

Redeemer

Presbyterian Church



Family
Lenten Devotional
2026

What Is Lent?

Lent is a season on our church calendar, traditionally marked by a 40-day period preparing for Easter Sunday. The observance of Lent spans 40 days, starting with Ash Wednesday and ending on the Saturday before Easter. The Lenten season does not include Sundays, so the six Sundays before Easter are omitted from the 40-day observance. In total there are 46 days in the Lenten season, 40 days of observance and six Sundays leading up to Easter Sunday, little resurrection breakthroughs in advance of Easter.

Lent is a time to remind us that true renewal comes only through turning away from our sins to follow Jesus— a truth we often forget. Seen in this way, Lent is a time that specifically focuses on repentance during which we anticipate the death and resurrection of Jesus; we die together with Jesus to our sins and to the world’s pull and values, longing for the fullness and utter joy of our final resurrection with him.

Having been sealed in Christ with the Holy Spirit, we can be reassured that our hope is found as Jesus orients our hearts toward himself and the grace that is found in and through him alone.

How to Use this Devotional

You will notice a rhythm to each week with Scripture, activity, song, catechism, prayer and Bible memorization. As we move through each week, we will be focusing on five themes:

- Who God Is
- Who Jesus Is
- Who the Holy Spirit Is
- Who We are
- What Jesus Did

Lenten Leaps

On many days there will be a fun “Lenten Leap” task for the day, something to **Let Go** or something to **Lift Up**. These are just small gestures to remind us of our need for Christ in our struggle to **let go** and his love for us that we can share by **lifting up** others. You are free in Christ not to do any of these things, but we think these may be helpful for centering your family in the season.

Day 1: Ash Wednesday

Read Romans 3:23-24

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. On this day, we take special time to acknowledge our sin and our complete dependence on Christ. As we read in the passage today, we deserve death, but Jesus took our place on the cross.

On Ash Wednesday, we are marked with a cross of ashes on the forehead as a reminder that we are dead to sin, but alive in Christ because of the cross. The cross of ashes also helps us think about how we come from dust and to dust we shall return. During the worship service note the purple banners that decorate the front of the church, signifying repentance and renewal.

Today we are reminded of our limits and our need for a Savior. We are given the cross as a reminder that Jesus' victory is our victory, and our lives will not end when our bodies turn to dust again. We have eternal life in and through Jesus when we repent of our sins and follow him. Jesus is more powerful than death! He beat death when he died on the cross and came back to life. Ashes mean death and sin, but the cross means life!

Day 2: Thursday

Read Joel 2:12-13

*“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.*

How does your sin make you feel? How do you think it makes God feel?

We are reminded in today’s Bible passage that when we sin, God desires for us to return to him, even in our sadness of sin, he will be gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love toward us! What an amazing God we serve!

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

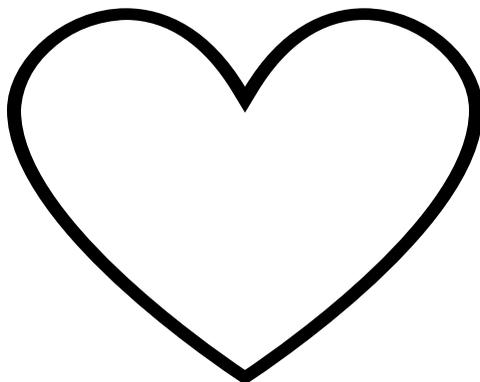
Smile at a stranger today.

Day 3: Friday

Read Psalm 51:1-12

Discuss what David, the author of this Psalm, is writing about.

- Spend some time as a family acknowledging your sin
- Think of a sin you want Jesus to forgive and write it down on a slip of paper
- Have everyone put their paper in a bowl or jar
- Repent, ask Jesus to cleanse you, just as David asked in Psalm 51
- Rip up the papers, burn the paper with a candle, throw them in the trash
- Talk about how God completely forgives us as we ask for it



Restore to me the _____ of your salvation,
(write the answer inside the heart). Hint: Psalm 51:12

Day 4: Saturday

Prayers of the Church

During church there is a part of the service called the “Call to Confession”. The word “confession” is defined as “a statement admitting guilt” or saying out loud the wrong things we have done. In church, we start with a Bible verse or two that reminds us of our guilt and sin, and then the pastor leads everyone into a prayer of confession we all say together. After we all say it together, there is a time of silence where we get to each admit our sin to God in prayer. This silence can feel like a long time! The next time you are in church, and you notice the silence, think of a couple of things you could ‘confess’ to God, maybe fighting with a sibling, disobeying a parent, or lying to a friend. Then, make sure to listen to the pastor right after that silence to hear him read verses from the Bible that remind us that our God forgives us!

