

Lenten Devotional 2016

A Journey Through Lent



“Sent People”

“As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

John 20:21

Introduction

Welcome to the Saint James Presbyterian Church's 2016 Lenten Devotional Booklet. This devotional booklet has been put together for your use during the season of Lent. The booklet is designed to give you information on what Lent means as well as information on Lenten Spiritual Practices. These practices help to frame our lives in ways that help us notice God's presence and respond to God's love. You are also given daily scripture readings, reflections and prayers. Through the active use of the spiritual practices and the scripture readings, we are able to create a space for being with God in ways that are whole-hearted, dynamic and transformative.

Lent remains a time to re-examine our faith and make a commitment to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are many ways we can approach our special time of growth and reflection. This year as we embrace the season of Lent our focus is on what it means to be a missional or "sent people." We are called to make a difference in the world so during our Lenten Journey we will be intentional in seeking ways to reach beyond our walls in service to others. You will have the opportunity each week to submit ways in which you have served others outside of church (see section under Lenten Tree in this booklet). In addition, you are asked to begin your Lenten Journey with us on February 10th as we will hold a special Ash Wednesday Worship Service beginning at 6:30 p.m. In preparation for our church retreat on March 5th, you are asked to include in your Lenten Journey the reading of the book *Missional Renaissance* by Reggie McNeal. You are also invited to join bible study, "Lenten Gatherings", each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. beginning February 17th. We will have in depth discussions on the weekly sermons on being a "Sent People." We are excited this year to offer a demonstration of The Messiah in the Passover presented by Chosen People Ministries on Sunday, March 20th during both worship services. As you can see, there are many opportunities for us to actively participate in this Lenten Journey together as a church with the ultimate goal of deepening our spiritual roots and enriching our lives with Jesus Christ. In the spirit of this season, may we observe a Holy Lent and rejoice in the good news of Christ's Resurrection.

Blessings on your journey,

Elder Paula Graves

What is Lent?

Lent is the Christian season of preparation for the celebration of Easter marked by a forty day period beginning Ash Wednesday, February 10th this year and concluding Holy Saturday, March 26th, the day before Easter. Lent excludes Sundays. The term, lent, refers to the lengthening of the daylight hours that comes with the season of spring. Lent is a time to focus on how much we need grace to live a life that reflects God's love. Throughout church history, Christians have used these forty days to reflect upon habits, attitudes, and behaviors that impede our relationship with Christ. Many people give up something to draw closer to Jesus during this season and take on new spiritual disciplines designed to help discover anew God's power to restore and refresh us. During this holy season we are invited to pray, study, fast, and reflect as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Lenten Spiritual Practices



Prayer of Examen

Daily prayer phrase: Search my heart and make it one with yours.

The prayer of examen is a daily spiritual practice that encourages us to review the day with God, remember our connection with the Holy Spirit, and recommit ourselves to encounter the Divine once again. Praying the examen during Lent is an opportunity to review our lives and realign with the mission of Christ.

Find a comfortable and quiet place in which you are able to reflect on your day. Read scripture passages, such as Psalm 139:1-3, 7 or Psalm 51:10-12, 15-17. You may want to write your thoughts on these passages in a journal, or during the examen, write as you notice the Spirit stirring within you. Becoming calm and centered is critical, so begin by recognizing God's presence and give thanks for this awareness. Gently enter a time of prayer with the expectation and openness to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Express gratitude as you recognize the many and diverse ways you have sensed God's presence throughout the day. You may want to record your thanks in writing. Look back over your day objectively, without judgment or justification. Notice when you recognized God's presence and where you were most Christ-like. When did you cooperate with God's Spirit of healing and peace? Also notice where you were not as cooperative, and perhaps even resistant to the invitation to follow Christ. Pay attention to your feelings as you review and reflect, and notice patterns and choices. Are you being invited to release certain attitudes or behaviors and embrace others? Ask the Holy Spirit for insight, and pray for forgiveness, healing, reconciliation, or release as needed. Offer God the next day, asking God to be present in your thoughts, feelings, and actions. Ask yourself, "Beginning tomorrow or today, how will I live my life differently?"

