

Our faith gives us hope.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

| Sunday | Luke 6:20-31 | Blessed are you who weep |
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| Monday | Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 | Daniel's vision |
| Tuesday | Ephesians 1:11-23 | Paul's prayer |
| Wednesday | 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 | Greetings to the saints at Corinth |
| Thursday | Psalm 130 | Trusting the Lord |
| Friday | 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 | Encouragement to be generous |
| Saturday | Psalm 149 | A new song of praise |
| Sunday | Luke 20:27-38 | Jesus speaks of the resurrection |

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." Luke 6:21 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, help us to recall with hope and love those who have died and for whom we grieve, that we may sing your praises through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for the family and friends that have shared your love with us over the years and for this gift of food, we give you thanks through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with joy.





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:

- What brings you comfort when you are sad or grieving?
- How does faith in God comfort those who are sad or grieving?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 6:20-31.

In this reading, Jesus says, "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." (v.21) Jesus' promise that laughter will come to those who weep and grieve puts our lives into perspective. It can be hard to laugh when a loved one has died. And yet, even at funerals, we can share laughter while at the same time expressing deep grief. Telling personal stories of triumphs and human shortcomings and everything in between can remind us of our common humanity, our mortality, and our need for faith and hope. All Saints Sunday reminds us of our faith that gives us hope that our joy will be restored. It frees us to see opportunities in our lives not only to laugh but to love, to do good to others, even our enemies (v. 27). The final verse for the reading is the golden rule: "Do to others as you would have them do to you" (v. 31). Remembering loved ones in faith reminds us that our lives are meant for joy and laughter and love that will not end.

Discuss: What memory of a loved one who has died brings you laughter and joy?

Pray: Almighty God, you know our sense of loss and grief is real; let us hear again and again your promise of life everlasting that we may have laughter and joy through Christ Jesus.

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 care for someone who is sad or grieving?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday, a day in the church year for remembering Christians who have entered God's heavenly kingdom. In observance of All Saints, research online or think about those you remember as famous Christians from the past. For example: Francis of Assisi, John Calvin, Martin Luther, and Mother Teresa. Say a prayer of thanks for their faith and service: Holy God, we give you thanks for those who are called by the will of Christ to live for the praise of your glory. Amen.

