

All Saints Service Kit

Remembering the faithful departed — Hebrews 12 and Revelation 7 readings, a reading of names, and inserts for grieving families.

When to use it: 1 November and the Sunday nearest it; also useful for a memorial service.

Order of service

1. Prelude / gathering music
2. Call to worship (Scripture below)
3. Opening hymn
4. Invocation
5. Prayer of confession and assurance of pardon
6. Responsive reading
7. Scripture reading
8. Sermon
9. Response — communion, offering, or prayer
10. Closing hymn
11. Benediction

Hymn suggestions (public domain)

- For All the Saints
- The Church's One Foundation
- Abide with Me

Suggested preaching text

Hebrews 11:32-12:2 with Revelation 7:9-17.

Calls to worship

Read one aloud to open the service. Short is better than long — the point is to turn the room toward God before anything else is said.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Hebrews 12:1 (KJV)

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb.

Revelation 7:9 (KJV)

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.

Psalms 122:1 (KJV)

Invocation

God of every generation, thou hast kept thy people in every century and thou keepest us now. We thank thee for those who ran before us and finished well. Let their faith be a fire under ours. Amen.

Prayer of confession

Father, we confess that we run the race distracted, weighed down by things we could lay aside. Forgive us, and set our eyes again on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

Responsive reading

So Great a Cloud of Witnesses

Leader reads the plain lines; the congregation reads the lines in bold. Print this page in the bulletin exactly as it appears here.

Leader: Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight.
Hebrews 12:1 (KJV)

People: Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.
Hebrews 12:2 (KJV)

Leader: Lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne.
Revelation 7:9 (KJV)

People: Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord: they rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.
Revelation 14:13 (KJV)

All: And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying.
Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

Offering sentence

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (KJV)

Benediction

Speak the blessing over the congregation rather than praying it — the biblical pattern is a word given to the people, not a request made on their behalf.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jude 1:24-25 (KJV)

Bulletin inserts — cut along the dashed lines

Photocopy this page, cut on the dashed borders, and slip one into every bulletin or visitor pack. Free to reproduce for church use.

BULLETIN INSERT 1 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

For the families remembering today

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

Grief is not a lack of faith. Jesus wept at a grave he was about to open. Bring your sorrow into this room and set it beside the promise that the last word belongs to God, not to death.

BULLETIN INSERT 2 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

Run your leg of the race

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Hebrews 12:1 (KJV)

The witnesses in Hebrews 12 are not spectators judging your performance; they are the ones who have already run and are proof that the course can be finished. Lay something aside this week that has been slowing you down.

Service planning notes

Fill this in on the Thursday before and hand a copy to the musicians, the reader, and the sound desk.

Preacher

Sermon title and text

Reader / liturgist

Hymns

Communion / ordinance

Announcements

Notes

More free KJV resources for Sunday at biblesundays.com/sunday — sermon series plans, printables, hymn texts, and free Bible widgets for your church website.