Read Romans 3:23 aloud together:

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Pray as a family out loud:

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved thee with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.

For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways,

to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Silent Confession (spend a moment in silence, confessing any sins to God you want to share)

Read Romans 5:6-8 aloud together:

“For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Lenten Leap: Let Go

Give up time on something you want to do and ask your sibling or parent about something they want to do and do it with them (a game they want to play, a chore they need to do, an errand they need to run, etc.).

First Sunday in Lent

Bible Memorization

Each Sunday, we will work on some fun ways to memorize Bible verses. This is your last Sunday to focus on this memory verse. Don't forget to find Mrs. Sara or Mrs. Kerrie to show how you have memorized the verse. They would love to reward your efforts! Next Sunday, we will switch to our March Memory verse.

*Beloved, if God so loved us,
we also ought to love one another.*

1 John 4:11

Day 5: Monday

Who God Is

Read Psalm 8:1-4

Take time to be quiet in God's creation, meditating on God's greatness revealed in His handiwork.

Have a nature walk or backyard exploration, then list or draw the following. List all the things that God made that are BIGGER than you. GOD is SO BIG.



Find all the things that are very tiny that God made. God cares about the itty-bitty creatures too!



Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Find a flower and give to a friend.

Day 6: Tuesday

Who God Is

Read James 1:9-11

“Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.”

Thank You Notes

Set aside a jar or bowl, and some small pieces of paper. As you notice things to be thankful for this week, write them down and keep them in the jar. Let us thank God for His abundant blessings in our life.

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Don't just write it down, say thank you to someone who loves you and helps you (a teacher, coach, parent).

Day 7: Wednesday

Who God Is

Let's take the time to sing today! Lifting up our voices is a great way to praise God. You can sing these songs at breakfast, in the car on the way to school, before dinner or at bedtime. We've included a familiar song from church and a fun kid song. If you aren't sure of the tunes, go to your favorite music app and find a version to sing along with.

Holy Holy Holy

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy
There is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love and purity

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity
Oh God in three persons
Blessed Trinity!

My God is so Big

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do

He made the trees
He made the seas
He made the elephants too
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do
My God is so great, so strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do

The mountains are his
The rivers are his
The skies are his handy works too
My God is so great, so strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do
There's nothing my God cannot do
There's nothing my God cannot do
For you

You can check out music sheets and links for the
music playlist here



Day 8: Thursday

Who God Is

Read Deuteronomy 11:1

"You shall therefore love the Lord your God and keep his charge, his statutes, his rules, and his commandments always."

Catechism 6 of New City Catechism asks:

Q. How can we glorify God?

A. By loving him and obeying his commands and law.

Gracious Lord, we want to fully know and enjoy you. Open our eyes to see you as you are that we might trust you and long with all we are to keep your commands. Whether through small kindnesses or great courage, may each act of obedience bring you glory. Amen.

Day 9: Friday

Who God Is

Read Exodus 34:6-7

The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

Attributes are words that describe what we are like. How would you describe God?

Use the space below to list the attributes of God found in the verses you just read.
Praise God for who he is.



Lenten Leap: Let Go

Give up dessert this weekend.

Day 10: Saturday

Prayers of the Church

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”

Pray for our current church leaders. Pray that God would guide their steps, bless them with wisdom, and strengthen each leader and their families.

Session and Elders

Matt Beham, pastor
Jeff Brouillard
John Browning
Zack Burkhart
Pablo Chavarria, pastor
John Fitch
Paul Hahn, pastor
Bernard Hildebrand
Charley Hollimon
Morris Hurt
Vicente Jaime
Victor Martinez, pastor
Bryant McGee, pastor
Winston Meeker
Jason Register
Henry Sauer
David Schwab
Jason Smith
Alan Williams
Reagan Winslow

Deacons and Deaconesses

Eric Arguello
Alex Beaugh
Rob Bondurant
Wes Bright
Jim Dante
Josiah Duka
Tim Gardner
Craig Goedecke
Walt Mays
Matt Michelson
Chip Nance
Lane Naugher
Nam Phan
Larry Rickels
James Sedgwick
Ross Van Klaveren
Halli Hollimon
Erin Hurt
Jeannie Martinez
Sarah Watford

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Write or draw a card to a church leader to give to them tomorrow.

