

NOVEMBER 5, 2017
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



God's care for us is never-ending.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes
Monday	1 John 3:1-3	Our hope in God
Tuesday	Revelation 7:9-17	God will wipe away tears
Wednesday	John 14:1-7	Do not let your hearts be troubled
Thursday	John 11:17-27	The resurrection and the life
Friday	2 Corinthians 1:3-7	God of all comfort
Saturday	Psalms 34	Honor the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 25:1-13	Parable of the wise and foolish girls

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Discover for yourself that the LORD is kind. Come to him for protection, and you will be glad. **Psalm 34:8 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, through Christ our Lord we give you thanks and praise for watching over us now and always. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

We thank you for this gift of food and especially for your daily bread for those who mourn, those who are humble, those who are merciful, and for all your saints. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord deliver for you from all your fears, save you from every trouble, and make your face shine with gladness. (Psalm 34)

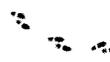


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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*For All the Saints
Who've Shown Your Love*



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- In the New Testament, all Christians are saints, people set apart for faith in God and love of others. What does it mean to you that you are a saint?
- All Saints Sunday is a special time to remember those in the church who have died, especially in the past year. Talk about someone you know who has died and who has had an impact on your faith.
- Read Psalm 34:8. When have you experienced God's protection? Tell your story.

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 4:23–5:12.

Five hundred years ago on October 31st, Martin Luther nailed *The 95 Theses* on a Wittenberg church door, a moment that has been recognized as the beginning of the Reformation. Luther did this intentionally on the eve of All Saints Day, opposing an understanding of the saints that was limited to recognized heroes of the faith who had extra "merits" to give ordinary sinners. Luther promoted the New Testament belief that we are all saints and saved by Christ's work, not ours. Jesus saw the crowds that included people who needed healing and care. As a follower of Jesus and a saint in the church, pray for the needs of others and that they may know the blessings of God

Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

SERVICE



On All Saints Sunday we are to remember those around us who are grieving. Is there someone you know who is mourning the loss of a loved one? Call, send a card, or a message using social media. Bring them a bouquet of flowers or a plate of treats and share portions of *Taking Faith Home* with that person.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Set aside time to light candles or ring bells in remembrance of friends or family who have died. Take a moment of silence, then read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Look at pictures of your departed loved ones and share stories about their lives. If possible, visit their gravesites. Take along flowers to leave behind in their memory.



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