

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 24

*They shall receive blessing from the God of their salvation. (v5)*

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith & commitment, & to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- John 11:32-44

<sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was & saw him, she knelt at his feet & said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, & the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit & deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come & see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” <sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, & a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. & Jesus looked upward & said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands & feet bound with strips of cloth, & his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, & let him go.”

## LISTENING TO . . .

**GOD-** *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. What connections do you find between *11:2, 32 & John 12:1-11, 13:3-5; Luke 10:38-42*. Hint: consider themes, actions, language, grammar, plot, similarities, opposites/inversions, parallel ideas, extensions, reversals, metaphors/symbols etc. See *Isaiah 52:7; Nahum 1:15; Luke 1:79; Romans 10:15, 16:20; Ephesians 6:15; read surrounding verses for more context.*
2. Think about Jesus’ words in *vv25-26*; what does it say about our resurrection? Is resurrection a natural, normal part of our biology? See *Acts 26:22-23; Romans 6:3-11, 8:19-21; 1 Corinthians 15:12-26, 35-57; 2 Corinthians 1:9, 4:14; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Timothy 2:17b-18; Hebrews 6:2; Revelation 1:5*

**EACH OTHER-** *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. What do you think makes so many Christians leave out the promised, factual resurrection of the body at their funerals? See *1 Corinthians 15:12-14; 2 Corinthians 4:16-*
4. *18A* Christian saint is a “holy one,” a “hallowed one,” & refers to all the baptized believers. What holy example of loving God & neighbor in everyday life do you set as a saint? See *Luke 1:74-75; 2 Corinthians 6:3-10, 7:1; Ephesians 4:20-24; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13, 4:1-8; Hebrews 12:14; 2 Peter 3:11*

**NEIGHBORS-** *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. What about a faithful, (traditional?) Christian funeral service enables telling the good news to unbelievers? How does this show Christians’ love of God & neighbor & God’s love for the world? Hint: *think beyond bible readings & sermon. See funeral service, green Lutheran Book of Worship p206, note the title.*
6. List at least 12 ways Sunday worship shows & tells God’s love to those present (believers or not). List at least 12 more ways Sunday worship equips you to do the same for your neighbors (home/work/school/etc.)

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Festival of All Saints

11.07.21

Series: Love God & Love Neighbor

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

He Loved Him

*God loves all of us in this way, as he loved Lazarus*

-Notes-

**KEY VERSE:** Jesus said to [Mary], “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” (v40)

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**-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-**

They are before the throne of God, & the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. (*Revelation 7:15*)

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