Second Sunday in Lent

Bible Memorization

Today, to help with memorizing our March Scripture, let's try to understand what this verse is about. Look up this verse in the Bible and read some of the verses around it to understand what was being said. Who was saying these words? Who was he saying these words to? What do you think it meant to the people who were there listening?

*And as you wish that others would do to you,
do so to them.*

Luke 6:31

Day 11: Monday

Who Jesus Is

John 10:14-18

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

In Jesus' time, shepherds often allowed their sheep to mix together in the same field to eat the grass, but when it was time to separate, the shepherds would use their voices to gather their flock, and the sheep would know their shepherd's voice.

Activity

As a family take turns seeing if you can identify each other's voices. Have one person in one room and everyone else in another room and have the group choose someone to yell out "come here to me my sheep" and see if the one can guess whose voice it is. Feel free to make it harder (and sillier) by trying accents and impersonations. Take turns being the guesser.

Jesus wants us to know his voice and reading the Bible is a really great way to do that. Keep working hard at your Bible memorization because that is a great way to keep God's voice with you at all times.

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Do an extra chore this week without being asked.

Day 12: Tuesday

Who Jesus Is

Read Hebrews 5:7-9

“In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.”

These verses talk about Jesus being an obedient son. What does it mean to be a son or daughter? How is being a son or daughter to your parents different than being someone your parents work with?

How is it different than being your parents' friend?

What does it mean to be obedient?

Pray that God will help you to be an obedient child to God.

Day 13: Wednesday

Who Jesus Is

Let's take the time to sing today! Lifting up our voices is a great way to praise God. You can sing these at breakfast, in the car on the way to school, before dinner or at bedtime. We've included a familiar song from church and a fun kid song. If you aren't sure of the tunes go to your favorite music app and find a version to sing along with.

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Jesus! What a friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Chorus:

Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in Him.
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my strength, my victory wins. (chorus)

Jesus! What a help in sorrow!
While the billows over me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking,
He, my comfort, helps my soul. (chorus)

Jesus! I do now receive Him,
More than all in Him I find.
He hath granted me forgiveness,
I am His, and He is mine. (chorus)

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, this I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Chorus:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me he who died
heaven's gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in. (chorus)

Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." (chorus)

You can check out music sheets and links for the
music playlist here



Day 14: Thursday

Who Jesus Is

Read 1 Timothy 2:5

“For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

Catechism 20 of New City Catechism asks:

Q. Who is the Redeemer?

A. The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Precious Redeemer, before the world began, you loved us. You gave up your glory to bear our shame. You glorified your Father by obeying him all the way to the cross. You deserve our praise, thanks, and worship. We have no hope but in you. Amen.

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Help your parent with dinner, either planning it, picking out the place to pick up from or making the meal. And make sure you are being a helper and not just asking for what you want.

Day 15: Friday

Who Jesus Is

Read Philippians 2:5-11

How would you describe Jesus from these verses?

Use the space below to list the attributes of Jesus found in the verses you just read.
Praise Jesus for who he is.



Lenten Leap: Let Go

Give up screen time today.

Day 16: Saturday

Prayers of the Church

Read Matthew 25:34-40.

Pray for the ministries Redeemer supports and partners with. Each ministry exists to love our neighbors in San Antonio. Pray that through Redeemer God may be glorified and the gospel would reach many!

- Life Restored
- Young Life San Antonio
- RUF at Trinity University
- RUF at University of Texas San Antonio
- Pregnancy Care Center
- Strong Foundation
- Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM)
- Daily Bread Ministries
- Haven for Hope
- Bus Station Project
- Christian Medical and Dental Association
- Metanoia Prison Ministries
- Third Millenium Ministries
- New Hope Connection
- I Care San Antonio
- The Chalmers Center

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Several of these organization are ones we have had join us during Christian Education for our "Mission Moments." Can you point out some of the ones we had talk to us and tell your parents something about them? (Hint: remember I Care or New Hope?)

