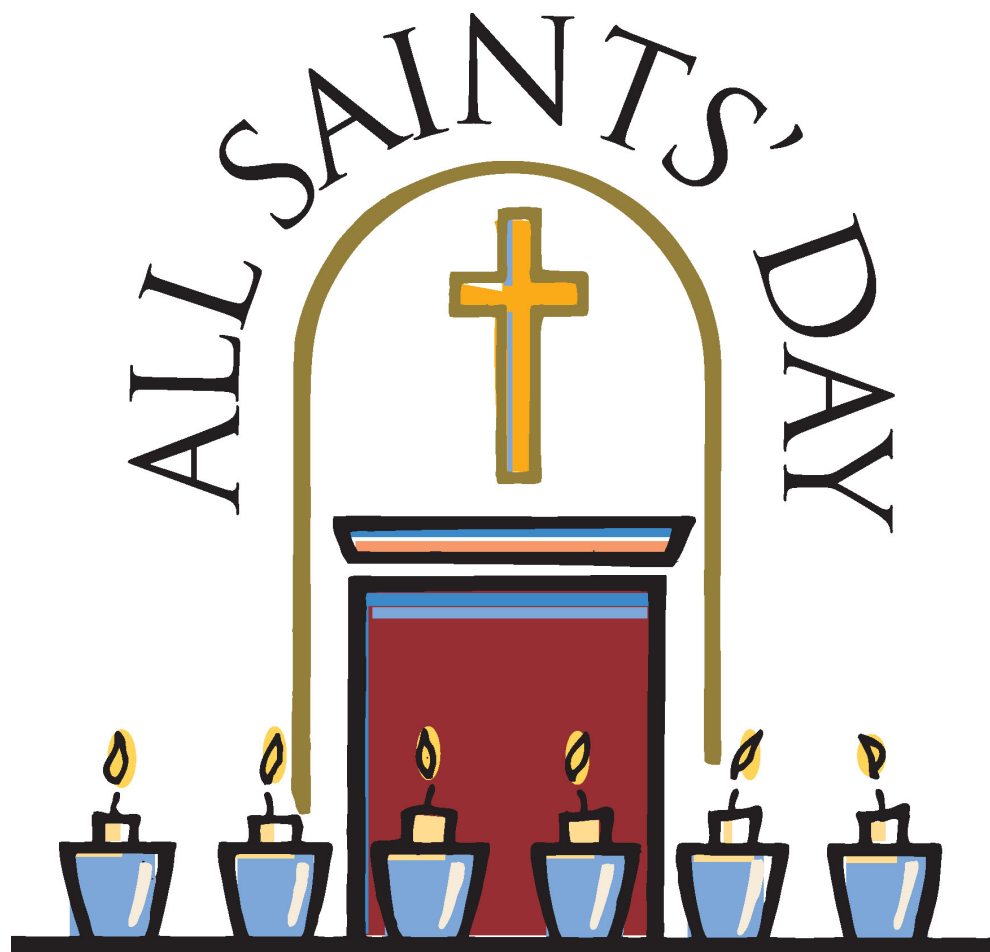




MIDWAY HILLS
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
be inclusive. do justice. honor diversity.



November 1, 2026
11 A.M. Worship Service

Gathering Meditation

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

- St. Frances of Assisi, Italy, 13th century

Order of Worship

All Saints Sunday

Chiming the Hour

Let us take a quiet moment to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome

James Lackey

The Community Gathers

Prelude

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

arr. Michael Larkin

*Call to Worship

Running the Race of Faith

Kathy Leslie

Leader: Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us gather to worship the Lord!

People: We come to lay down every weight and the sins that so easily cling to us.

Leader: The Christian life is not a sprint; it is a marathon of faith.

People: May God give us strength to run with endurance the race set before us.

Leader: Let us turn our attention away from the distractions and storms of this world.

People: We fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith!

Leader: For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame.

People: He is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God!

Leader: Come, let us worship Christ our Lord, who guides our steps and sustains our souls.

All: Together, we praise His holy name and run onward in His grace!

