

Luke 23:33-43

These are the Lectionary Texts for the day, but the texts used in worship may vary.

For more information call

Susan Harlan at 770-377-3869.

Business Office Manage Will Mathews

Administrative Manage







Pastoral Reflections "Approaching All Saints" By Daniel Headrick

During worship this coming Sunday (November 3, 2019), we'll be calling out the names of five Northside Drivers who died since *All Saints' Day*, 2018: Aline Cofield; Kenneth Dean; Bill Jones; Jane Lamkin; and Larry Prince, Sr. As we call each out loud, a bell will be rung, and Senior Pastor James Lamkin will offer a brief reflection. These are indeed hallowed days.

I grew up in a tradition which had no analogue to *All Saints*. Perhaps the closest was Decoration Day at the cemetery in Leoma, Tennessee. Many of you participate in this very meaningful day, with its annual visitation to a loved one's grave to clean and decorate, to pray and to remember. Such observances happen privately outside the space of our communal worship. And so, it has been special to me to have space during a worship service to formally remember our saints. In addition to those dear ones named above, we can call aloud others who have died.

In our popular rendering, a *saint* is a rare person indeed. One who by their conduct is beyond reproach. One who appears to be closer to God than others. Or so it might be thought by our colloquial use of the term. *She's a saint*, we would say of my maternal grandmother who never had a known outburst of anger or inappropriate conduct. Her irenic nature was a constant.

The New Testament conceives of a saint in less hierarchical, and more approachable ways. For Paul, the saints are ubiquitous and omnipresent in those congregations to which he wrote letters. Addressing the church at Corinth, he addressed the congregation as those "called to be saints" (1 Cor. 1:2). Likewise, in Ephesians he begins with *To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus* (Ephesians 1:1). Paul thought of himself as "the very least of all the saints" (Ephesians 3:8) but notably...still a saint. The New Testament ends with these words: *The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.* (Rev. 22:21).

There were apparently lots of saints in New Testament times. Fortunately, we don't apply a test. There is no process of canonization. We need not expand on the assumption of the New Testament that all who have accepted the call into new life by Jesus Christ were saints. We are all, each of us, sanctified "in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God" (1 Cor. 6:11). *Sanctified*, after all, shares a common theological "etymology" with *saint*.

The act of naming aloud those who have died during a worship service is a powerful antidote to the banality of that secular day known as Halloween. In such naming and in our living memories, we remember the lives of those we loved and lived with, wept and rejoiced with, worshipped alongside of, and yes, buried. By naming those who have died as *saints* we place them in that great narrative of God's powerful redemptive story. For we know that death will not have the final word. God will.



Sanctuary Choir presents Messiah by George Frideric Handel

As we celebrate the Joy of the Advent season, the Sanctuary Choir will present Part 1 (Christmas Portion) of *Messiah* by George Frideric Handel on Sunday, December 15, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. *Please note the earlier start time.* The choir under the direction of Dr. Keith H. Walker, Director of Music Ministries, will be accompanied by chamber orchestra and will feature Jenna Gould, Shantá Johnson, James Ranson, and Steve Sheeley as soloists. We invite all our members and friends to join us for a joyous musical service.



The Festival Singers of Atlanta present *"O Radiant Dawn"*

The Festival Singers of Atlanta under the direction of Keith H. Walker presents the first concert of its 2019-2020 season titled "O Radiant Dawn" featuring the setting of the Antiphon for December 21 by Scottish James Macmillan. Other works include the *Missa O magnum mysterium* by Spanish composer Tomas Luis de Victoria, and carols and motets of the Advent and Christmas season. The program will be presented on Sunday, December 1 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary at Northside Drive Baptist Church. The concert is free and open to the public. Donations are appreciated.

Ac-cent-tchu-ate the Positive – Music of the American Songbook Sunday, November 3 at 4:00 PM

We kick off our festive **80th** birthday celebrating the music of the American Songbook: Selections from composers such as Gershwin, Cahn, Porter and more.

We will be at Northside Drive Baptist Church 3100 Northside Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30305

Tickets are \$15.00 General Admission \$12.00 Senior Citizens \$10.00 Students

https://cgatl.org/concerts/ to buy your tickets.

From the Finance Committee



In a few short weeks, I will begin a totally new stage in my life—that of a married man. My bride-to-be, Allison Roland, and I met at Northside Drive Baptist Church in 2017. Our relationship story began at Northside Drive, and our church family has played and continues to play a central role in our formation. Since our engagement in December 2018, Allison and I (mostly Allison)

have been consumed with planning the intricate details of our upcoming nuptials; however, throughout all the wedding planning, committing our time and financial resources to the life and work of Northside Drive Baptist Church continues to be a priority. Whether serving in our church council commitments, enjoying our church school lessons with Dr. Massey, or decorating the car for "Trunk-or-Treat," Allison and I will undoubtedly recall these events when considering our pledge for the 2020 church operating budget. As I have reflected on my own experiences at Northside Drive over the past year, I invite you to prayerfully consider what you, as a member of the Northside Drive congregation, might be able to contribute, whether through your time, talents, or financial pledge to help Northside Drive continue its Christ-centered mission in the upcoming year. Please visit www.northsidedrive.org/giving/ to make your pledge online. Or you can return your completed pledge form to Rose Hidlay. Mail it back, drop it off during a visit to the church, or place it in the offering plate in a sealed envelope on Sunday. Rose can also take your phone pledge (404-237-8621) or your email pledge (rose@northsidedrive.org).

Thank you, Will Bell



Christmas Giving at Northside Drive Baptist Church

During the Christmas season, Northside Drive provides many ways for members to brighten the holidays for others. Through gifts of clothing, toys, household items, time, and money, we share God's love in our community and beyond. This year we will again provide gifts through Morningstar Children and Family Services, Andrew P. Stewart Center, Buckhead Christian Ministry, and The Extension/Barbara J Crafton Center. Flyers with details about the projects will be available in the Narthex on November 17.



ROMEOS will meet on Tuesday, November 19 @ Noon @ Piccadilly in Marietta. For more information call Posey Starkey at 404-904-0890.



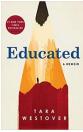
Meets Tuesday, November 12 @ 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

The program will be: *Seeing Life through a Lens* by Myrtie Cope

A fine art photographer focusing on landscapes and architecture, Myrtie will discuss some of her projects and show images from her travels. Current projects include Southern Historic Theaters, Life of My Father, and Southern Landscapes. Join us to learn more about one of our own NDBC artists.

NDBC Book Club

Will meet on Wednesday, November 27 @ 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.



The featured book is: Educated: A Memoir Author: Tara Westover Facilitator: Nancy Hall Hostess: Nancy Hall



Prayer Shawl Ministry "Get Hooked"



We make Prayer Shawls & Children's hats for the Craddock Center (Serving preschoolers in southern Appalachia). We have everything you need to get started on a project. Just bring your hands!

Our Gatherings

are on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays each month

at 10:30 AM

in the Church Parlor

Come and find out what we're all about!

Questions? – Contact Susan Harlan 770-377-3869 Gail Hermance 404-625-1531