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LENT—DAY 19



INVITATION

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isa. 6:3)*

Quiet

BIBLE SONG: PSALM 26:1-3, 8-9

Vindicate me, LORD,
for I have led a blameless life;

I have trusted in the LORD
and have not faltered.

Test me, LORD, and try me,
examine my heart and my mind;
for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love
and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness. . . .

LORD, I love the house where you live,
the place where your glory dwells.
Do not take away my soul along with sinners,
my life with those who are bloodthirsty,

BIBLE READING: JOHN 2:13-22

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."

They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Quiet

DWELLING

Leisurely read again...is there a word or idea that stirred within you? Linger over it and give it your attention...is there something about the reading you'd like to ask God about? Pray your life to God...take a moment to rest in God's presence.

FREE PRAYER

- ❖ for our national and local communities
- ❖ for the continent of South America
- ❖ for the poor and local poverty issues

PRAYER

Merciful and just God, I rage against the regularity of evil in the world. Thank you that you are a just judge and will punish all such sin, now and in eternity. Yet when the tables get turned, I see how puny my anger is next to yours. And along with justice, I pray for mercy. Forgive me in Jesus' name, amen. (HC 10)

BLESSING

"Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are those whose sin the LORD does not count against them." (Ps. 32:1-2)

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LENT—DAY 20



INVITATION

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isa. 6:3)*

Quiet

BIBLE SONG: PSALM 27:1-5

The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked advance against me
to devour me,

it is my enemies and my foes
who will stumble and fall.

Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me,
even then I will be confident.

One thing I ask from the LORD,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle
and set me high upon a rock.

BIBLE READING: LUKE 13:1-9

Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. Jesus

answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’

“‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”

Quiet

DWELLING

Read again, perhaps out loud...how has God’s Word moved you? Ponder and meditate what has connected with your heart or mind...pray to God what it is that has moved you today...turn your thoughts to God and quietly enjoy being with him.

FREE PRAYER

- ❖ for growth in holiness
- ❖ for God to uncover the idols of our hearts
- ❖ for God’s forgiveness, and for the readiness to extend it to others

PRAYER

Sovereign God, the pathways of your purpose are beyond human understanding. As we experience the groaning of creation in human evil and natural disaster, help us discern both your justice and your mercy, always ready to repent of our sins and always eager to walk again in your ways. Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner. Amen. (BC 13)

BLESSING

“Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are those whose sin the LORD does not count against them.” (Ps. 32:1-2)

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LENT—DAY 21



INVITATION

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isa. 6:3)*

Quiet

BIBLE SONG: PSALM 28:1-2, 6-7

To you, LORD, I call;
you are my Rock,
do not turn a deaf ear to me.

For if you remain silent,
I will be like those who go down to the pit.

Hear my cry for mercy
as I call to you for help,
as I lift up my hands
toward your Most Holy Place. . . .

Praise be to the LORD,
for he has heard my cry for mercy.
The LORD is my strength and my shield;
my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.
My heart leaps for joy,
and with my song I praise him.

BIBLE READING: ISAIAH 55:1-3, 6-7

“Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,
and you will delight in the richest of fare.
Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.
I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
my faithful love promised to David.” . . .

Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Quiet

DWELLING

Remind yourself you are in God's presence and read again...notice how God might be speaking to you through his Word—dwell on a word or phrase that jumps out at you...let your heart respond to God in prayer...take refreshment in God's presence.

FREE PRAYER

- ❖ for a thorough survey of the cross of Jesus Christ
- ❖ for those living in poverty and suffering injustice
- ❖ for those who are facing temptations

PRAYER

True God, who can save? So many pretenders serve up hollow promises, but it's all foolishness. No one else can release me from my punishment; no program can set me right with you. Turn me again to Jesus, the only true deliverer, and clear me from my sin. Amen. (HC 14)

BLESSING

“Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are those whose sin the LORD does not count against them.” (Ps. 32:1-2)

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LENT—DAY 22



INVITATION

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isa. 6:3)*

Quiet

BIBLE SONG: PSALM 29

Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon leap like a calf,
Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD strikes
with flashes of lightning.

The voice of the LORD shakes the desert;
the LORD shakes the Desert of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD twists the oaks
and strips the forests bare.

And in his temple all cry, “Glory!”

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD is enthroned as King forever.

The LORD gives strength to his people;
the LORD blesses his people with peace.

BIBLE READING: ROMANS 5:6-11

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Quiet

DWELLING

Read again slowly...find a word or phrase that catches your eye or moves your heart...slowly repeat it...pray your thoughts, desires, needs, and feelings from your meditation...enjoy the presence of your Lord and Savior.

