



***Remembering the Saints**

Leader: 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 we had when, loving and loved, we shared our lives together.

ALL: Their memory is a blessing forever.

Leader: 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.

ALL: Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

Leader: We see them now through the eyes 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.

ALL: Their memory is a blessing forever.

Leader: 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 the traditions of our faith, for now this task is ours.

ALL: Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

Leader: We give you thanks that they now live and reign with you. As a great cloud of witnesses, they surround us with blessings, and offer you hymns of praise and thanksgiving.

ALL: Amen.

Naming the Saints: the name of the person who has moved from the church militant to church triumphant this past year will be read, a bell shall toll following the reading of the name and a brief silence kept.

- Margaret Lucas Alley
- Sarah Bush Walker
- Ronald Mims Jordan
- Joyce Ann Appleman
- Sibyl Teets Staples
- James (Mac) McKnight Marshall
- Mary Murray Ott
- Jean A. Tolbert