



All Saints Day or **Heritage Sunday** is observed by both Protestant and Roman Catholic churches on **Sunday, November 1**. This year churches are being encouraged to frame their observance within the 125th anniversary of the City of Kent in 1890.



Six congregations were established in the thirty years before the city incorporated.
1860 United Methodist; 1876 Roman Catholic; 1889 First Presbyterian and Kent Lutheran; 1886 First Baptist and 1890 St. James Episcopal.

"Our Kent pioneers brought their faith with them!"



You are encouraged to lift up the historical witness of your Congregation and link it to the City of Kent observance. If your church history has not been filed with the Kent Historical Society they will be happy to receive it.

Resources for Sunday worship are provided below.

Scripture: Psalm 31:23-24; Luke 13:29; Hebrews 12:1; Revelation 7:9-10

Connecting with our Kent heritage:

However your manner of honoring the memory of those who had died, incorporate into your liturgy the acknowledgement that this year we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the City of Kent. Because the six historic congregations witnessing and serving the community BEFORE incorporation, many of the leaders in the church were also leaders in the Kent community. Their names are remembered in many of our street names (Naden, Saar, Alvord, Smith, Crow). Historical information from the city is available at <http://kentwa.gov/125/>. You can find additional information at the Kent Historical Museum website <http://gkhs.org/>.

Suggestions:

- ◆ Candles of various shapes and sizes are on a table up front, with a lighted candle in the center and long lighting tapers spread around the table. Worshippers are invited to come forward and light a candle for someone they wish to remember in the service. A time of silent remembrance follows and then a Prayer of Thanksgiving.

or

- ◆ While the names of those who died in the last year are read, candles are lit to signify each person remembered. While the names are read, a handbell is rung. One bell might be rung following the reading of each name. Or a number of bells may be used, some high, some low. One bell is rung after each name, but the pitches and tones are different for each, just like the lives being remembered; followed by a Prayer of Thanksgiving.

or

- ◆ Names can be listed on an overhead screen with a short biography of the person's life and gifts to her/his church community, highlighting their connection to the Kent community. Provide a time for silent remembrance followed by a Prayer of Thanksgiving.

or

- ◆ Prior to All Saints Sunday, and even on that day, a clean white tablecloth is made available to the congregation. All are invited to write the names of their saints on the cloth using fabric / permanent markers. The cloth is then used as a parament or on the Communion table.

Prayers:

In addition to the saints being recognized prayers may include those who represent our Kent heritage: the Mayor, City Council members, and the 800 employees who serve the residents of Kent, and the younger congregations and newer interfaith and ethnic congregations that enrich our Kent community and strengthen our spiritual witness.

