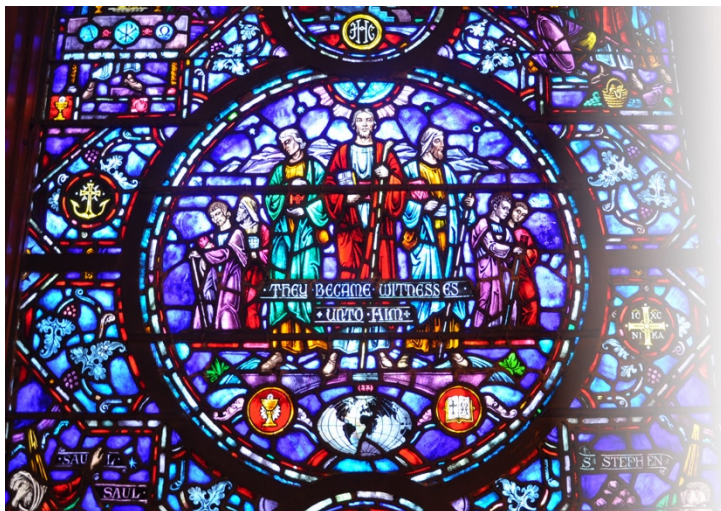




LOVE
INCREASING



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Pastor: Rev. Pastor Pablo R. Vargas
Music Director: Cavan O'Neill

We Offer Ourselves in Worship
November 2, 2025
Lay Worship Leader- Patricia Ferrell

Words Of Welcome

Announcements

Centering Time (Prepare Your Heart & Mind for Worship)

Responsive Call to Worship (Unison)

On this All Saints Sunday, we gather to remember teachers and storytellers who made God's stories come alive for us.

We give thanks!

We remember choir members, praise bands, organists, and all the musicians who sang and played your praises.

We give thanks!

We remember preachers and lay leaders who led our worship through the years.

We give thanks!

We remember parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings who showed us how to hold fast to the faith.

We give thanks!

We remember all those who have been a part of this faith family with whom we grew our faith and our love for God and neighbor.

We give thanks for the saints who came before us, are present here with us, and will continue after us. Thanks be to God!

Opening Prayer

"For All the Saints"

UMH-711

Sharing of The Peace: *We greet those around us with a sign of peace (handshakes or hugs) and words like "The peace of the Lord be with you"*

Pastoral Welcome & Prayer (Psalms 119:137-144)

"Be Still My Soul"

UMH #534

Scripture Reading- 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Paul, Silas, and Timothy,

To the church of Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ²Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the LORD Jesus Christ. ³We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. ⁴Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. ¹¹With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. ¹²We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Children are dismissed to "Godly Play")- Janice Vargas (storyteller) & Emma Diaz (helper)

Message: **Pastor Pablo R. Vargas: "Increasing Faith, Increasing Love"**

Sermon Notes (Just Some Thoughts):

- Paul writes 1 and 2 Thessalonians to a newly formed church in the city of Thessalonica
- The letters are intended to aid the Christians there in the ongoing formation of their life together in Christ in the midst of persecution.
- Paul's initial greeting is an indication that God is at work in the world- God's grace given to us leads us to peace: peace within ourselves and peace among us. It is a reminder that God's peace (shalom) is not a peace the same as the peace that was proclaimed by Rome (pax Romana) nor is it the peace that is proclaimed by the world's super powers, including our own nation.
- "Peace through strength" would never have been Jesus' motto.
- The Prince of Peace, contrary to Pax Romana, was not a peace through might of weapons or might of economic wealth but one achieved by AGAPE love- a love that can only be described as a selfless, unconditional, sacrificial and the highest form of love.
- Paul isn't only impressed by the increasing faith of the saints in Thessalonica, he is ecstatic over their increasing love.
- Paul is declaring that the Church in Thessalonica is increasing in their AGAPE love!

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

UMH-712

Communion- We will form 2 lines to receive the Eucharist elements

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS & SERVICE (Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness)

We commit our time, talent, treasure, willingness to serve and gift of witness out into the world as we bring our offerings.

***Doxology**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Gracious God of every growing gift, you call forth saints not with perfection, but with purpose — to grow in faith, abound in love, and serve with steadfastness. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude, given by those you are shaping for good works in Christ. Use them to build up your church, to bless the world, and to honor those who have taught us to love more deeply. May our generosity today reflect your glory and strengthen us to walk ever more faithfully in your way. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"We Are Called"

TFWS-2172

Benediction

Stay Afterwards for Coffee Hour