Questions for Reflection

1. Where have I been complacent in God's vision of peace?
2. Where do my passions mirror the passion of Christ?

As you pray and seek out God's direction in what to give up and add on during Lent consider more than just giving up meat, bread, chocolate, or social media. Consider giving up those things that can truly bring about transformation in your life. These are things that are worth giving up for the rest of your life such as fear, bitterness, loneliness, envy and unforgiveness.



Fasting

Daily prayer phrase: Open me to receive more of you.

To fast is to empty oneself intentionally in a way that makes space for God. During the season of Lent, we fast for 40 days remembering Christ's own fast in the wilderness. It is a time to focus on what matters most amid distractions that come our way. This practice empties us and prepares us to go deeper through the Lenten journey. Fasting is about making space for God.

Choose something from everyday life you will noticeably miss. This could be a food item, a meal itself, an activity you enjoy, or something you buy daily or weekly that may be an excess in your life. It could also be intentionally reorienting your daily routine or inner conversation. A Lenten fast typically lasts from Ash Wednesday to Easter morning except for Sundays. Choose an intentional act that will replace what you are fasting from. What will you do in place of what you have given up? Is there something specific for which you are praying? Spend time during your fast to pay attention to what is going on within you. Intentionally reflect through writing in a journal or solitude. Notice the time frame you have set. Is your craving from what you have given up increasing or decreasing? What is the depth of your prayer life during this time? Are you feeling more focused?

Questions for Reflection

1. How does intentional emptying make more space for God in your life?
2. How does this change in your normal routine draw your attention to God and others in a new way?

LENTEN DISCIPLINE

FAST from judging others; FEAST on Christ dwelling in you.

FAST from bitterness; FEAST on forgiveness.

FAST from apparent darkness; FEAST on the reality of God's light.

FAST from thoughts of illness; FEAST on the healing power of God.

FAST from words that pollute; FEAST on phrases that purify.

FAST from discontent; FEAST on gratitude.

FAST from anger; FEAST on patience. ~Author Unknown



Sent Moments (Service)

Daily prayer phrase: Help me believe that I gain by giving, win by yielding, and become satisfied by serving.

“Sent Moments” are moments spent sharing the love of Christ, especially with those outside the church. We are called to make a contribution bigger than ourselves and this is done through our willingness to serve God by serving the world whom Jesus loves. He is our greatest example of selflessness. Scripture is full of examples of Jesus serving those outside “the fold,” from going out of His way to talk to the woman at the well, to healing lepers, to the ultimate sacrifice of giving His life for all. We often get so caught up in our own needs that we do not think of others or look for ways to serve beyond the church as Jesus did. During this Lenten Season we will take time to consider the needs of others, serve with gladness, and serve generously and without reservation. Serving others deepens our relationship with God and people. Finding a way to help others is an expression of faith. It shows that we believe in the sovereignty of God.



Lenten Tree **What are your “Sent Moments?”**

As we seek to practice being more intentional with the stewardship of our time, each Sunday you will have the opportunity to take a leaf and write on the leaf your “sent moments” or the ways in which you have served those beyond the church. Your leaf will then be placed on the Lenten Tree that is located in the sanctuary. “Sent Moments” include prayer with other people, service in a community agency or any act done away from the church as service to Christ. During Lent it is our hope that we will see the barren tree become full with colorful leaves that represent the giving of ourselves. This illustrates how our compassion, kindness, and willingness to serve helps to create something beautiful. These “Sent Moments” are our opportunity to show how we are living out our faith daily through touching lives for Jesus Christ. We are “sent people” called to minister to the needs of others. We will discover that in serving others, we are the ones truly blessed.

Questions for Reflection

1. Is there anything holding you back from accepting God’s call to serve him?
2. Ask God to show you ways to serve others during Lent, particularly those who are considered hard to serve. Write down what God shows you and what you do about it.

Daily Devotional Reading

Ash Wednesday, February 10

Scripture Reading: James 4:8-10

Reflection: During this season of Lent we are offered an opportunity to “come near to God.” As we observe this time we can intentionally prepare ourselves for a journey of deeper worship. This is a time in which we seek to leave behind the old life and experience the new. This season has traditionally been a time of prayer, repentance, fasting, and self denial. On Ash Wednesday we receive on our foreheads the ashes representing our sin and reminding us of the reality of our feeble and frail nature. Recognizing our sinfulness, we have the opportunity to come near to God, confess our sin, and deepen our worship of the risen Lord. As we journey through Lent we will seek to deepen our relationship with Christ as we become more intimately acquainted with our Savior.

