

WORSHIP GUIDE

Sunday, February 21, 2021

10:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Gracious God,
out of your love and mercy
you breathed into dust the breath of life,
creating us to serve you and neighbors.
Call forth our prayers and acts of tenderness,
and strengthen us to face our mortality,
that we may reach with confidence for your mercy;
in Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.*

—Ash Wednesday Prayer
from the Book of Common Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP | Psalm 95

COME, LET US WORSHIP AND BOW DOWN

Dave Doherty, 1980, Maranatha! Praise, Inc. CCLI #101544

Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.

Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand, just the sheep of his hand.

COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

Traditional - Public Domain, Text: Robert Robinson

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
mount of God's redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer*;
here by Thy great help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

**Samuel took a stone and set it up . . . and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, "Till now the Lord has helped us." (1 Samuel 7:12)*

SCRIPTURE READING | Mark 1:9-15

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was

coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | Psalm 51

After each section of the prayer, sing together:

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy, on me.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE | 1 Peter 3:18-22

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and preached to the imprisoned spirits— to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a good conscience. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand— with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

LORD, I NEED YOU

Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher, 2011, worshiptogether.com song, sixsteps Music, Sweater Weather Music, Valley of Songs Music, Thankyou Music, CCLI #101544

Lord, I come, I confess;
Bowing here I find my rest.
Without You I fall apart;
You're the one that guides my heart.

*Lord, I need You, oh, I need You.
Every hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God, how I need You.*

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.
Where grace is found, is where You are.
Where You are, Lord, I am free.
Holiness is Christ in me.

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way.
When I cannot stand I'll fall on You;
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

PRAYER

> To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.
Now as we hear from your Word,
we pray with the Psalmist:

» **Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.** (Ps. 25:4-5)
Amen.

SERMON

Title: "Praying For and With Others"

Series: Intentional Outreach #6

THE LORD'S PRAYER

» **Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

MY FRIENDS, MAY YOU GROW IN GRACE

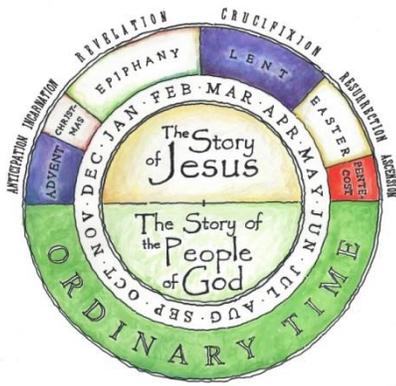
Timothy James Meaney, Sean Diamond, Gregg DeMey, and Gregory Kett. 2001, Wiseman Music.

My friends, may you grow in grace,
and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.
My friends, may you grow in grace,
and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory, now and forever,
now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever,
now and forever, amen.

—Based on 2 Peter 3:18



THE SEASON OF LENT

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are at the heart of the Christian gospel, and Good Friday and Easter are two of the most significant celebrations of the Christian year. Lent is a season of preparation and repentance during which we anticipate Good Friday and Easter. Just as we carefully prepare for big events in our personal lives, such as a wedding or commencement, Lent invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus' passion and celebrating Jesus' resurrection. The practice of a forty-day preparation period began in the Christian church during the third and fourth centuries. The number forty carries biblical significance based on the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness and Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness. The forty days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday and continue through holy week, not counting Sundays. In practice, many congregations choose to focus Sunday worship on the themes of repentance and renewal. As a period of preparation, Lent has historically included the instruction of persons for baptism and profession of faith on Easter Sunday; the calling back of those who have become estranged from the church; and efforts by all Christians to deepen their piety, devotion, and readiness to mark the death and resurrection of their Savior. As such, the primary focus of the season is to explore and deepen a "baptismal spirituality" that centers on our union with Christ rather than to function only as an extended meditation on Christ's suffering and death.

Ash Wednesday

Feb 17

Marks the beginning of Lent.

Season of Lent

Feb 17-April 2

The 40 days (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday.

Palm Sunday

March 28

The Sunday before Easter and the first day of Holy Week.

Holy Week

March 28-April 3

The week leading up to Easter.

Maundy Thursday**Good Friday****Holy Saturday**

April 1, 2, 3

The 3 days before Easter known as the "Triduum."

Easter Sunday

April 4