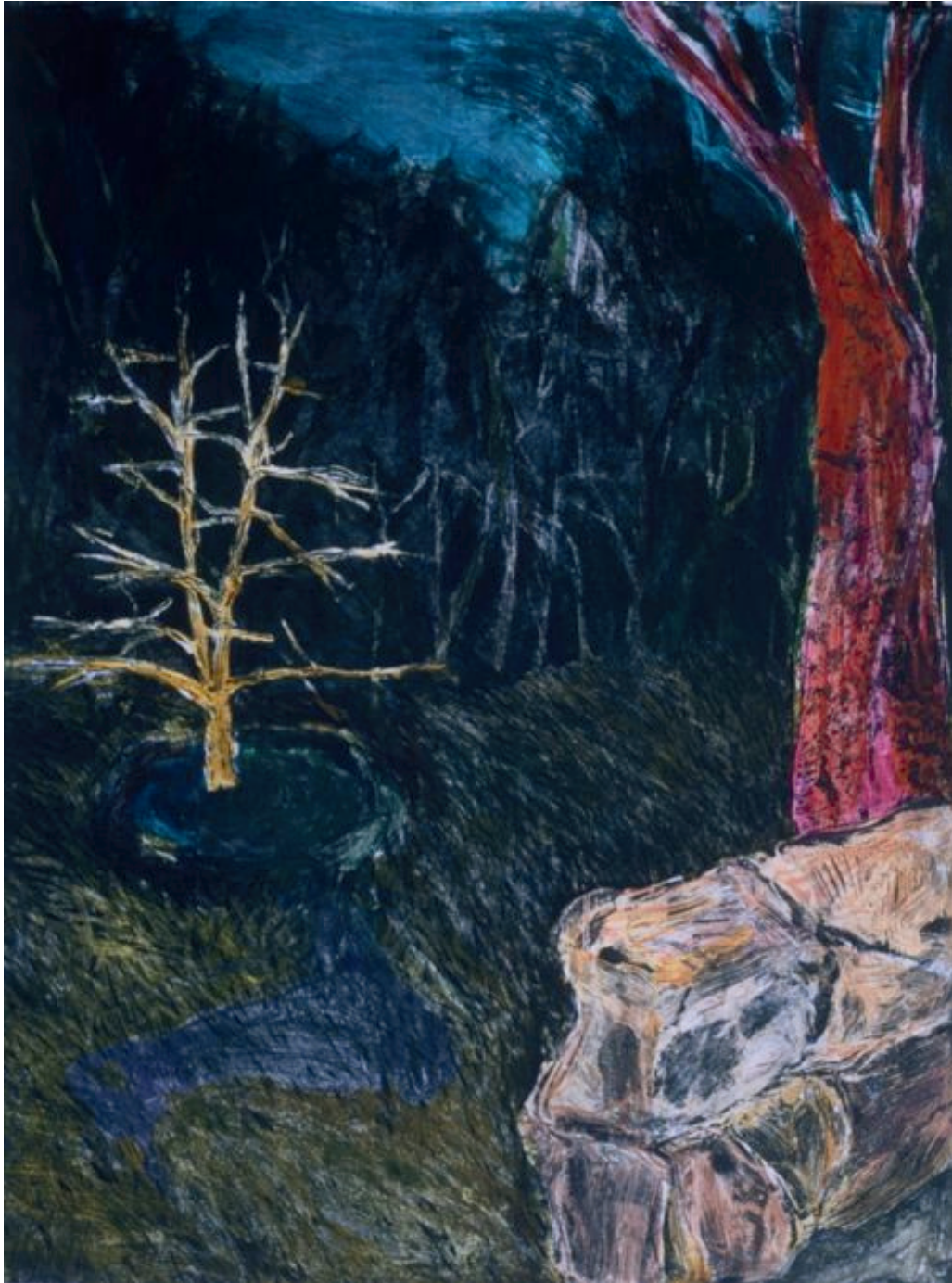


Lent Daily Worship Guide



All Saints Presbyterian Church, 2026

Cover Art: Katherine Brimberry, *Looking West*, 30x40, monoprinted etching, 2000.
Find more of Katherine's art on display in the All Saints Gallery during the season of Lent.

