

lenten guide 2024

new community

spokane, washington

**New Community; this lenten season:**

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with tears  
To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war,  
So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and  
To turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness  
To believe that you can make a difference in the world,  
So that you can do what others claim cannot be done  
To bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.  
Amen.

[franciscan prayer]

PALM SUNDAY

as we enter Holy Week, these readings help us to focus on the grace and mercy of God demonstrated through the cross and new life through the resurrection of Jesus.

readings of the psalms

mark 11:1-11

psalm 118:1-2

readings of the passion

isaiah 50:4-9a

psalm 31:9-16

philippians 2:5-11

mark 14:1-15:47

mark 15:1-39

PALM SUNDAY  
[sunday, march 24th]

pray

King of glory, you did come. But when you did, the gates did not lift up their heads; you were not lauded for your power and might. You passed through the ancient doors at first unknown, later reviled, and finally to die with shame.

Those who cast you out of the holy city believed themselves to be a generation seeking you.

We take warning from their example:

without your grace, we could never comprehend the need we have for you;

without your grace, we could never be drawn near.

We commit ourselves to you, asking that you would make us a generation that seeks you. Make our hands clean and our hearts pure. Fill us with hope and expectation for that day when every word of this psalm will unfold before our eyes: the totality of your creative power; the joy of your people, those made holy by you; and the glory of a King, so great that even the gates of his city cannot hold back their praise!

isaiah 42:1-9  
psalm 36:5-11  
hebrews 9:11-15  
john 12:1-11

If the future is to remain open and free, we  
need people who can tolerate the unknown,  
who will not need the support of completely  
worked-out systems or traditional blueprints  
from the past. [Margaret Mead]

monday of holy week  
[march 25th]

isaiah 49:1-7  
psalm 71:1-14  
1 corinthians 1:18-31  
john 12:20-36

Life is not a problem to be solved, but a  
mystery to be lived. [Thomas Merton]

tuesday of holy week  
[march 26th]



isaiah 50:4-9a  
psalm 70  
hebrews 12:1-3  
john 13:21-32

Love has a way of making places sacred  
and moments meaningful.  
[Janet Hobson]

wednesday of holy week  
[march 27th]

exodus 12:1-14  
psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 corinthians 11:23-26  
john 13:1-17, 31b-35

Est autem fides credere quod nondum vides;  
cuius fidei merces est videre quod credis.

[Faith is to believe what you do not see;  
the reward of this faith is to see what you  
believe.] [St. Augustine]

holy thursday  
[march 28th]

GOOD FRIDAY

we will be offering time to reflect, pray and take communion with leaders, pastors and elders.

the doors will be open at 6pm.

service moving from light to dark will begin at 7pm.

isaiah 52:13-53:12  
psalm 22  
hebrews 10:16-25  
john 18:1-19:42

GOOD FRIDAY  
[march 29th]

pray

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!  
O Lord, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
But with you there is forgiveness,  
that you may be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;  
my soul waits for the Lord  
more than watchmen for the morning,  
more than watchmen for the morning.

Hope in the Lord!  
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plentiful redemption.  
And he will redeem us from all our iniquities.

old testament readings & psalms

exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21

choose two of the following:

genesis 1:1-2, 4a

psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

psalm 33

genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

psalm 46

genesis 22:1-18

psalm 16

exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18

isaiah 55:1-11

isaiah 12:2-6

ezekiel 36:24-28

psalm 42, 43

ezekiel 37:1-14

psalm 143

holy saturday  
[march 30th]

new testament reading & psalm

romans 6:3-11

psalm 114

gospel reading

mark 16:1-8

“God will not have his work made manifest  
by cowards.” [Ralph Waldo Emerson]

holy saturday  
[march 30th]



EASTER

we will be gathering at 10:00 am to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

acts 10:34-43  
psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 corinthians 15:1-11  
john 20:1-18 or mark 16:1-8

EASTER  
[sunday, march 31st]

pray

Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever!  
Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
whom he has redeemed from trouble  
and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes,  
finding no way to a city to dwell in;  
hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.  
then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress.  
He led them by a straight way  
till they had reached a city to dwell in.  
Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to the children of men!  
For he satisfies the longing soul,  
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

pray

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 trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

unless otherwise noted, scripture passages taken from *The Holy Bible*, english standard version and prayers were taken from *Reflections and Prayers*, an online devotional produced by college church, wheaton, illinois, 2008.

other sources used:

ash wednesday: *The Book of Common Prayer*, Oxford, 1990.

Breuggemann, Walter, *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*, Augsburg Fortress, 2003, p. 89.