










## Lent Daily Texts, Prayers, and Reflection Questions










= this story is found in the Spark Story Bible






DATE	THEME AND SCRIPTURE	PRAYER	REFLECTION QUESTIONS/ CONVERSATION STARTERS
Wed., Feb. 17	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>In community with Christ</b> Mark 10:32-45 	Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.	What does it mean to be a servant of all? How does Jesus' call to servanthood make you feel?
Thurs., Feb. 18	1 John 1:3-10	God of mercy, I confess my sin to you. Forgive me for my selfishness and for how I mistreat myself, others, and this world. Shine your love and light into my life again this day and always. Thank you, in Christ's name. Amen.	How does it feel to be honest with yourself and God in confessing your sin? Take a moment to confess, to know God fully forgives, and sense God's light shining upon you.
Fri., Feb. 19	Psalm 25:1-10	O Lord, help me to place my complete trust in you. Teach me to follow your guidance, that I may live in the ways of peace, justice, and truth. Remind me of your steadfast love for me, that I may share that same love with others. Amen.	How does reflecting on God's steadfast love help you to meet the challenges you are facing today?
Sat., Feb. 20	Psalm 32	O Lord, you are our hiding place, the one who covers and protects us in loving embrace. Help us to trust in you, confessing our sins with confident assurance of your forgiveness. May your steadfast love surround us, that we might shout for joy. Amen.	How do you feel when you know you've been forgiven? How is the Lord a hiding place for you?
Sun., Feb. 21	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Mark 1:9-15 	Holy God, in the waters of the flood you saved Noah and his family, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.	What do you know about your own baptism? What do you make of Jesus being baptized and immediately being sent into the wilderness?
Mon., Feb. 22	Psalm 77	O Lord, there are times you feel so far away and life is overwhelming. Sometimes my emotions shout so loud and your voice seems so small. Reassure me once again of your strong presence no matter what I experience. Be my hope and peace. Amen.	Where can you find the assurance of God's loving presence when it feels like God is absent? Who is there in your life who can give you a word of reassurance for hope in God when you need it?

Tues., Feb. 23	Genesis 9:8-17 	God of creation, by your voice the whole world was brought into being, and you called it good. Inspire people of all nations to preserve the wellbeing of our planet for the sake of us all. Protect the earth and every creature on it, according to your steadfast love. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.	When did you last see a rainbow in the sky? Next time you see a rainbow, let it remind you of God's promise to care for people and all of creation.
Wed., Feb. 24	<b>In community with creation</b> Mark 4:35-41	Gracious Creator, you fashioned us in your image in the midst of a world beyond our knowledge and understanding. Continue to weave us together in community with all created things, and deepen our awareness of the ways you connect us to the earth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.	Where do you see God present in creation? In what ways to you feel connected to God's creation?
Thurs., Feb. 25	1 Peter 3:18-22	Loving God, you have looked upon us with compassion. Stir up in us a new spirit as we seek to follow the way of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.	Our baptism assures us that with God, we always have a new start. Of what do you need to let go? What might you need to start again?
Fri., Feb. 26	Ephesians 2:1-10	Wonderful God, how beautiful is your love and how abundant is your forgiveness to me! I praise you for grace that accepts and affirms me as your child no matter what I might think about myself. Thank you, loving Savior. Amen.	Remember a time of being accepted as you are. Recall a person who most fully affirms you and believes in you. Now imagine God as being even more apt at accepting you, affirming, loving, and believing in you as you are right now!
Sat., Feb. 27	Mark 8:27-30 	Almighty God, you sent your Son into the world to be our Savior and Messiah. Help us to know him intimately and to recognize his call upon our lives, that we might follow him faithfully. Make us into people who embody Jesus' self-sacrificing love for all people. In the name of Christ. Amen.	What would you say if someone asked you who Jesus is? How would you describe him?
Sun., Feb. 28	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Mark 8:31-38 	O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	Through the cross, God takes what is awful and uses it to lead to life. Can you think of times in your life when a bad experience was transformed into something good for you and others? Have there been times when you have set your mind of divine things and not human things? How did that feel?
Mon., Mar. 1	Psalms 22:23-31	Compassionate God, you hear us when we cry out to you. Help us to see the world as you see it, drawing near to those who are heartbroken or weary. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.	What do you find particularly awesome about God? When have you needed to turn to God for help?
Tues., Mar. 2	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 	Wow, God. Abraham waited until he was 99 years old for you to answer his prayers! Give me patience and trust to wait for answers. Grant me hope and assurance when I feel like I'm waiting for you. Amen	What is a prayer that you would like to have answered as soon as possible? Imagine God answering that prayer lovingly and patiently a long time from now. Then rest with trust that God does know your needs and is now present.