A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

“Thou hast made us for thyself, and our heart is restless
until it rests in thee.” – St. Augustine, Confessions

In 1370, the first public clock tower was erected in Cologne, Germany. But long before that, dating back as early as the 1500's BC, humans have invented things like hourglasses, sundials, water clocks, and countless other mechanical devices in order to capture that elusive resource, time. At this point in history, it's a stretch for our imaginations to grasp a world without set days, hours, and minutes. Where did this unquenchable thirst for more time come from, and, more directly to our point here, what does the Church season of Lent have to do with any of this? The quote above from St. Augustine may give us a hint at the answer to the first question. Outside of God, every one of us is a restless being. We are constantly on the move in hopes that we might find that resting place on our own. We try first one thing and then another. And then by harnessing something like time, we hope that we can be more productive, more efficient, in order to do what we consider “resting.” And what happens? It is never enough. How many times have you heard someone say, or said yourself, “there are never enough hours in the day.” We do not want to admit that perhaps time is not under our control. Because if it is true of time, what else might it be true of?

The good news of Christianity is that God, who alone exists outside of time, came into the world in order to redeem all things, including our time. The Church calendar and the seasons that comprise it, hinging around the events of the life of Christ on earth, serve to remind us of this and to shake us out of the delusion that our time is our own. Orthodox theologian Alexander Schmemmann tells us, “...The purpose of Lent is precisely to recover the Christian meaning of time as preparation and pilgrimage and of the status of the Christian as ‘alien’ and ‘exile’ in this world” (1 Peter 2:11). Christians are called to live markedly different lives

and keeping seasons and rhythms different from the world's time is one way we bear witness to the God who redeems and restores. The forty day period from Ash Wednesday all the way to the Saturday before Easter is meant to be a journey, a particular time set aside for reflection, confession, and returning our feet to the path God has set before us. The Church very intentionally leaves out Sundays from this 40-day count. Fasts may be broken on these days, filling them instead with worshipping, resting, and delighting in God. The reason for this is that we live in the in-between time, in a world still fighting the effects of sin and death but moving ever more deeply into the ultimate rest of God through Christ's redeeming work. Christ has died, defeating the bonds of sin and death. Christ is risen, reigning at the right hand of the Father. Christ will come again with glory, ushering in a new heaven and a new earth.

We hope that this daily worship guide will help you surrender your time more fully to God during the season of Lent. Let the liturgies for each of the forty days foster a renewed heart and soul. Let the reflections on Ecclesiastes for each of the Sundays turn your attention from the vanities of this world and towards God.

Use this guide individually, as a family, or with a group. If you start late, that's ok. Jump in. If you miss days or weeks, that's ok. Jump back in. However you decide to use it, commit to a set practice of turning your time over to God, being in his presence and listening for his voice and direction as you journey towards the joyful hope of Easter that permeates even the darkness of Lent.

*This guide is a collaborative effort by the pastors and staff of All Saints Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX.
We welcome other churches to use these materials for their own lenten practices
and ask that the booklet be kept together as a whole wherever it is distributed.*

Ash Wednesday & the beginning

FEBRUARY 18 - 21



Call to Worship

Leader: "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster." -Joel 2:12-13

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

People: Almighty God, our heavenly Father: We have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

(Pause for a time of silent personal confession)

Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
People: Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Daily Readings

	<u>Morning</u>			<u>Evening</u>	
Wednesday	Ps. 32, 143	Amos 5:6-15	Heb. 12:1-14	Ps. 102, 130	Lk. 18:9-14
Thursday	Ps. 37:1-18	Hab. 3:1-10, 16-18	Phil. 3:12-21	Ps. 37:19-42	Jn. 17:1-8
Friday	Ps. 31	Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32	Phil. 4:1-9	Ps. 35	Jn. 17:9-19
Saturday	Ps. 30, 32	Ezek. 39:21-29	Phil. 4:10-20	Ps. 42-43	Jn. 17:20-26

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. *(The Apostles' Creed)*

Reflection

Take a moment on your own or as a family or group to note some of the ways you've seen the Lord at work day by day or throughout the week:

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 this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice.
How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions
today (or, if it is evening, tomorrow)?*

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves – keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32–38.

