

NOVEMBER 3, 2024
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



Our hope and strength is in God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 11:32-44	Jesus raises Lazarus
Monday	Isaiah 25:6-9	The Lord has delivered
Tuesday	Revelation 21:1-6a	A new heaven and earth
Wednesday	Titus 2:11-15	Teach sound doctrine
Thursday	2 Corinthians 3:12-18	Ministers of the new covenant
Friday	Colossians 1:24-29	Paul's service to the church
Saturday	Psalms 24	Entrance into the temple
Sunday	Mark 12:38-44	The widow's generous offering

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And he [God] will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all people, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Isaiah 25:7 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and everlasting God, as we grieve those whom we have lost, we thank you that through Christ Jesus we see your glory and have hope in the resurrection. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, the earth is yours and all that is in it; for this meal we give you thanks for your care that knows no end through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with hope in Christ.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

For All the Saints



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Who do you think about on All Saints Day? Think or tell a story about that person.
- What would you want to ask God about life after death?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 11:32-44 and Psalm 24.

We do not know what death is like for ourselves. We do know that when we experience the death of a loved one, it leads us to grieve. Even Jesus grieved, was deeply moved, and “*greatly disturbed*” (John 11:33, 38) at the death of his friend Lazarus. As we face the death of loved ones on All Saints Sunday, we turn to and lean on the strength and promise of God. Amidst our deep sorrow, we look to our God in Jesus Christ, the one whom death could not conquer. During the remembrance of All Saints, Psalm 24 allows us to praise God for God’s victory. Our grief is comforted by God’s power over death and the painful separation from those deceased. Our hope and strength—and that of loved ones whose lives we remember—is in the King of glory, the Lord, “*strong and mighty*” (Psalm 24:8). Our faith in Christ comforts us to know that we have the God who grieves with us and who gives us victory over death.

Discuss: What gives you comfort and strength as you grieve the death of a loved one?

Pray: **God of glory and might, help us to remember loved ones who have died with hope and comfort through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord who reigns with you now and always. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you reach out to someone who is grieving the loss of a loved one?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

All Saint’s Day is the day after All Hallows’ Eve (Halloween). It is when we remember our loved ones who have died and all the saints and martyrs throughout Christian history. One tradition on this day is to light a candle for those who have died. Consider placing a picture of those you remember on this day next to a candle. Think or tell stories about loved ones.

Light the candle and pray: **Lord God, thank you for the hope of eternal life and the life of (name/s). Help us to live for you each day. Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org