Minister

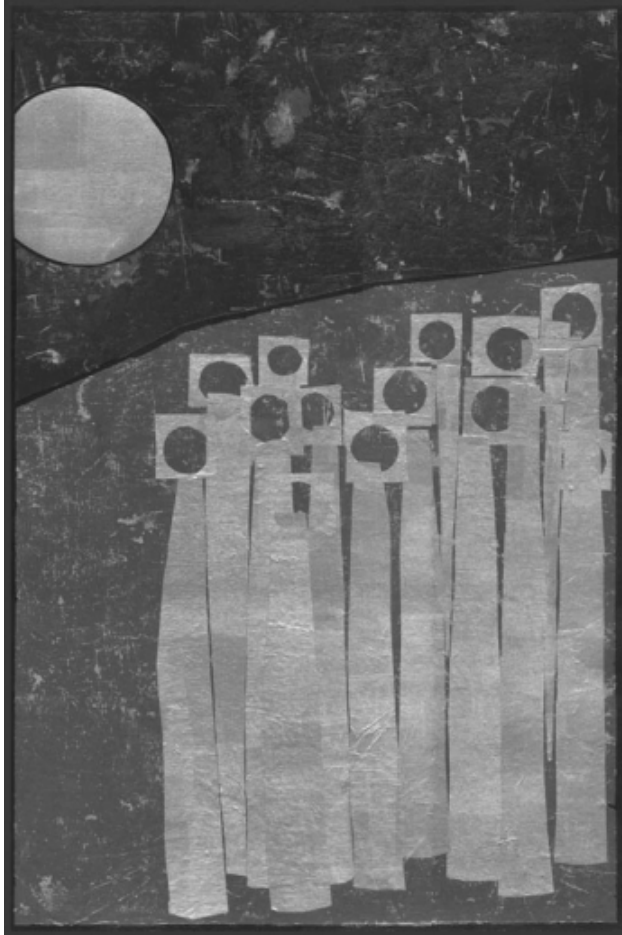
Jonathan DeLoach, Organist

Becky Wellman, Golden Age Center Director

Laura Rappold, Deacon in Residence

Kevin Hill, Minister of Music

Ginny Pavey, Office Manager



A Gathering of Spirits

© Jan L. Richardson

www.janrichardson.com

**All Saints Day
November 2, 2008**

The Worship of God

The Community Gathers

11:00 am Worship Begins

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses.

Death has no dominion over them.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

***Hymn**

For All the Saints

#711

Welcome and Greeting (*We want to know that you were here worshipping with us today, especially if you are a first time visitor. Please introduce yourself to your neighbors, fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew), and place it in the offering.*)

Announcements

***Passing of the Peace** (*Please take a couple of minutes to greet one another with God's love. If you're not sure of someone's name, it's a great time to ask. Please speak to someone you don't know that well...it will make a difference for all of us*).

Celebration of Our Children (*after which, children 3 to 5th grade are invited upstairs for Children's Church. Children under 3 are invited for loving childcare upstairs during the rest of the service. Children need to be escorted upstairs by an adult.*)

Concerns and Celebrations

Pastoral Prayer

Everliving 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 for ever.

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. (cont'd)

(cont'd)

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 for ever.

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.

Dedication of Our Piano

We present this piano to be consecrated to the glory of almighty God and for service in this congregation.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High,
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness at night,
to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, whom the generations have worshiped through the gift of music, accept our praise to you in the sound of this instrument, which we consecrate in your name and to your glory, in memory of your servant Dr. G. Van Greene, whose gift to us it is. Grant that its music may be a blessing to all who worship here, and that they may be consecrated to you, whose sound has gone on through all the earth and whose words to the end of the world.

Let our music be so joined to your holy Word that your glory may surround us and empower us for the service to which you call us in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

***Hymn**

Come Let Us Join Our Friends Above

#709

The Word Read and Shared

Scripture Lesson

Revelation 7:9-17

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Come Away to the Skies

Chancel Choir

Sermon

Rev. Susan Allen Grady

Responding to the Word

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Musical Offering

The Gathering of Spirits

Laura Wells, Soloist

***The Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;
praise God, the Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

(by Mark Crenshaw and Shelly Hart)

Insert

The Naming of Our Honored Dead will take place during this prayer.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Music

*Gather Us In
For the Bread*

*(Insert, from The Faith We Sing #2236)
#614*

We Depart to Love and Serve

***Hymn**

Marching to Zion

#733

***Benediction**

***The Congregational Blessing**

Go Now in Peace

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

***The Light Goes Forth**

Postlude

*Stand as you are able.