Benediction

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. – Ephesians 3:20-21

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 22

An excerpt from “The Pains of Sleep” by S.T. Coleridge

*Ere on my bed my limbs I lay,
It hath not been my use to pray
With moving lips or bended knees;
But silently, by slow degrees,
My spirit I to Love compose,
In humble trust mine eye-lids close,
With reverential resignation
No wish conceived, no thought exprest,
Only a sense of supplication;
A sense o'er all my soul imprest
That I am weak, yet not unblest,
Since in me, round me, every where
Eternal strength and Wisdom are.*

Toil is Meaningless

To turn away from labor and toil can take the form of submitting to God completely through practicing Sabbath. Yet, in a world of hard work and success, this may be challenging. There is temptation to spend an extra hour chasing one step closer to a completed deadline for work or school instead of entering God's rest. We take our hard work and success into our own hands until we are burned out, vanities of vanities the author of Ecclesiastes calls this cycle. It does not need to be this way.

Sabbath occurs nightly in sleep and weekly with a day of rest. Coleridge's poem paints a picture of giving our labor, toil, and stresses up in sleep to the one who "neither sleeps nor slumbers." This submission is a place where we can find our true rest in God and an opportunity to deny ourselves the desire to try and make it by our own might. Instead of relying on our fickle strength while we work, we can rely on the everpresent, "round me, every where/ Eternal strength and Wisdom."

Week One

FEBRUARY 23 - 28

Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. - Mark 8:34

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

People: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may, from this time onward, live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

(Pause for a time of silent personal confession)

Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Daily Readings

	<u>Morning</u>			<u>Evening</u>	
Sunday	Ps. 63, 98	Dan. 9:3-10	Heb. 2:10-18	Ps. 103	Jn. 12:44-50
Monday	Ps. 41, 52	Gen. 37:1-11	1 Cor. 1:1-19	Ps. 44	Mk. 1:1-13
Tuesday	Ps. 45	Gen. 37:12-24	1 Cor. 1:20-31	Ps. 47-48	Mk. 1:14-28
Wednesday	Ps. 119:49-72	Gen. 37:25-36	1 Cor. 2:1-13	Ps. 49	Mk. 1:29-45
Thursday	Ps. 50	Gen. 39:1-23	1 Cor. 2:14-3:15	Ps. 19, 46	Mk. 2:1-12
Friday	Ps. 40, 54	Gen. 40:1-23	1 Cor. 3:16-23	Ps. 51	Mk. 2:13-22
Saturday	Ps. 55	Gen. 41:1-13	1 Cor. 4:1-7	Ps. 138-139	Mk. 2:23-3:6

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. *(The Apostles' Creed)*

Reflection

Take a moment on your own or as a family or group to note some of the ways you've seen the Lord at work day by day or throughout the week:

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 this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice.
How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions
today (or, if it is evening, tomorrow)?*

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Benediction

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. - Romans 15:13

SUNDAY

MARCH 1

The Practice of the Presence of God: "Eighth Letter" by Brother Lawrence

Dear Friend,

You aren't the only one to be distracted from the presence of God; I understand completely. Our minds are so flighty. However, remember that our God-given wills govern all of our strength. We must recall our minds to God. Otherwise, our spirits may wander, dragging us down to the things of this earth.

I think the remedy for the problem is to confess our faults to God and humble ourselves before Him. It isn't necessary to be too verbose in prayer, because lengthy prayers encourage wandering in our thoughts. Simply present yourself to God as if you were a poor man knocking on the door of a rich man, and fix your attention on His presence. If your mind wanders at times, don't be upset, because being upset will only distract you more. Allow your will to recall your attention gently to God. Such perseverance will please Him.

Another way to prevent the mind from wandering away from God during prayer is to train yourself to dwell in His presence all day long. This will provide a sort of "practice" for you, as you remind yourself to concentrate on Him. Remaining in His presence during prayer time will thus become easier.

You know from my other letters how advantageous I think it is to practice the presence of God. Let's take this act of loving God seriously and pray for one another.

I remain your brother in Christ.

Wisdom and Folly are Meaningless

We cannot overcome our restlessness on our own. Just as The Preacher lamented them in Ecclesiastes, knowledge, philosophy, or any other worldly wisdom will leave us wanting today—even the opposite, blissful ignorance, is not the answer our wayward hearts seek. The only thing that will not cause such an ache is God's very presence, as illustrated by Brother Lawrence's above advice to a friend. If you cannot perfectly dwell with him, remember we are not perfect. Have mercy on yourself, God has mercy on you. Don't let the discouragement of distraction drive you farther from the true contentment of your soul. Ask for God's help with dwelling in his presence, and he will delight to provide the true wisdom that only he can: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him," (James 1:5). God's very presence is enough in itself, yet he condescends to give plentifully to us. This Second Sunday in Lent, we can rejoice and celebrate that the presence of God is accessible at all times because of the gift of the Holy Spirit given after Christ's sacrifice on the cross. In all that we do this week, let us pray that it is done from this spirit of love.