Third Sunday in Lent

Bible Memorization

Read these verses aloud and see if you can think of a different way to say it. How can you say it in your own words? What do these verses mean to you? Write out the way you might write Jesus' words below.

*And as you wish that others would do to you,
do so to them.*

Luke 6:31

Day 17: Monday

Who the Holy Spirit Is

Read John 16:7-8

(Jesus speaking) *“Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.”*

Who will help us live like Jesus? _____

How does the Spirit help you live like Jesus? (hint: reread the verses above)

How do we get the Holy Spirit?

Lenten Leap: Let Go

Pick out a book to give away and either pass it along to a friend, find a little library box in your neighborhood, or gift it to the local library.

Day 18: Tuesday

Who the Holy Spirit Is

Read Romans 8:26-27

“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because^[g] the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”

How would you describe the Holy Spirit from these verses?

Use the space below to list the attributes of the Holy Spirit found in the verses you just read. Praise the Holy Spirit for who he is.



Day 19: Wednesday

Who the Holy Spirit Is

Let's take the time to sing today! Lifting up our voices is a great way to praise God. You can sing these songs at breakfast, in the car on the way to school, before dinner or at bedtime. We've included a familiar song from church and a fun kid song. If you aren't sure of the tunes, go to your favorite music app and find a version to sing along with.

Isaiah 43

When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you,
And the waves will not overcome you.
Do not fear, For I have redeemed you,
I have called you by name, You are Mine.

Chorus:

For I am the Lord your God,
I am the Lord your God
The Holy One of Israel
Your Savior
For I am the Lord your God,
I am the Lord your God
The Holy One of Israel
Your Savior

I am the Lord (do not fear)
I am the Lord (do not fear)
I am the Lord (do not fear)
I am the Lord (do not fear)

When you walk through the fire
You'll not be burned,
And the flames will not consume you.
Do not fear, For I have redeemed you,
I have called you by name,
You are Mine. (chorus)

Every Move I Make

Every move I make, I make in you
You make me move, (Jesus)
Every breath I take I breath in you
Every step I take, I take in you
You are my way (Jesus)
Every breath I take I breath in you

Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na
Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na

Every move I make, I make in you
You make me move, (Jesus)
Every breath I take I breath in you
Every step I take, I take in you
You are my way (Jesus)
Every breath I take I breath in you

Waves of mercy Waves of grace
Everywhere I look I see your face
Your love has captured me
Oh my God, this love, how can it be?
(repeat)

You can check out music sheets and links for the
music playlist here



Day 20: Thursday

Who the Holy Spirit Is

Read Ephesians 6:17-18

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.”

Catechism 37 of New City Catechism asks:

Q. How does the Holy Spirit help us?

A. The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, and he enables us to pray and to understand God’s Word.

God the Spirit, have your way in us. Shine your light on the secret sins of our heart.

Equip us for tasks that are too large for us. Make us glad in what delights you.

Intercede for us and open our eyes to rightly understand the Word of truth. Amen.

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Write a little note for a friend or family member and leave it somewhere they will find it later, like in their pocket, or in the car, or next to their toothbrush.

Day 21: Friday

Who the Holy Spirit Is

Read Exodus 34:29-35 and 2 Corinthians 3:18

Moses' face changed when he went up to Mount Sinai. When he came down his face shone with the Glory of God on it. Each day the glow began to fade for Moses.

However, for us, with the Holy Spirit living inside of us, we are able to reflect the glory of God every day. Think about ways you can reflect God to others today and write them down here.

Prayer:

God you are the Creator and our faithful provider.

Help us, by your Spirit, to remember how you provide for us.

Help us, by your Spirit, to remember that you meet our needs.

Thank you that Jesus died for the sin of coveting,

Because of his sacrifice we are free to be content.

Lord, you are our helper. We will not fear.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

Day 22: Saturday

Prayers of the Church

Read Matthew 28:19

Pray for our global missionaries. Look at this list! That is a lot of missionaries, and they are so important to the mission of spreading God's Word. Pray for each one by name and pray for the areas where they are located. Look up these locations on a map to see how far our missionaries have gone.