FREE PRAYER

- ❖ for unity and holiness in the church
- ❖ for specific people in your church community
- ❖ for teachers and small group leaders in your church

PRAYER

Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, I praise you, worship you, and love you. On the cross you shouldered the weight of God's just anger against my sin and restored for me righteousness and life, setting me completely free and making me right with God. There are not enough words to thank you, my Savior. Amen. (HC 17-18)

BLESSING

"Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are those whose sin the LORD does not count against them." (Ps. 32:1-2)

4/3/2011
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Fourth Sunday in Lent



INVITATION

*“The Lord is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish,
but everyone to come to repentance.” (2 Pet. 3:9)*

Quiet

BIBLE SONG: PSALM 30:1-2, 8-12

I will exalt you, LORD,

for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

LORD my God, I called to you for help,
and you healed me. . . .

To you, LORD, I called;

to the Lord I cried for mercy:

“What is gained if I am silenced,
if I go down to the pit?

Will the dust praise you?

Will it proclaim your faithfulness?

Hear, LORD, and be merciful to me;

LORD, be my help.”

You turned my wailing into dancing;

you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.

LORD my God, I will praise you forever.

BIBLE READING: NUMBERS 21:4-9

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Quiet

DWELLING

Leisurely read again...is there a word or idea that stirred within you? Linger over it and give it your attention...is there something about the reading you'd like to ask God about? Pray your life to God...take a moment to rest in God's presence.

FREE PRAYER

- ❖ for resurrection hope and joy
- ❖ for sharing the good news of the living Jesus

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER

Thank you, graceful God, for your deliverance of my life, for the goodness of the rescue you have provided through Christ, lifted high on the cross like the snake in the wilderness. I live under your shining favor, your beautiful, crazy grace. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Amen.
(HC 86)

BLESSING

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." (Num. 6:24-26)

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3/15/2021

3/28/2022

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3/31/2025

3/16/2026

LENT—DAY 23



INVITATION

*“The Lord is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish,
but everyone to come to repentance.” (2 Pet. 3:9)*

Quiet

BIBLE SONG: PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

he leads me beside quiet waters,

he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk

through the darkest valley,

I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me

all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD

forever.

BIBLE READING: JOHN 3:14-21

“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. All those who do evil hate the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But those who live by the truth come into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Quiet

DWELLING

Read again, perhaps out loud...how has God's Word moved you? Ponder and meditate what has connected with your heart or mind...pray to God what it is that has moved you today...turn your thoughts to God and quietly enjoy being with him.

FREE PRAYER

- ❖ for the perplexing harshness in creation
- ❖ for the care of a groaning creation
- ❖ for environmental concerns and issues

PRAYER

God my Redeemer, it was your prodigal love that sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to be lifted up on the cross—a love that seeks and saves the lost. As I trust in Jesus today, may I know your love that withholds the condemnation I deserve, and lavishes the acceptance I do not. Amen.
(WC 7.3)

BLESSING

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (Num. 6:24-26)

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LENT—DAY 24



INVITATION

*“The Lord is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish,
but everyone to come to repentance.” (2 Pet. 3:9)*

Quiet

BIBLE SONG: PSALM 25:1-3, 16-22

In you, LORD my God,
I put my trust.

I trust in you;
do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
No one who hopes in you
will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those
who are treacherous without cause. . . .

Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.
Relieve the troubles of my heart
and free me from my anguish.
Look on my affliction and my distress
and take away all my sins.
See how numerous are my enemies
and how fiercely they hate me!

Guard my life and rescue me;
do not let me be put to shame,
for I take refuge in you.
May integrity and uprightness protect me,
because my hope, LORD, is in you.

Redeem Israel, O God,
from all their troubles!

BIBLE READING: LUKE 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Quiet

DWELLING

Remind yourself you are in God's presence and read again...notice how God might be speaking to you through his Word—dwell on a word or phrase that jumps out at you...let your heart respond to God in prayer...take refreshment in God's presence.

FREE PRAYER

- ❖ for the call to follow Christ in your home, neighborhood, and workplace
- ❖ for an increased capacity to selflessly serve the common good
- ❖ for those who work in government

PRAYER

Loving Father, let me hear your gracious call—not in preening religiosity, comparing myself with others, but in desperate humility, casting myself on your mercy. As I pray, “God, have mercy on me, a sinner,” so may I live this day justified and free in the life-giving power of your Spirit. Amen. (WC 10.2)

BLESSING

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (Num. 6:24-26)