

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 26 (All Saint's Sunday)

Year B

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*

From the Book of Sirach 2:1-11

¹ My son, if you come forward to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for temptation. ² Set your heart right and be steadfast, and do not be hasty in time of calamity. ³ Cleave to him and do not depart, that you may be honored at the end of your life. ⁴ Accept whatever is brought upon you, and in changes that humble you be patient. ⁵ For gold is tested in the fire, and acceptable men in the furnace of humiliation. ⁶ Trust in him, and he will help you; make your ways straight, and hope in him. ⁷ You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; and turn not aside, lest you fall. ⁸ You who fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will not fail; ⁹ you who fear the Lord, hope for good things, for everlasting joy and mercy. ¹⁰ Consider the ancient generations and see: whoever trusted in the Lord and was put to shame? Or whoever persevered in the fear of the Lord and was forsaken? Or whoever called upon him and was overlooked? ¹¹ For the Lord is compassionate and merciful; he forgives sins and saves in time of affliction.

Psalm 149

Cantate domino

1 Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song; * sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; * let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

- 3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; * let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.
- 4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people * and adorns the poor with victory.
- 5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; * let them be joyful on their beds.
- 6 Let the praises of God be in their throat * and a two-edged sword in their hand;
- 7 To wreak vengeance on the nations * and punishment on the peoples;
- 8 To bind their kings in chains * and their nobles with links of iron;
- 9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; * this is glory for all his faithful people. Hallelujah!

A Reading from Revelation 7:2-4, 9-17

Then I saw another angel ascend from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God upon their foreheads." ⁴ And I heard the number of the sealed, a hundred and forty-four thousand sealed, out of every tribe of the sons of Israel... ⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore are they before the throne of God and

serve him day and night within his temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew 5:1-12

¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. ² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ "Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.