

# **All Saints Sunday + Year C**

## **November 6, 2022**

*In holy baptism God makes saints out of sinners. In holy communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In worship today we give thanks for all the saints “who from their labors rest.” In the same breath we petition our God for the strength to hear and to heed the admonitions of Jesus in today’s gospel. Sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Savior’s body and blood, we live with joy as God gives us breath, to the praise of God’s glory.*

### **The Gospel**

- What do you notice in this pericope?
- How do these blessings connect with the Lucan “thesis statement” from chapter 4? How do they connect with Mary’s song? Make a list of the “markers” of the kingdom of God, as Luke seems to understand it.
- “[Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said...”
  - How do you feel when you are truly seen by someone else?
- How does this pericope connect with the themes of All Saints Day?

### **Daniel**

- The first year of a king’s reign denotes a new era beginning. Perhaps it is a time to dream of new possibilities and a better world to come.
- The sea represents chaos, especially to the ancient Israelites who were land-dwellers.
- Perhaps the beasts represent kings of the world, in general. They are brutal and their reigns seem to be unending.
- “Holy ones of the most high” — this is a nod to God’s presence and power over even the most permanent-feeling situations we find ourselves in as people.
- Why would this scripture be proclaimed on this festival day?

### **Psalm**

- How does this psalm strike you — how does the tone work with (or against) it? How does the refrain focus us?
- What sort of life experiences might lead to writing a song such as this one?
- Why do you think this song is offered in response to the reading from Daniel?
- Why would this scripture be proclaimed on this festival day?

## **Ephesians**

- Ephesians is a disputed Pauline letter.
- What do you notice here?
- Earlier in Ephesians the author speaks of the community of Christ being adopted into God's family, even being given an inheritance of the grace and forgiveness that Christ brings. What does that mean? What relational implications does this bring into play?
- The second half of this pericope is a prayer of sorts. What emotions do you think this prayer elicits?
- Why would this scripture be proclaimed on this festival day?

## **Final Questions**

- Reflect on the lyrics of the Hymn of the Day and how it brings forth themes from the scriptures of this season.
- Which part of the ordo (Gathering/Word/Meal/Sending) do these texts most deeply connect to? Why?
- What's the Good News?