Europe

- Bradley and Sara Cordell (L'Viv, Ukraine)
- Heero and Anya Haqueboard (L'Viv, Ukraine)
- Doug and Masha Shepherd (L'Viv, Ukraine)
- Jon and Olya Powell (L'Viv, Ukraine)
- Matt and Amy Ziehr (Munich, Germany)

Central and South America

- Marcus and Heather Rudd (Reynosa, Mexico)
- Ashley Aberle (Reynosa, Mexico)
- Mario and Kayla Xoca (Reynosa, Mexico)
- Tim and Kristy Holliday (Northern Mexico)
- Wes and Jami Baker (Trujillo, Peru)
- Andres and Ruth Garza (City to City Latin America)
- Dan and Becky Young (Border Region)
- Emma Cable (Quito, Ecuador)
- Mission to El Salvador
- Potter's House Guatemala

Asia

- Oscar and Nancy Oliveras (Japan)

Lenten Leap: Let Go

Gather up money you have, either allowance or chore money or birthday money or just change you've gathered. Gather it in a Ziploc bag and put it in your mom's purse or your car so it will be ready to go to church tomorrow. Put it in the offering plate during the church service.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Bible Memorization

Today, to help us memorize our March Memory verse, come up with some hand motions for the words in the verse. What are some hand motions for the words in this verse: wish, others, you, do? Are there some dance moves that would be fun to add to your movement and memorization?

*And as you wish that others would do to you,
do so to them.*

Luke 6:31

Day 23: Monday

Who We Are

Read Psalm 24:8-10

Who is this King of glory?

*The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!*

⁹*Lift up your heads, O gates!*

*And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.*

¹⁰*Who is this King of glory?*

*The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory!*

Who is Your King?

When you are at school, do you decide what to say and how to act, and how to treat your neighbor, or is Jesus your king at school? Who is King when you are with your brothers and sisters? At church? With your friends? At sports practice? When you are alone and no one is watching? When is it hardest for you to let Jesus be King?

Fill in the blanks in the prayer below, and then talk to God about what you have written.

Jesus, forgive me for trying to be my own king at _____. YOU are the King. You are my KING. Please help me obey you always, even when I am

_____.

Day 24: Tuesday

Who We Are

Read Exodus 35:4-19

God called the people of Israel to bring their gifts to help build the tabernacle. In the same way he calls us today to bring our gifts and talents to build the church. No matter how big or small we all have a part in the church. What can you bring to the table? List some of the gifts you have that you can give to the church.

Prayer:

God of Wisdom,

Keep us in your presence and give us your wisdom. Open our hearts to gladness, call dry bones to dance, and restore us to the joy of your salvation. Help us to bring our gifts, no matter how small they may seem, to you in celebration of all that you have done for us. Amen.

Day 25: Wednesday

Who We Are

Let's take the time to sing today! Lifting up our voices is a great way to praise God. You can sing these at breakfast, in the car on the way to school, before dinner or at bedtime. We've included a familiar song from church and a fun kid song. If you aren't sure of the tunes go to your favorite music app and find a version to sing along with.

The Church's One Foundation

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation,
By water and the word;
From Heav'n he came and sought her
To be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her,
And for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the Earth,
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With ev'ry grace endued.

O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with thee;
There, past the border mountains,
Where in sweet vales, the bride
With thee, by living fountains,
Forever shall abide!

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Oh, this little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine

Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

Don't let Satan [blow] it out!
I'm going to let it shine
Don't let Satan [blow] it out!
I'm going to let it shine
Don't let Satan [blow] it out!
I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine

You can check out music sheets and links for the
music playlist here



Day 26: Thursday

Who We Are

Read Genesis 1: 27 and Romans 14:7-8

*“So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.”*

Genesis 1:27

“For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.” Romans 14:7-8

Catechism 1 of New City Catechism asks:

Q. What is our only hope in life and death

A. That we are not our own but belong to God.

Catechism 4 of New City Catechism asks:

Q: How and why did God create us?

A: God created us male and female in his own image to glorify him.

Maker of all, let us not lose sight that we, and every human being you have made, are created in your image. Never let us doubt this about ourselves. Never let us doubt this about any other man or woman, for to do so denies you the glory that is due to your name. Your likeness glimpsed in us testifies that we belong to you, body and soul. Amen.

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Facetime a loved one who lives far away and ask about their day. Try to come up with 3-4 questions to ask before even getting on the call.

Day 27: Friday

Who We Are

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

Use the space below to list the attributes of who we are found in the verses you just read. Praise God for who we are in Christ.