Week Two

MARCH 2 - 7



Call to Worship

Leader: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. - Isaiah 53:6

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Leader: "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." -1 Timothy 1:15

People: Almighty God, you created us for life together, but we have turned from your will. We have not loved as you command. We have broken our promises to you and to one another. We have taken much and given little. Forgive our disobedience, O God, and strengthen us in love, that we may faithfully serve you as your people, and live together in your joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Pause for a time of silent personal confession)

Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Daily Readings

	<u>Morning</u>			<u>Evening</u>	
Sunday	Ps. 24, 29	Gen. 41:14-45	Rom. 6:3-14	Ps. 8, 84	Jn. 5:19-24
Monday	Ps. 56-57	Gen. 41:46-57	1 Cor. 4:8-21	Ps. 64-65	Mk. 3:7-19
Tuesday	Ps. 61-62	Gen. 42:1-17	1 Cor. 5:1-8	Ps. 68	Mk. 3:19-35
Wednesday	Ps. 72	Gen. 42:18-28	1 cor. 5:9-6:8	Ps. 119:73-96	Mk. 4:1-20
Thursday	Ps. 71	Gen. 42:29-38	1 Cor. 6:12-20	Ps. 74	Mk. 4:21-34
Friday	Ps. 69	Gen. 43:1-15	1 Cor. 7:1-9	Ps. 73	Mk. 4:35-41
Saturday	Ps. 75-76	Gen. 43:16-34	1 Cor. 7:10-24	Ps. 23, 27	Mk. 5:1-20

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. *(The Apostles' Creed)*

Reflection

Take a moment on your own or as a family or group to note some of the ways you've seen the Lord at work day by day or throughout the week:

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 this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice.
How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions
today (or, if it is evening, tomorrow)?*

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Benediction

May the almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

SUNDAY

MARCH 8

Excerpts from “Living Lent” by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton

We didn't even know what moderation was. What it felt like. We didn't just work: we inhaled our jobs, sucked them in, became them. Stayed late, brought work home—it was never enough, though, no matter how much time we put in.... We ordered things we didn't need from the shiny catalogs that came to our houses; we ordered three times as much as we could use, and then we ordered three times as much as our children could use....We didn't just eat: we stuffed ourselves.

We felt that it was important to be good to ourselves, and that this meant that it was dangerous to tell ourselves no. About anything, ever. Repression of one's desires was an unhealthy thing. I work hard, we told ourselves. I deserve a little treat. We treated ourselves every day.

There were times, coming into the house from work or waking early when all was quiet, when we felt uneasy about the sense of entitlement that characterized all our days. When we wondered if fevered overwork and excess of appetite were not two sides of the same coin—or rather, two poles between which we madly slalomed. Probably yes, we decided at these times. Suddenly we saw it all clearly: I am driven by my creatures—my schedule, my work, my possessions, my hungers. I do not drive them; they drive me. Probably yes. Certainly yes. This is how it is.

“This is just the way it is,” we said to one another on the train, in the restaurant. “This is modern life.” When did the collision between our appetites and the needs of our soul happen?

Pleasures are Meaningless

Sometimes we may think that the answer to our restlessness is more. We strive after what we perceive to be the roots of our restlessness—a better promotion for the stability we crave, the perfect grades to get into the perfect school, a curated space so that we can feel perfectly calm at home, the most delicious yet healthy meal to nourish us as we carry about busy day after busy day. Yet our restlessness is a symptom of distance from God. The perfection we crave is a yearning for our heart's true desire, wholeness made complete through Jesus Christ. That is why pleasure is never enough, and why what Barbra Cawthorne Crafton illustrates resonates. We are filling our hearts with temporary, material comforts, pleasures, and indulgences when our hearts were designed for an eternity with our perfect, immortal, God. Blindly, we make selections thinking we know what we need. But God knows what we need, both his presence and our material comforts. Instead of captaining our own lives, let us turn towards God our Father who knows what we need. This third Sunday in Lent, let Jesus' words on the Sermon on the Mount serve as a remedy to our restless, wanting hearts:

Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

-Matthew 6:31-33

Week Three

MARCH 9 - 14

Call to Worship

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- 1 John 1:8-9

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. - 1 Timothy 1:15a

People: Holy and most Merciful Father, Though you should guide us, we inform ourselves. Though you should rule us, we reign over ourselves. Though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves with many things. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free. But these things are not true, so heal our confused mind with your word, heal our divided will with your law, heal our troubled conscience with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us. Please forgive us and change us by your Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

(Pause for a time of silent personal confession)

Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Daily Readings

	Morning			Evening	
Sunday	Ps. 93, 96	Gen. 44:1-17	Rom. 8:1-10	Ps. 34	Jn. 5:25-29
Monday	Ps. 80	Gen. 44:18-34	1 Cor. 7:25-31	Ps. 77	Mk. 5:21-34
Tuesday	Ps. 78:1-39	Gen. 45:1-15	1 Cor. 7:32-40	Ps. 78:40-72	Mk. 6:1-13
Wednesday	Ps. 119:97-120	Gen. 45:16-28	1 Cor. 8:1-13	Ps. 81-82	Mk. 6:13-29
Thursday	Ps. 42-43	Gen. 46:1-7, 28-34	1 Cor. 9:1-15	Ps. 85-86	Mk. 6:30-46
Friday	Ps. 88	Gen. 47:1-26	1 Cor. 9:16-27	Ps. 91-92	Mk. 6:47-56
Saturday	Ps. 87, 90	Gen. 47:27-48:7	1 Cor. 10:1-13	Ps. 136	Mk. 7:1-23

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. *(The Apostles' Creed)*

Reflection

Take a moment on your own or as a family or group to note some of the ways you've seen the Lord at work day by day or throughout the week:

Prayer

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*Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice.
How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions
today (or, if it is evening, tomorrow)?*

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves – keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32–38.

Benediction

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. – Ephesians 3:20-21

SUNDAY

MARCH 15

“What Will Remain” by Simone Weil

*What will remain of you is what you chose to give away,
Instead of keeping it in a rusty chest.
What will remain of you is a secret garden,
And a forgotten flower that never faded.
What you gave will, in time, blossom in others.
When a life is lost, it will be found again.
What will remain of you is what you freely gave
With open arms one sunny morning.
What will remain of you is something you once lost,
And that you yearned for since before you first awoke.
Even the pain you felt will live again in others.
For when a life is lost, it will be found again.
What will remain of you is a fallen tear,
A smile that grew forth from the depths of your heart.
What will remain of you are the seeds that you sowed,
That you shared with those who were starving for comfort.
And the seeds that you sowed will take root in other hearts in turn.
Because when a life is lost, it will be found again.*

A Common Destiny for All

Simone Weil's words are reminiscent of Jesus's clear yet confusing call of "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 10:39). Her words, too, address the author of Ecclesiastes' sorrow that the same fate of death awaits both the righteous and the wicked. What is of this earth will fade, but what is of God will last forever. An encouraging word, welcoming others into your home, giving joyfully, mourning with those who mourn, serving others as Jesus did, these are the seeds of the kingdom of heaven that God so loves to water. We are made in God's image, and he entrusts us with different seeds to tend over the course of our lives through each unique perspective and gift with which we are designed. Instead of preserving an earthly legacy that can be forgotten in a mere generation, take a risk and give to others wholeheartedly, as God has given wholeheartedly through the death of his Son.

Week Four

MARCH 16 - 21



Call to Worship

Leader: "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster." -Joel 2:12-13

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

(Pause for a time of silent personal confession)

Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Daily Readings

	Morning			Evening	
Sunday	Ps. 66, 67	Gen. 48:8-22	Rom. 8:11-25	Ps. 19, 46	Jn. 6:27-40
Monday	Ps. 89:1-18	Gen. 29:1-28	1 Cor. 10:14-11:1	Ps. 89:19-52	Mk. 7:24-37
Tuesday	Ps. 97, 99	Gen. 49:29-50:14	1 Cor. 11:17-34	Ps. 94	Mk. 8:1-10
Wednesday	Ps. 101, 109	Gen. 50:15-26	1 Cor. 12:1-11	Ps. 119:121-144	Mk. 8:11-26
Thursday	Ps. 69	Ex. 1:6-22	1 Cor. 12:12-26	Ps. 73	Mk. 8:27-9:1
Friday	Ps. 102	Ex. 2:1-22	1 Cor. 12:27-13:3	Ps. 107:1-32	Mk. 9:2-13
Saturday	Ps. 108	Ex. 2:23-3:15	1 Cor. 13:1-13	Ps. 33	Mk. 9:14-29