*Opening Hymn 637

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

Invocation

Rev. Betsy Stirbens

Musical Response 689

We Are Not Our Own
(verse 5)

YARNTON

Dismissal for Children's Church

Children ages five through fifth grade may leave with the adult leaders for Children's Worship. They are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

The Community Proclaims God's Word

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 12:1-2

Kathy Leslie

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the

cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (NRSVUE)

Por tanto, también nosotros que estamos rodeados de una nube tan grande de testigos, despojémonos de todo peso y del pecado que nos asedia y corramos con perseverancia la carrera que tenemos por delante. Fijemos la mirada en Jesús, el iniciador y perfeccionador de nuestra fe, quien por el gozo que le esperaba, soportó la cruz, menospreciando la vergüenza que ella significaba, y ahora está sentado a la derecha del trono de Dios. (NVI)

Special Music *Shall We Gather at the River* arr. John Carter

Sermon "What We Carry Forward" Rev. Betsy Stirbens

Musical Response 335 *Creating God,
Your Fingers Trace* TALLIS' CANON
(verse 4)

Prayers of the People Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

The Lord's Prayer Congregation
Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Giving Rev. Dr. Roger Wedell

Responsive Hymn 86 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS
(verse 2)

The Community Is Empowered at the Table

Passing of the Peace Rev. Betsy Stirbens
During this time, please give your prayer requests to a choir member or Jeff Crouse at the piano. These will be placed on the table prior to communion.

Communion Hymn 638 *In the Bulb* PROMISE
There Is a Flower

Invitation to the Table Carol Hargis-Nation

Prayer over the Elements Carol Hargis-Nation

Words of Institution Rev. Betsy Stirbens

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Those who are able are invited to come forward down the center aisle, receive the elements and partake by intinction. Those serving will tear a piece of bread. You will dip it in the cup. You may return to your seat via the side aisles. The Table of the Lord is open to all. Christ invites us into communion.

After taking the elements of Communion, all are invited to light candles in memory of lost loved ones, be they human or beloved animal companions.

The Community is Sent to Restore God's World

Invitation to Join

Carol Hargis-Nation

***Invitation Hymn 602**

*O Master, Let Me
Walk with Thee*

MARYTON

***Benediction**

Rev. Betsy Stirbens

Postlude

For all the Saints

arr. Mark Hayes

*Please rise in either body or spirit.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

"Reaffirming our own faith in Jesus Christ, we welcome you into this expression of God's universal church. We meet you with love, we commit ourselves to your care, and we celebrate your presence in our congregation. Through the power of God's spirit, let us together do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, who strengthens us to serve one another."

BIENVENIDA CONGREGACIONAL

"Reafirmando nuestra propia fe en Jesucristo, les damos la bienvenida a esta expresión de la iglesia universal de Dios. Los recibimos con amor, nos comprometemos a su cuidado y celebramos su presencia en nuestra congregación. Mediante el poder del espíritu de Dios, hagamos juntos justicia, amemos la misericordia y caminemos humildemente con Dios, quien nos fortalece para servirnos unos a otros."

VISION STATEMENT

Midway Hills Christian Church seeks to **be inclusive, do justice and embrace diversity**. We are an Open and Affirming congregation, unified in our love for Jesus Christ and his teachings. We understand biblical shalom as a call to act for justice and to respect God's creation. We cherish the gift of life and support each other in our spiritual journey. Grounded in worship, Bible study, and prayer, we seek to be instruments of God's healing through efforts to eliminate poverty, injustice, hunger and social issues that affect our community locally and globally. We seek to transform our world as we build bridges across all barriers that divide God's people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

(See The Echo newsletter and Friday Flash emails for details and more.)

We welcome Rev. Betsy Stirbens as guest preacher today.

She is Palliative Care Staff Chaplin at Clements University Hospital.

First Tuesday Ladies Who Lunch meets Nov. 3 at 11:30 a.m.

El Fenix, 6811 W. Northwest Highway, Dallas 75225. PLEASE NOTE: This is NOT our usual El Fenix. This one is more centrally located. RSVP to Carol Hargis-Nation.

Register now for CCSW Regional Assembly, November 6-7.

University Christian Church, Fort Worth, is hosting. Register at: www.ccsw.org/ra26. Friday, Nov. 6 starts with registration at 8:00 a.m., learning opportunities, at 10:00. Then a Welcome Reception at 6:00 p.m. precedes Opening Worship at 7:00. Saturday brings our Regional Church together for the installation of the Regional Youth Ministry Council, followed by Between Here and Jubilee—a collaborative conversation about where we are, where God may be calling us, and what comes next. We'll share lunch before gathering for the Business Session and State of the Church, then close in worship with Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman and music from the Southwest Hispanic Convention Praise Team. Children's programming is available Saturday for preschool and elementary-aged children for just \$10 per child.

Mike's Kids big bin will be in the entry to the church, Nov. 8 - Dec. 6.

Here's a heads up so you can think about what to donate to improve the life of a child on the border. This year Mike's Kids is a family affair. The Celiz parents and children will be involved in set up, collection, packing up and delivering the bounty of toys, underwear, socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste and more that fill the bin each year. We are so happy to get children involved in helping children.

Be part of worship this Advent and Christmas.

We're looking for individuals, couples, families, and groups who would like to help light the Advent wreath or share other readings during Advent and our Christmas Eve service. You don't need any special experience to participate! We'll provide the readings and instructions ahead of time, so all you need to bring is yourself. Click the link in The Echo to let us know which opportunities interest you.