Day 28: Saturday

Prayers of the Church

During the church service we have a time called Prayers of the People. This is when the pastor prays for the many needs of our church, our community and our world. We pray for lots of things and God tells us we can bring anything to him in prayer. Below are a few helpful verses as you think about all the prayers for the people in your life. Write down some of the people you want to pray for this week.

Read Philippians 1:29

Pray for families who are struggling and suffering. Ask God to show his loving care for his people.

Read Isaiah 41:10

Pray for those who are sad and lonely in our congregation. Pray that the lonely would be filled with the fullness of God and that would draw near to Jesus remembering his promise in Isaiah 41:10.

Read Psalm 103:2-4

Pray for those in your life who are sick. Pray for healing, and for sustaining energy for those who care for the sick.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Bible Memorization

This week continue to work on our March memory verse. Today, to help with memorizing our Scripture, can you recite it to five different people? Find five people – family, friends, people you see at church – and ask if you can share a Bible memory verse with them.

*And as you wish that others would do to you,
do so to them.*

Luke 6:31

Day 29: Monday

What Jesus Did

Read Mark 1:12-13 and Luke 4:1-13

Before Jesus' ministry began, he went into the wilderness and was tempted by Satan. Our God is not someone who sits high above and doesn't understand our struggles with sin. He sent his son to endure all the things we would. Jesus was tempted to complain in his hunger. He was tempted to be prideful in his power. He was tempted to disobey his father. Isn't it comforting to know he was tempted in all the ways like we are every day? And yet, he did not sin. He knows what it is like to live in our world and to be tempted. But, he also resisted temptation in every way, which we cannot do! And that is why we can trust in him as our savior.

When are you tempted to complain?

When are you tempted to hold power/control?

When are you tempted to disobey?

Recite this prayer on your own, in thankfulness for how Jesus was tempted, but did not sin, and helps us in our own struggles with sin:

God of all creation, Your law is perfect.

Thank you for teaching us how to worship you.

Help us to love you with all our heart, and soul, and with all our mind.

Lord, we know because of our sin we fall short.

We thank you for Jesus, who covers our sin.

We ask the Holy Spirit to help us guard our hearts from idols, and the distractions that compete for our affection.

To you, our Father in Heaven, be all honor and glory.

Amen.

Day 30: Tuesday

What Jesus Did

Read Mark 2:1-12

Jesus performed lots of miracles. He made wine out of water for a party, he called demons out of people, and he healed many who were hurting and broken. The story you read today is about a man who couldn't walk. His friends wanted him to see Jesus, so they lowered him into the crowded room, and Jesus saw him and said, "Your sins are forgiven." The people were probably a little confused because Jesus seemed to miss the real reason he was there, to be healed from his paralysis. But Jesus knew the greater brokenness was in the man's heart. He even asks the people "what is easier to heal? The heart or the body?" He was reminding everyone that while he does miracles of healing, he is ultimately on earth to heal hearts.

Activity

Grab a Band-Aid and put it somewhere on your body. Let this Band-Aid remind you throughout the day that Jesus heals your heart on the inside, which is the real miracle!! Parents, you can do this too!

Lenten Leap: Lift Up

Go back to Day 6 of this Devotional. Do you still have that jar of thank you notes? If you do, pull them out today and remember the things you have been thankful for and share as a family so you can all be thankful together.

Day 31: Wednesday

What Jesus Did

Let's take the time to sing today! Lifting up our voices is a great way to praise God. You can sing these songs at breakfast, in the car on the way to school, before dinner or at bedtime. We've included a familiar song from church and a fun kid song. If you aren't sure of the tunes, go to your favorite music app and find a version to sing along with.

Upon a Life

Upon a Life I have not lived,
Upon a Death I did not die,
Another's Life; Another's Death,
I stake my whole eternity.

Not on the tears which I have shed,
Not on the sorrows I have known,
Another's tears; Another's griefs,
On these I rest, on these alone.

Chorus:

O Jesus, Son of God, I build on what Thy cross
has done for me;
There both my death and life I read, my guilt,
and pardon there I see.

Lord, I believe; O deal with me,
As one who has Thy Word believed!
I take the gift, Lord, look on me,
As one who has Thy gift received. (chorus)

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift Your name on high.
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.

You came from Heaven to earth
To show the way.
From the Earth to the cross,
My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave,
From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

Lord, I lift Your name on high.
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.