Wed., Mar. 3	<b>In community with all the saints</b> Mark 9:2-8 	Timeless One, you renew your promises in every generation. Deepen our awareness of the communion of saints who have gone before us, the saints in our own time, and the saints who will carry on your message of grace after us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.	Who has modeled Christian faith for you? What is the most important lesson you have learned from this person?
Thurs., Mar. 4	Romans 4:13-25	Gracious God, we give thanks for Abraham and Sarah, who trusted your promise, and for Jesus, who took the sins of the world upon himself and whose resurrection signaled that all had been made right between you and humankind. Grant us your grace always, that we might follow and serve. Amen.	When have you experienced God's grace in your life? What would you ask Jesus if you had the chance?
Fri., Mar. 5	Acts 7:30-40	Mysterious God, you work in unexpected and surprising ways. Help us to learn from our ancestors of faith so that where you lead, we may faithfully follow. Amen.	Who in your life has taught you a valuable lesson? What lessons do you hope to teach to others?
Sat., Mar. 6	Psalm 19	God of All Creation, what an incredible, marvelous, inspiring world you have made. The millions of years you have taken in your work of creating inspires me. Thank you for making me part of all that exists. Amen.	Make a quick list of three wonders of God's creation that bring you inspiration. (Music? Sunsets? Mountains or Lakes?) Then make a plan to somehow rest and enjoy one of those wonders today. (find a picture? watch a video? Go outside?)
Sun., Mar. 7	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> John 2:13-22	Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	Where in your community do you see people exploiting others? How might Jesus be calling you to respond?
Mon., Mar. 8	Psalm 84	O Lord, we long to be in your presence, to sing your praise in your house from which we have had to be absent during this pandemic. Even so, you are our sun and shield. Help us to find the happiness that comes in trusting you. Amen.	Why does trusting God make us happy? What is your soul longing for these days?
Tues., Mar. 9	Exodus 20:1-17 	God of justice, you love your people and desire to be in right relationship with us. Help us to live by your commandments, trusting in your desire for us to live a vibrant life. Amen.	Which commandments are easiest to follow? Which are the hardest?
Wed., Mar. 10	<b>In community with our neighbor</b> Mark 2:1-12 	Neighbor to all people, you call us into human communities to serve and be served by one another. Open our hearts to the needs of all our neighbors, and teach us to recognize the gifts you have given each of us to use in service to others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.	Is there someone in your neighborhood who has a need? Who else is there in your neighborhood who could join you in helping and supporting that neighbor with love and care?
Thurs., Mar. 11	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	God of wisdom, your ways are not the ways of the world. Instill in us a desire to know you and follow you, trusting in your wisdom and guidance. Amen.	Have you ever been challenged by God? What do you think it means for Jesus to be the wisdom of God?

Fri., Mar. 12	Ephesians 1:3-14	O Lord, the words of this passage leap for joy, spiral upward, soar with rich vocabulary, trying to capture in mere human words the mystery of your will and the glories of your grace. By your good pleasure, gather us and all things to you, in the fullness of time. Amen.	What does it mean to you to be a child of God? How have you sense the movement of the Holy Spirit in your life?
Sat., Mar. 13	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	God of love, you hear us when we cry out to you. Instill within us hearts of gratitude for your goodness as we share your story with the world. Amen.	When have you perceived God's presence most clearly? What is your favorite way to give thanks to God?
Sun., Mar. 14	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> John 3:14-21 	O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	Recite John 3:16 and insert your name into the verse: God loves YOU. Then recite that verse again and insert the names of others and groups of people you know!
Mon., Mar. 15	Psalms 107:1-16	Gracious God, your love for all of creation is steadfast and true. Instill within us a grateful spirit as we seek to proclaim your goodness each day of our lives.	For what do you give thanks to God today? How have you experienced God's steadfast love?
Tues., Mar. 16	Numbers 21:4-9	You give us the precious gifts of life and love, O God. And yet there are often complaints on our lips, dissatisfaction in our hearts. Forgive our greed. Point us again to your way, that we, bitten by our own sin, might look to you and live again. Amen.	What are the "serpents" that nip at your heels in life? When have you experienced God's healing power?
Wed., Mar. 17	<b>In community with those on the margins</b> Mark 5:1-20	Mender of division, you sent Christ to heal the world and to gather those on the margins. Bring your healing power to us. May we extend your power and grace to those separated from their communities and those longing for a tangible sign of your love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.	Who exists on the margins of our society today? What does this story tell us about how Jesus views those on the margins?
Thurs., Mar. 18	Isaiah 30:15-18	God of Justice, we look to you to help make things right in this world where there are so many needs. Lead and guide me and others with strength to be of making this world a better place for all people. Amen.	What is one thing you would like to have changed in the world that would make things better for others? Put that into a prayer to the Lord and imagine yourself being part of God's work to answer that prayer.
Fri., Mar. 19	Hebrews 4:1-13	God of all creation, you set an example for us when you rested on the seventh day. Help us to obey your command to rest so that all of creation may be renewed.	Is it easy or difficult for you to make time and space for rest? When has rest been a gift to you or to others whom you know?
Sat., Mar. 20	Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a 	O God, from the family of your servant David you raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the husband of his blessed mother. Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	How do you imagine Joseph felt when visited by the angel of the Lord? Joseph and Mary are examples of God calling ordinary people to extraordinary things. Consider what God has called you to do in your life.

