

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday | Luke 13:1-9 | Parable of the fig tree |
| Monday | Jeremiah 11:1-17 | Judgment against the olive tree |
| Tuesday | Ezekiel 17:1-10,22-24 | Two eagles and two cedar shoots |
| Wednesday | Ezekiel 18:25b-32 | Repent and live! |
| Thursday | Hosea 14:1-7 | Return to the Lord |
| Friday | Luke 3:1-9 | The fruit of repentance |
| Saturday | Psalms 34:11-22 | Turn from evil and do good |
| Sunday | Luke 15:1-3,11b-32 | Parable of the forgiving father |

Scripture Verses for the Week:

Turn to the Lord! He can still be found. Call out to God! He is near. Give up your crooked ways and your evil thoughts. Return to the Lord our God. He will be merciful and forgive your sins.
- Isaiah 55:6-7 (CEV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord God, please keep me from falling away from you. Help me to stand firm. Amen. (1 Corinthians 10:12-13)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, I turn to you. Please show me mercy. Amen. (Isaiah 55:6-7)

A Blessing to Share:

May God satisfy your deepest needs. May he show you his kindness and be your helper. Amen. (Psalm 63:3-7)

Mealtime Refrain:

God's love is better than life: **Let us praise him.** (Psalm 63:3)

Mealtime Prayer:

Mealtime is here, O what a spread! Thanks be to God, who gives us bread. Amen.



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Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Are you a patient or an impatient person? What do you find it hard to be patient about?
- Read Jesus' parable about the fig tree (Luke 13:6-8). Where do you see patience shown in this story? How is God patient with us?
- How do you think God would like to see you grow or change in the next year of your life?

Devotional Practices:

The theme of repentance runs through the Bible readings for March 11. God gives us the Ten Commandments to show us his will for us, and to lead us to examine our thoughts, words and actions. In your home devotion times this week, listen together to the Ten Commandments and talk about what they mean.

- You shall have no other gods.
- You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
- Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- Honor your father and your mother.
- You shall not kill.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
- You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse, or their manservant, or their maidservant, or their cattle or anything that is your neighbor's

Service:

Isaiah 55:1-2 says "Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters." Commit to drinking only water at home this week. Estimate what you will save as a result and donate it to a worthy cause. Use this opportunity to reflect on God's gift of water and our new birth through the waters of baptism.

Rituals and Traditions:

Make crosses from bars of hand soap as a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice to cleanse us from our sins. Draw a cross shape on each bar of soap, then carefully carve away the excess soap using a table knife. Place soap crosses in your bathroom and kitchen soap dishes, or in the kids' baths. You could also place soap crosses in small gift bags to give away to friends and relatives.



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