You can check out music sheets and links for the
music playlist here



Day 32: Thursday

What Jesus Did

Read Colossians 1:19-22 and 2 Corinthians 5:21

“For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.”

Colossians 1:19-22

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

Catechism 24 of New City Catechism asks:

Q. Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

A. Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God.

Catechism 25 of New City Catechism asks:

Q: Does Christ’s death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

A: Yes, because Christ’s death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God will remember our sins no more.

Catechism 26 of the New City Catechism asks:

Q: What else does Christ’s death redeem?

A: Every part of fallen creation.

Atoning Savior, thank you that you didn’t turn back, but endured all the way to death, the cross, and beyond. Because of your death, we can live eternally. With this knowledge, help us face our own deaths with courage, faith and hope. Amen.

Day 33: Friday

What Jesus Did

Read Matthew 19:13-15

“Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.” And he laid his hands on them and went away.”

Jesus loved kids! He wanted them to come to him even when other adults tried to stop kids from coming to Jesus.

Activity

As a reminder of how much Jesus loves kids, pick out a stuffed animal or toy (a Barbie or Hotwheels or something easy enough to carry around). Give it to your parents to take with them for the day. Remind your parents to take it everywhere and maybe have them take pictures of some fun places they got to go. This is a reminder to your parents ALL DAY about how much Jesus loved the children. And when you talk about it at the end of the day, it is a great reminder of how much your parents love you!

Lenten Leap: Let Go

Pick out a toy and give it away to a friend or ask your parent to give it away to a charitable organization.

Day 34: Saturday

Prayers of the Church

The Benediction

At the end of the church service, we all raise our hands and the pastor says some words to us. What is that? This is called the benediction. That is a big word but it really just means “the last good word.” This is the last good word that God sends us out into the world with for the week. Why do we raise our hands? This is just a hand motion to remind us to open our hearts so that we don’t just hear the words but we take them to heart and let them change us.

The benediction is usually a verse taken from the Bible so that it is God’s actual words for us. Below is one that we use often for a benediction. Tonight at dinner or the next time you are together as a family, lift up your hands and have a parent read these verses so you can all receive a good word from God for your day!

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance^[a] upon you and give you peace.*

Numbers 6:24-26

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Read Zechariah 9:9-10 and Mark 11:1-11

Today in church you will receive a palm branch. This is a reminder of how the people of Israel celebrated the coming of their King, even though they didn't understand what that would mean for Jesus. We know his kingship would require him to die on the cross. But we also know that he conquered death and reigns in heaven today.

Activity

Below draw the crown you imagine Jesus wearing today as King in heaven.



Day 35: Monday of Holy Week

Read Isaiah 56:1-8 and Luke 19:41-48

After Jesus' triumphal entry he has an interesting interaction with some people at the temple. Read the account here in Luke. Why did Jesus throw people out of the temple?

Church can sometimes feel boring but imagine if during the church service there were a bunch of shops set up around the church and people were hollering out to sell you things. That would be super distracting! This is what was happening in the temple. It was a place for people to go to church but there were a bunch of people in there trying to sell stuff.

Activity

It is Holy Week and a special week for us to focus on what Jesus did on the cross. Go into your room and pick out a few things that can be distracting for you and pack them away (just for this week). Maybe it's a painting or picture in your room, or supplies on your desk, or toys scattered around. Throughout this week as you notice those things missing, let it be a reminder of what Jesus did and say a little prayer of thankfulness each time.

Day 36: Tuesday of Holy Week

Read John 12:1-9 and Matthew 22:34-40

Today we read about Mary anointing Jesus' feet. What did the people at the meal in Bethany say to Jesus about Mary? Did they really want the money to be used for a better purpose than perfume?

What did Jesus say about Mary's worshipful action?

Read the passage in Matthew. How did Mary demonstrate the great commandment Jesus talks about in this passage?

Day 37: Wednesday of Holy Week

Read John 13:1-17

Today we read of when Jesus washed the disciples' feet. It was common for people's feet to be washed when entering a home because the streets were made of dirt and people were usually wearing sandals, so feet were very dirty. However, this was usually done by the servant of the house.

Why did Jesus do this?

What do you think Jesus was trying to teach us by washing his disciples' feet?