Mark your calendar:

Trustees Meeting - November 1 & 8, 3:00 p.m.
Personnel Committee - November 3, 7:00 p.m.
Cabinet Meeting - November 5, 7:00 p.m.
Regional Assembly - November 6-7, FCC Fort Worth
Finance Committee - November 12, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting - November 15, 12:15 p.m.
Elders Meeting - November 29, 12:30 p.m.

Prayer Alcove - Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Adult Book Discussion - Sundays, 10:00 a.m., room 1

Scan this QR code
to make a financial
contribution to
Midway Hills
Christian Church:



JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

Please pray for these in our church family:

Lynne Stokes and her daughter Claire; Dan Gaylord, Johnny Mercer, James Lackey

Please pray for our extended church family concerns:

Mary Ludwick's sister, Alice Collins; Robin Copeland's brother Wade Keller; Rev. Robert Schomp; Joan Hammons

Please pray for those with ongoing concerns:

Nina Boothe	Gay and Jim Gilmore	Bryen Lackey
Frank and Millie Martin	Jeryl Crawford	Lynne Stokes
Judy Mank	Chris & Jayne Sparrer	Elaine & Don Manworren

Sympathy to:



Let's celebrate with joy:

- Val Cunningham's brother was released from the hospital
- John O'Neal & Lowery Ferguson on beginning a new life in Mexico
- Our guests/visitors in worship in the sanctuary and online

Please pray for our city and state:

- Those facing the difficulties of losing their employment
- Muslim community
- Religious freedom legislation
- Legislative sessions
- Texas faith-based non-profits serving immigrants and refugees

Please pray for our nation and world:

- **Being inclusive, pursuing justice, embracing diversity**
- For our city, state, and nation, prayerful engagement & participation in our democratic process
- Those working for peace in places of conflict and those caught in the cycles of violence
- Justice for the people of Ukraine and others struggling against oppression
- Justice for the Palestinian people
- Those who have limited access to health care and those working to expand access
- Those experiencing discrimination and oppression because of their gender identity, sexual orientation or gender expression
- Those struggling with food insecurity and those working to overcome it
- Those who work to create a larger Welcome Table

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 1, 2026

All Saints Day

November 1

- 9:45 a.m. Choir practice
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday Book Discussion, room 1
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Children's Church
- 12:00 p.m. Sanctuary Reset
- 3:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, online

Monday

November 2

- 8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room

Tuesday

November 3

- 8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room
- 9:00 a.m. Master Gardeners (until 4:00) exterior gardens
- 11:30 a.m. First Tuesday Ladies Who Lunch, El Fenix, 6811 W. Northwest Hwy., Dallas
- 7:00 p.m. Personnel Committee
- 7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Wednesday

November 4

- 8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room

Thursday

November 5

- 8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Alcove, narthex
- 7:00 p.m. Cabinet Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. AA-PPG & Al-Anon, community hall & classroom 1

Friday

November 6

- 8:00 a.m. Chatterbox Academy (until 3:00) nursery, choir room
- Regional Assembly - University Christian Church, 2720 S. University Drive, Fort Worth

Saturday

November 7

- 1:00 p.m. Raincatchers (until 4:00) kitchen

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8

- Regional Assembly - University Christian Church, 2720 S. University Drive, Fort Worth
- 9:45 a.m. Choir practice
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday Book Discussion, room 1
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Children's Church
- 3:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, online

MIDWAY HILLS STAFF

Jeff Crouse
Director of Music Ministries

David Hammons
Administrative Assistant

Douglass Anne Cartwright
Bookkeeper

TECH CREW
James Lackey
John Leslie

GRAPHICS, WEBSITE
Kate Lynch

NOVEMBER 1 DEACON
Clayton Cunningham

NOVEMBER 1 ELDER
Carol Hargis-Nation

INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to meet after worship with the Elder offering the invitation,
or contact the church office any time.

Prelude: *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*, arr. Michael Larkin. ©2024 Birnamwood Publishing.

Special Music: *Shall We Gather at the River*, arr. John Carter. ©1981 Beckenhorst Press.

Postlude: *For All the Saints*, arr. Mark Hayes. ©2018 Lorenz Publishing.

We record our services live and for social media use. Music reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-711616 and Christian Copyright Solutions license #15197. Hymns (unless noted) from Chalice Hymnal ©1995 Chalice Press. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVUE) ©2021 National Council of Churches and the Society of Biblical Literature. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Scripture quotations from La Santa Biblia, Nueva Versión Internacional® NVI® Copyright 1999 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Midway Hills Christian Church • 11001 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75229
www.midwayhills.org • 214-352-4841

