

# Service for All Hallows' Eve



October 31, 2021

Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Big Rapids, MI

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cadillac, MI

Officiant Stay with us, Christ, for it is evening.

**People Make your Church bright with your radiance.**

Officiant If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

Let us pray.

Lord Christ, your saints have been the lights of the world in every generation: Grant that we who follow in their footsteps may be made worthy to enter with them into that heavenly country where you live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The candles are now lit.*

### **Phos hilaron**

**All Light of the world, in grace and beauty,  
Mirror of God's eternal face,  
Transparent flame of love's free duty,  
You bring salvation to our race.  
Now, as we see the lights of evening,  
We raise our voice in hymns of praise;  
Worthy are you of endless blessing,  
Sun of our night, lamp of our days.**

**The First Reading:** The Valley of Dry Bones, Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will

lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

Reader        The Word of the Lord.

People        **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 143:1-11**

**1        LORD, hear my prayer, and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; \*  
answer me in your righteousness.**

**2        Enter not into judgment with your servant, \*  
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.**

**3        For my enemy has sought my life; he has crushed me to the ground; \*  
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.**

**4        My spirit faints within me; \*  
my heart within me is desolate.**

**5        I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds; \*  
I consider the works of your hands.**

- 6 I spread out my hands to you; \*  
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.
- 7 O LORD, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; \*  
do not hide your face from me or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
- 8 Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning, for I put my trust in you; \*  
show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my soul to you.
- 9 Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD, \*  
for I flee to you for refuge.
- 10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; \*  
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
- 11 Revive me, O LORD, for your Name's sake; \*  
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

Officiant Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, you have called your people to your service from age to age. Do not give us over to death, but raise us up to serve you, to praise you, and to glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Second Reading:** The War in Heaven, Revelation 12:7-12

Reader A reading from the book of Revelation.

And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,

“Now have come the salvation and the power  
and the kingdom of our God  
and the authority of his Messiah,  
for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,  
who accuses them day and night before our God.  
But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb

and by the word of their testimony,  
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.  
Rejoice then, you heavens  
and those who dwell in them!  
But woe to the earth and the sea,  
for the devil has come down to you  
with great wrath,  
because he knows that his time is short!"

Reader        The Word of the Lord.

People        **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 103:17-22**

- 17      **But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever on those who fear him, \*  
and his righteousness on children's children;**
- 18      **On those who keep his covenant \*  
and remember his commandments and do them.**
- 19      **The LORD has set his throne in heaven, \*  
and his kingship has dominion over all.**
- 20      **Bless the LORD, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
and hearken to the voice of his word.**
- 21      **Bless the LORD, all you his hosts, \*  
you ministers of his who do his will.**
- 22      **Bless the LORD, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion; \*  
bless the LORD, O my soul.**

Officiant     Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O most merciful and mighty God, your son Jesus Christ was born of the Blessed Virgin Mary to bring us salvation and to establish your kingdom on earth: Grant that Michael and all your angels may defend your people against Satan and every evil foe, and that at the last we may come to that heavenly country where your saints for ever sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Song of the Spirit, *Revelation 22:12-17*

All            "Behold, I am coming soon," says the Lord,  
                  "and bringing my reward with me, \*  
                  to give to everyone according to their deeds.  
                  "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, \*  
                  the beginning and the end."  
                  Blessed are those who do God's commandments,  
                  that they may have the right to the tree of life, \*  
                  and may enter the city through the gates.  
                  "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, \*  
                  with this testimony for all the churches.  
                  "I am the root and the offspring of David, \*  
                  I am the bright morning star."  
                  "Come!" say the Spirit and the Bride; \*  
                  "Come!" let each hearer reply!  
                  Come forward, you who are thirsty, \*  
                  let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.

Officiant     Hear our cry, O God.

People        And listen to our prayer.

Officiant     Let us pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy name,  
    thy kingdom come, thy 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.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    for ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant     Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtues and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

### **The Blessing and Dismissal**

Officiant     May God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Officiant     Let us bless the Lord.

**People**       **Thanks be to God.**

*Service taken from The Book of Occasional Services and Enriching Our Worship.*