# Y'ALL SAINTS

# Pilgrimage 2022



The Footsteps of Paul in Greece June 8 -16, 2022

# WHY PILGRIMAGE?

In essence, the Christian life is itself an invitation to view the human experience as a pilgrimage, whereby we follow Jesus in the way of the cross - the way marked by forgiveness, love, and community.

As pilgrimage expert Phil Cousineau reminds us, any journey can be a pilgrimage - a trip to the grocery store or local park. At All Saints' we have a tradition of going to distant lands in order to experience something completely "other" and to create a crucible in which we can practice seeking the God who is already present in every time and place.

By placing pilgrimage during the high school years, we emphasize that confirmation in the 8th grade is not a "graduation" from church; faith is a lifelong journey.

### WHY GREECE?

He did not know which way to go. Every time he tried to travel into Asia to bring the gospel of Christ he heard the Spirit whisper, "No, not that way." "Lord, where would you have me to go?" Paul was at the end of his rope. That night he dreamed of a Macedonian man who cried out to Paul, "Come! We need your good news!" Thus, began Paul's great adventure into Greece.

Following in the footsteps of Paul in Greece brings the book of Acts and Paul's letters in the New Testament to life. Throughout this journey we will visit the cities Paul lived and worked in throughout his mission to Greece: Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Corinth and Athens. You will experience the navel of the world, Delphi and the majestic floating monasteries of Meteora. Bring the word of God to life on your journey with us in Greece.

# DETAILS

Departure from Atlanta: June 8, 2022

Leaving Greece: June 16, 2022

Requirements for travel: Passport (Check expiration date!)

Vaccinations: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/gr eece

# COVID

In the event that COVID derails our plans, we will work with our travel company, Wonder Voyage, to reschedule and recoup as many of the church's funds as possible. Pilgrims will have the option of a full refund or to apply money paid to the next pilgrimage.

## **COST AND PAYMENT**

Total Cost: \$3,500 per person (All Inclusive except for souvenirs and snacks)

We do not want this to be cost prohibitive for any of our youth, and we raise significant funds to offset the expenses for everyone. We simply ask that each youth/family contribute according to what they can afford. For some that might mean \$500, for others it will be the full amount. In addition, we make provision to take payments through the end of the calendar year (2022) if necessary. For those who are able to contribute the full amount, a suggested payment timeline is listed on the next page.

## SUGGESTED PAYMENT SCHEDULE

November 1 January 15 March 15 May 15 \$500 Deposit Due\$1000 Payment\$1000 Payment\$1000 Payment

# **EXPECTATIONS**

Sunday, November 14

Sunday, December 5

Christmas Tree Fundraiser

Christmas Tree Pick-up

In the Spring:

Four 90-minute Pilgrimage Preparation Sessions, time TBD based on participant availability

## **DEADLINE TO COMMIT**

October 10

## LINK TO SIGN UP

www.allsaintsatlanta.org/pilgrimage2022

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## Who will the leaders be?

The new youth minister and likely the new associate rector. In addition, Kathy Roberts will be there as additional staff support.

### **Can friends come?**

Generally speaking, no. However, please reach out to Rev. Zack if you know someone you think would be a good fit and make sense to join us.

## **Can parents come?**

Please reach out to Rev. Zack if you are a parent and would like to come. Please know that space is limited, and chaperone spaces are typically reserved for those teaching youth formation.

# Will I miss my chance if I don't go now?

Youth at All Saints' are traditionally eligible for pilgrimage beginning the summer after 10th grade. If a young person does not go on pilgrimage the summer after 10th grade, they will remain eligible through the summer after senior year. However, a youth may only participate on pilgrimage once.

# SAMPLE ITINERARY

#### Day 1 - The Footsteps of Paul

Your team has started an adventure of biblical proportions. In the next days we follow the footsteps of the Apostle Paul throughout Greece. Paul's letters to the churches in Greece are recorded in the Holy Scriptures and are the foundation of church life. We visit several of the cities he wrote to and see how the impact of Paul's word transforms us even today. Welcome to your Wonder Voyage!

#### **Day 2- Philippians**

Philippi is the focus for today's adventure. As we drive through Northern Macedonia we are sure to come across a few surprises like storming a Byzantine castle. "And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." (Phil 1:6) You will walk, climb, and explore thousands of years of history, all under your feet.

#### **Day 3- Thessalonians and Berea**

Today we wander the streets of Thessaloniki, Greece's northern capital, to discover some of her many wonders and learn about the Orthodox church. After packing up, we'll drive to Veria, (called Berea in the Bible) for a stop where, "the Jews received Paul's message with enthusiasm and met with him daily, examining the Scriptures to see if they supported what he said." (Acts 17:10) Our afternoon will land us in the rugged natural beauty of Meteora, known for its abundance of breathtaking Orthodox monasteries.

#### **Day 4- Floating Rocks**

Perched on top of huge rocks, seemingly suspended in mid-air, the monasteries of Meteora hold exquisite specimens of Byzantine art, Orthodox mysteries, and hundreds of years of prayers. We will learn about monastic life and see how we might grow more in our faith through a morning of hiking to several monasteries and an evening of visiting as guests. "Rejoice always. Pray continually. (1 Thes 5:16, 17)

#### Day 5 - The Navel of the World

On our way to Athens we come the navel of the ancient world, whose prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic world. Delphi, the home of the oracle of Apollo, was considered the religious center of the ancient Greek world. This is a place where myth comes to life.

#### Day 6- The Unknown God

For twenty-five centuries the panorama of Athens has been dominated by the Acropolis. We have two important sites to see here, the Parthenon, which was the temple atop the mount, and the Areopagus, where Paul spoke to the ancient Athenians about the one and only God. 'When I arrived here the other day, I was fascinated with all the shrines I came across. And then I found one inscribed, to the god nobody knows. I'm here to introduce you to this God.''' Acts 17:23. You will learn about the religious traditions of Greece, from the gods of old to the Orthodox traditions of today and walk amongst the stones of old.

#### **Day 7- Best of Three: Corinth**

After celebrating Eucharist, we head to ancient Corinth, where St. Paul preached and lived for two years. The vigorous and mostly Gentile Church he founded here in 50 AD caused him much grief and prompted him to write several letters to them. "Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

#### **Day 8- Best of Three: Corinth**

You've had an incredible week exploring Greece. The food has been rich, the spiritual experience deep, the exploration intriguing and the friendships enriching. Our prayer at Wonder Voyage is that as you leave this pilgrimage you remember that as long as your heart is set on the Lord, every day is a pilgrimage, every step a movement toward wonder.