Sun., Mar. 21	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> John 12:20-33 	O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.	The fruits of the spirit are often identified as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Which of these comes most naturally to you? Which of these do you wish to cultivate?
Mon., Mar. 22	Psalm 51:1-12	Thank you, sweet Lord, for your readiness to always forgive. Help to live in the beauty of your loving grace and to be filled with the joy of your love that embraces me. I praise your wonderful goodness forever. Amen.	Think of someone whom you love or appreciate. They need to hear a word of love and appreciation once again from you! Write a note or make a phone call today.
Tues., Mar. 23	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Faithful God, you call your people into relationship with you. Help us to hear your voice, repent from our sins, and trust in you. Amen.	How have you experienced the forgiveness of God? When have you had to extend forgiveness to another?
Wed., Mar. 24	<b>In community with Christ</b> Mark 10:32-45 	Mysterious One, in Jesus you redeem us and invite all people to a place in your glory. Draw us closer to you, and in so doing, draw us closer to one another, that we may be strengthened to follow in the way of Jesus' cross and resurrection. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.	James and John seek prestige and power from Jesus. Instead he calls them into a community of servants. How have you served God or neighbor this week? Who has been a servant to you in a time of need?
Thurs., Mar. 25	Luke 1:26-38 	Pour your grace into our hearts, O God, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son, Jesus Christ, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Amen.	In what ways has God surprised you?
Fri., Mar. 26	Hebrews 5:5-10	Thank you, O glorious Lord, for being our savior and the savior of all. You forgive and save. You will bring us to our eternal home. You welcome us always as your own. Thank you, O glorious Lord! Amen.	What does it mean to you that Jesus is your savior? How is God present to help, support, save you?
Sat., Mar. 27	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29	Holy God, in all of your love and mercy, you offer us a way of hope and newness in Jesus Christ. We praise you for goodness and thank you for your lovingkindness toward us. Amen.	This psalmist reminds us that God guides us in the way of goodness. How has God led you to doing the right thing? When have you needed guidance from God?
Sun., Mar. 28	<b>Palm Sunday</b> Mark 15:1-39 [40-47] 	Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	Perhaps we do not do so with our lips, but are there ways in which we still mock Jesus in our lives? Have you ever had a centurian moment? A time in worship, maybe, or alone, or among others, perhaps a time when all seemed lost, when suddenly you knew with all your heart, mind, body, and soul that Jesus was indeed God's Son? Share that moment with friends and/or family.
Mon., Mar. 29	John 12:1-11 	O God, your Son chose the path that led to pain before joy and to the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.	In what ways does Mary's extravagance speak to you or make you uneasy?

Tues., Mar. 30	John 12:20-36 	Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you. Grant that our love may not grow cold in your service, and that we may not fail or deny you in the time of trial, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	What would it be like if you were able to actually see Jesus? What would Jesus want you to experience in truly seeing him?
Wed., Mar. 31	John 13:21-32 	Almighty God, your Son our Savior suffered at human hands and endured the shame of the cross. Grant that we may walk in the way of his cross and find it the way of life and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	It is hard to imagine what it would have taken for someone to betray a friend, like Judas betrayed Jesus. How do you think Jesus felt, being betrayed by a friend? Have you ever felt betrayed?
Thurs., Apr. 1	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> John 13:1-17, 31b-35 	Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	What person comes to mind to whom you need to express kindness, caring, and love? God invites each of us to this: be the action of God's love into the lives of others!
Fri., Apr. 2	<b>Good Friday</b> John 18:1-19:42 	Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.	As you read this story again, who do you imagine you would have been on that day? Peter denying? The women standing close by the cross? The disciple who takes Mary into his own home? The soldiers? Sarcastic Pilate? Part of the mob? Whoever we are or would have been, God's forgiveness is offered to us through Christ's action that day, a day that, only in hindsight, we call Good.
Sat., Apr. 3	Romans 6:3-11	O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light. Amen.	In what ways does following Jesus change how you live your life?
Sun., Apr. 4	<b>Easter Sunday</b> Mark 16:1-8 or John 20:1-18 	God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.	Have you ever been absolutely astounded, surprised, or flabbergasted? What was it like? What was the situation? Now imagine that sensation surrounding your experience of Jesus not in the grave, but alive! Wonders of Wonders! Alleluia!