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. *(The Apostles' Creed)*

Reflection

Take a moment on your own or as a family or group to note some of the ways you've seen the Lord at work day by day or throughout the week:

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 this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice.
How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions
today (or, if it is evening, tomorrow)?*

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Benediction

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen. - 2 Corinthians 13:14

SUNDAY

MARCH 22

Excerpts from Psalm 73

*¹ Truly God is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.
² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled,
my steps had nearly slipped.
³ For I was envious of the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
⁴ For they have no pangs until death;
their bodies are fat and sleek.
⁵ They are not in trouble as others are;
they are not stricken like the rest of mankind....
⁹ They set their mouths against the heavens,
and their tongue struts through the earth.
¹⁰ Therefore his people turn back to them,
and find no fault in them.
¹¹ And they say, "How can God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
¹² Behold, these are the wicked;
always at ease, they increase in riches.
¹³ All in vain have I kept my heart clean
and washed my hands in innocence.*

*¹⁴ For all the day long I have been stricken
and rebuked every morning.
¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
I would have betrayed the generation of your children.
¹⁶ But when I thought how to understand this,
it seemed to me a wearisome task,
¹⁷ until I went into the sanctuary of God;
then I discerned their end.
¹⁸ Truly you set them in slippery places;
you make them fall to ruin.
¹⁹ How they are destroyed in a moment,
swept away utterly by terrors!...
²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you;
you hold my right hand.
²⁴ You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me to glory.
²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.*

The Tears of the Oppressed

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness." Jesus also advised Peter, who was troubled by the different charges placed on him and John, that "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" (John 21:22). We have both of these thoughts, indignation and meticulous comparison, not unlike the psalmist who was enraged by the wickedness in his midst. Yet, as Jesus advised Peter, so too must we listen. God has unique plans and ends for each one of us. The tension between both sentiments is how we can temper and turn from unbounded anger at the injustice and incongruity--something all too easy to share with the teacher's distress at the evil done under the sun as depicted in Ecclesiastes 4. God's justice is perfect, so we must submit to he who is our reward in heaven and trust in his plan because none of the events we witness make sense without him. The events in Psalm 73 (verses 4-12) didn't make sense to the psalmist until he took on a heavenly worldview (verse 17). We must trust in God's plan, and the nearer we are to him, the more it makes sense when to act, when to pray, when to remain: "for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

Week Five

MARCH 23 - 28



Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. - Mark 8:34

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

People: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may, from this time onward live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

(Pause for a time of silent personal confession)

Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Daily Readings

	<u>Morning</u>			<u>Evening</u>	
Sunday	Ps. 118	Ex. 3:16-4:12	Rom. 12:1-21	Ps. 145	Jn. 8:46-59
Monday	Ps. 31	Ex. 4:10-31	1 Cor. 14:1-19	Ps. 35	Mk. 9:30-41
Tuesday	Ps. 121-123	Ex. 5:1-6:1	1 Cor. 14:20-33, 39-40	Ps. 124-126	Mk. 9:42-50
Wednesday	Ps. 119:145-176	Ex. 7:8-24	2 Cor. 2:14-3:6	Ps. 128-130	Mk. 10:1-16
Thursday	Ps. 131-133	Ex. 7:25-8:19	2 Cor. 3:7-18	Ps. 140, 142	Mk. 10:17-31
Friday	Ps. 22	Ex. 9:13-35	2 Cor. 4:1-12	Ps. 141, 143	Mk. 10:32-45
Saturday	Ps. 137, 144	Ex. 10:21-11:8	2 Cor. 4:13-18	Ps. 42-43	Mk. 10:46-52

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. *(The Apostles' Creed)*

Reflection

Take a moment on your own or as a family or group to note some of the ways you've seen the Lord at work day by day or throughout the week:

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 this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice.
How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions
today (or, if it is evening, tomorrow)?*

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Benediction

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. - Romans 15:13

SUNDAY

MARCH 29

Excerpt from A Grief Observed by C.S. Lewis

"We were promised sufferings. They were part of the program. We were even told, 'Blessed are they that mourn,' and I accept it. I've got nothing that I hadn't bargained for. Of course, it is different when the thing happens to oneself, not to others, and in reality, not imagination."