Activity

At bath time tonight, while the water is filling up, grab some washable markers or paints (if your parents will let you) and draw on the bottoms of your feet. Have your parent or sibling draw a heart or cross or sunshine or whatever you would like. Then jump in the bath and scrub those feet and think about how Jesus did this for all his disciples!

Day 38: Maundy Thursday

Read John 13:17-20 The Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles.

Attend the Maundy Thursday Service at Redeemer. Notice the color of the banners.

The color purple represents a season of repentance and renewal. Look up the words **repentance** and **renewal** to understand better what they mean.

What is your favorite meal (be sure to include the main dish, the vegetable and sides, the drink and of course dessert)?

Do you remember a meal that felt really special with your family? What did you have at that meal? What made it special? How did you feel at that meal?

Activity

Talk as a family about having a special meal tonight, maybe after the Maundy Thursday service. It could either be a special homemade meal at home or going out to eat some place nice.

A Special Song for Maundy Thursday

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up (Chorus)

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength (Chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom. (Chorus)

You can check out music sheets and links for
the music playlist here



Day 39: Good Friday

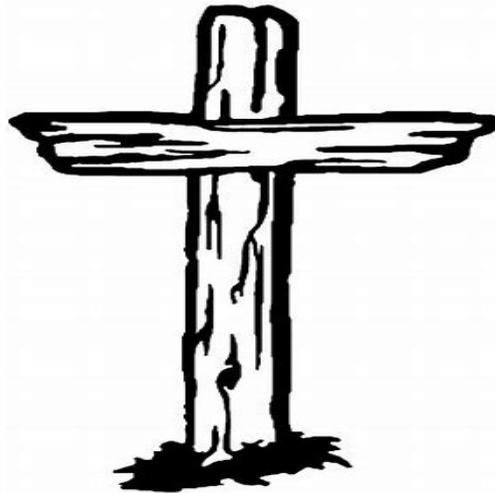
Read Matthew 27:32-56- The crucifixion of Jesus and his death

Attend the Good Friday worship service at Redeemer.

What do you know about funerals? How do people dress? What is the mood?

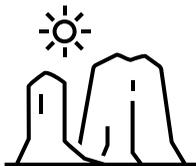
We are mourning Jesus' death tonight, kind of like a funeral.

What do you notice about this church service that is different than how it normally feels to go to church?



Day 40: Holy Saturday

Read Matthew 27:62-66-The Tomb



Make Empty Tomb Cookies!

Retell the Easter Story together as you make the cookies. Repetition will help you to connect to the story more deeply!

Empty Tomb Cookies

Gather Ingredients and Supplies:

1 cup whole pecans 1 teaspoon vinegar 3 egg whites pinch salt 1 cup sugar	zipper baggie wooden spoon duct tape or packing tape Bible
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Preheat oven to 300°F.

1. Place pecans in zipper baggie and let children beat them with the wooden spoon or hammer to break them into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, he was beaten by the Roman soldiers. **Read John 19:1-3.**

2. Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 teaspoon of vinegar into the mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross, he was given vinegar to drink. **Read John 19:28-30.**

3. Add egg whites to the vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave his life to give us eternal life when we repent and place our trust in Him. **Read John 10:10-11.**

4. Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste. Then put your pinch of salt in the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin. **Read Luke 23:27**

5. So far, the ingredients are not very appetizing! Add 1 cup sugar to the bowl. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because he loves us. He wants us to know him and follow his ways.
Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16.

6. Beat with a mixer on high speed for 10 to 15 minutes until stiff peaks form. Explain that the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus.
Read Isaiah 1:1 and John 3:1-3.

7. Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper covered cookie sheets. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus's body was laid. **Read Matthew 27:57-60.**

8. Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven off. Give each child a piece of tape to seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. **Read Matthew 27:65-66.**

9. Leave the kitchen. If you are making these cookies just before bedtime, go to bed! Acknowledge that the kids are probably sad that they have worked hard to make these cookies, and now have to leave them in the oven overnight. Explain that Jesus' followers were sad when Jesus died, and the tomb was sealed. **Read John 16:20 and 22.**

10. On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Ask the kids to notice the cracked surface. Have them bite into the cookies. The cookies are hollow! Explain that on the first Easter morning, Jesus' followers were amazed.

Easter - Resurrection Sunday

Read Matthew 28:1-10

During worship, note the banners - White, the color of joy and victory, is used for the seasons of Easter (and Christmas).



He is Risen!

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