



Discussion Questions

Matthew 5:1-12 *The Beatitudes*

All Saints Sunday

On All Saints Sunday, we remember and give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. On this feast day, who do you remember? For whom do you give thanks?

Morgan says the communion table is the place where we share fellowship and a meal with those saints of today, physically gathered with us, along with all the baptized, including those from whom we are separated (by distance or death). What is your reaction to this understanding of Holy Communion?

People often think of The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12) as behaviors or personality traits toward which we are to strive. There is nothing wrong with seeking to become more humble or more of a peacemaker, but, in these verses, Jesus means to bless those the world sees as outcast. Who would Jesus include in these blessings if he were preaching to a crowd today?

Belovedness has to do with God calling us (and all creation) good. How does this reminder of belovedness come to you as a gift? Who else needs to hear this proclamation?

At the conclusion of her sermon, Morgan names the Berkley Four along with Ruth Frost, Phyllis Zillhart, and Anita Hill, some of the first Lutheran ministers to come out as publicly gay, as “beloved saints whose bold witness and proclamation of belovedness” paved the way for her journey through candidacy and ordination in the ELCA. For whose bold witness and proclamation are you grateful today?