Remember Your Creator

The author of Ecclesiastes cites youth and vigor as meaningless, but our modern world eschews aging and death in favor of staying perpetually young—the latest health trend, skin care routines to prevent wrinkles, editing photos to hide signs of age, celebrations of life instead of funerals to distract from the death at hand to name only a few examples. Yet, Lewis reminds us of the naturalness of aging and death. We live in a broken world, so while there is promise that we will not avoid suffering, we can also focus on the promise that they are not permanent. Neither is youth. We are not promised youth, and it will eventually fade away. We are, however, promised eternal life as a result of Jesus' saving act on the cross. As we enter into Holy Week, journey through the somber reminders of Jesus' act of the greatest love to give up his youth and very life for us, we must remember that while youth and vigor may fade, suffering is not forever. Jesus defeated death, on the cross, that Easter day, and will eternally defeat death when he comes again. This gives us hope which never fade.

Week Six

Holy Week

HOLY WEEK: MARCH 30 - APRIL 3



Call to Worship

Leader: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. - Isaiah 53:6

Hymn

Selection of hymns for Lent can be found on pages 32-38.

Daily Readings

	<u>Morning</u>			<u>Evening</u>	
Sunday	Ps. 24, 29	Zech. 9:9-12	1 Tim. 6:12-16	Ps. 103	Lk. 19:41-48
Monday	Ps. 51	Lam. 1:1-2, 6-12	2 Cor. 1:1-7	Ps. 69:1-23	Mk. 11:12-25
Tuesday	Ps. 6, 12	Lam. 1: 17-22	2 Cor. 1:8-22	Ps. 94	Mk. 11:27-33
Wednesday	Ps. 55	Lam. 2:1-9	2 Cor. 1:23-2:11	Ps. 74	Mk. 12:1-11
Thursday	Ps. 102	Lam. 2:10-18	1 Cor. 10:14-17; 11:27-32	Ps. 142-143	Mk. 14:12-25
Friday	Ps. 22	Lam. 3:1-9, 19-33	1 Pet. 1:10-20	Ps. 40, 54	Jn. 19:38-42
Saturday	Ps. 88	Lam. 3:37-58	Heb. 4:1-16	Ps. 27	

Prayers

Leader: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, God the Son, Redeemer of the world, and God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,

People: Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, your people, whom you have redeemed with your most precious blood, and by your mercy preserve us, for ever.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy Incarnation; by your holy Nativity and submission to the Law; by your Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By your Agony and Bloody Sweat; by your Cross and Passion; by your precious Death and Burial; by your glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Spirit,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

That it may please you to send forth laborers into your harvest, and to draw all mankind into your kingdom,

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive your Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to give us a heart to love and fear you, and diligently to live after your commandments,

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our callings, to do the work which you have given us to do with singleness of heart as your servants, and for the common good,

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation, and to have mercy upon all mankind

Hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

Hear us, good Lord.

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 this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Benediction

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. – Ephesians 3:20-21

Hymns

Be Thou My Vision



1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise;
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won;



naught be all else to me, save that Thou art,
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou mine in - her - i - tance now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav-en's sun!



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son;
Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
II: Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing Thy pre - sence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing and I with Thee one.
High King of heav - en, my trea - sure Thou art.
still be my vis - ion, O rul - er of all. :||

(Words: ancient Irish hymn, Music: traditional Irish melody, CCLI license #2476739)

Come Thou Fount



1. Come thou fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace.
2. Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer, hi - ther by Thy help I'm come,
3. O to grace, how great a debt - or, dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;
4. O that day, when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy love - ly face;



Streams of mer - cy ne - ver ceas - ing call for songs of loud est praise.
 and I hope by Thy good plea - sure safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wand'-ring heart to Thee.
 Clothed then in the blood-washed lin - en, how I'll sing Thy sov'-reign grace;



Teach me some mel - o-dious son - net sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God.
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love.
 Come, my Lord, no long - er tar - ry, take my ran-somed soul a - way;



Praise the mount, I'm fixed up - on it, Mount of God's un - chang-ing love.
 Here to res - cue me from dang - er in - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
 ||: Send Thine an - gels now to car - ry me to realms of end - less praise.:||

(Words: Robert Robinson; Music: American Folk tune, NETTLETON; arr. David Lutes, 2006; CCLI license #2476739)

Create in Me A Clean Heart O God

||: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,

and re - new a right spi - rit with - in me. :|| (REPEAT)

Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence, O Lord.

Take not Thy Ho - ly Spi - rit from me.

Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion,

and re - new a right spi - rit with - in me.

||: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,

and re - new a right spi - rit with - in me. :|| (REPEAT)

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is not explicitly shown but is 4/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score consists of eight lines of music. The first line begins with a repeat sign (||:) and ends with a comma. The second line ends with a repeat sign (:||) and the word '(REPEAT)'. The third line ends with a period. The fourth line ends with a repeat sign (:||) and the word '(REPEAT)'. The fifth line ends with a period. The sixth line ends with a repeat sign (:||) and the word '(REPEAT)'. The seventh line ends with a comma. The eighth line ends with a repeat sign (:||) and the word '(REPEAT)'.

(from Psalm 51; Words and music: Keith Green)

In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song.
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full-ness of God in help - less babe!
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, light of the world by dark - ness slain.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death; this is the pow'r of Christ in me.



This cor - ner-stone, this sol - id ground; firm through the fierc-est drought and storm.
 This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
 Then burst-ing forth in glor-ious day, up from the grave He rose a - gain!
 From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com-mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease;
 'Til on that cross, as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied.
 And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er pluck me from His hand.



my com - for - ter, my all - in - all; here in the love of Christ I stand.
 For ev - ery sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
 For I am His and He is mine, bought with the prec-ious blood of Christ.
 ||: 'Til he re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand! :||
 Here in the pow'r of Christ a - lone.

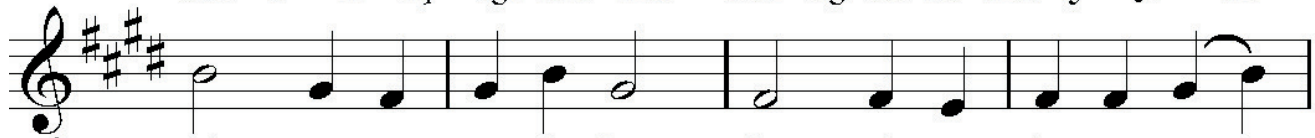
Nothing But the Blood of Jesus



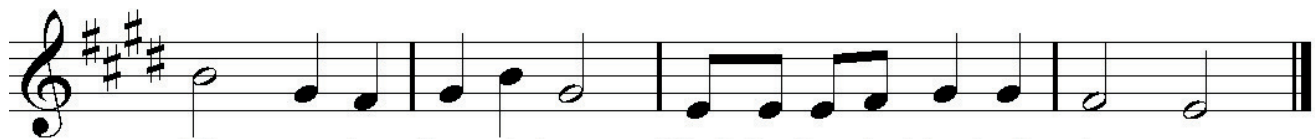
1. What can wash a - way my sin? Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
2. For my par - don, this I see, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
3. Noth - ing can for sin a - tone, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
4. This is all my hope and peace, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;



What can make me whole a - gain? Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 For my cleans - ing this my plea, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 Naught of good that I have done, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 This is all my righ - teous - ness, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.



Refrain: Oh! pre - cious is the flow that makes me white as snow;



No o - ther fount I know, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

(Words and Music: Robert Lowry, arr. Norton Hall Band, CCLI License #2476739)

What the Lord Has Done in Me



1. Let the weak say "I am strong." Let the poor say "I am rich."
2. To the riv - er I will wade. There my sins are washed a - way.
3. I will rise from wat - ers deep in the sav - ing arms of God.



Let the blind say "I can see" what the Lord has done in me.
From the heav - ens mer - cy streams of the Sav - ior's love for me.
I will sing sal - va - tion songs. Je - sus Christ has set me free.



Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! to the Lamb that was slain!



Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Je - sus died and rose a - gain!

(2X REFRAIN AFTER VERSE 3)

(Words and Music: Reuben Morgan, 1999; CCLI License #2476739)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross
 2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast,
 3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,
 4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,



on which the Prince of Glo - ry died,
 save in the death of Christ, my God;
 sor - row and love flow min - gled down;
 that were a pres - ent far too small;



my rich - est gain I count but loss
 all the vain things that charm me most
 did e'er such love and sor - row meet,
 love so a - ma - zing, so di - vine



and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
 or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

(Words: Isaac Watts; Music: American Folk tune; arr. David Lutes, 2007; CCLI license #2476739)

RESURREXIT SICUT DIXIT

He is risen as he said!



EASTER SUNDAY

7:00 AM ■ 8:15 AM ■ 9:30 AM ■ 10:50 AM



ALL SAINTS
PRESBYTERIAN