Prayer: Dear Lord, I open myself to You. I admit my sin, which has caused my separation from You, and for which Jesus died. Forgive my sin, and allow me to come closer to You. In Jesus’ name, Amen

February 11

Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Reflection: Paul exhorts the Philippians in verse one to find the commonalities between them. Paul tells the Philippians, as well as us, to look for encouragement, comfort, shared life, tenderness, or faithful compassion and when we’ve found it, to hold it up and focus our attention on it. It will create unity. During this Lenten season, we focus on basic truths that connect us: Jesus suffered for each of us; he conquered sin and death; he left the tomb empty. By focusing on what we have in common just like the early church did, we become like a mighty force that cannot be divided. Being unified is about loving and caring for each other, putting differences aside and working together in our joint Kingdom purpose. Life is not just about you and me as individuals. It is about all of us. When I fall into selfish patterns I don’t look out for others. I become concerned about my interests only. Jesus lived in a constant mission of the Father. He was interested in others to the point of sacrificing all. Look for a way to share the encouragement and comfort you’ve received from God. Practice the same tenderness and compassion Jesus has shown you.

Prayer: Dear Lord, remind me daily of the common faith I share with others on this journey. Help me to be a source of encouragement rather than division. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

February 12

Scripture Reading: 2 Peter 2:1-10

Reflection: Peter's church was facing intense pressure and trials, but the situation was not beyond God's control. The ungodliness, false teaching, and wickedness around the church were no threat to God. Even in dark situations, God maintains control and works to bring his people out of darkness and into light. Peter knew what his church would soon face and was convinced that God would continue to rescue his people as he had always done. The Lord also knows our trials. The difficulties we face in our life are no threat to God. Not only does he know our struggles, but he also knows how to lead us out of them. God, who rescued us from sin through Jesus Christ, continues to come and rescue his people.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for coming to rescue us through your son, Jesus Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 13

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-13

Christian community is founded upon the worship of God. As we spend time worshipping God and submitting to His will as revealed to us in His Word, Paul says that we will be transformed. Another word for "transformation" is "metamorphosis" which is from the Greek word for "transform". A visual example of metamorphosis is a caterpillar in a cocoon transforming and then emerging as a butterfly. As we increase our adoration for God, godliness and holiness will increasingly emerge in our thought patterns, speech, actions and choices. In these verses, Paul reminds us that we form a body, a community that works together to reflect Christ-likeness and faith. God's community is to be a transformed community, so that we can transform other communities in society.

God chose the Church as a community that grows in faith and love, so that together, Christians can show others who Jesus is and change the world!

Prayer: Merciful God, I want You to be the One whom I worship and adore. I want to offer You an obedient, disciplined and surrendered life as my worship to You, so that I continually grow to become more like Your Son, my Lord Jesus. Please transform me, so that godliness and holiness increasingly emerge in all my thoughts, speech, actions and choices. May others see more and more of Jesus in my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sunday, February 14

Scripture Reading: Psalm 116

Reflection: During the season of Lent, Sundays don't count as part of the 40 days preceding Easter. Sundays are different. Each one is a mini-Easter, offering a respite from the solemnity of Lent. Sunday gives us a chance to celebrate the resurrection life of our risen Lord. Psalm 116 invites us into this celebration. Composed after the psalmist has recovered from an illness, it praises the Lord for his graciousness, mercy, and protection.

The psalmist recognizes that without the Lord, he would have been overcome by “the snares of death.” He was in a place of despair, not unlike the distress that our sin-sick state causes us. Lent reminds us that we have been brought lower than low, and that without the deliverance of the Lord, we have no hope.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, you have dealt bountifully with us, and we offer our thanksgiving to you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

February 15

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11

Reflection: There is a time for everything, each having its special place in the divine scheme of a life of faith, lived out fully and surrendered unto the Lord. There is no need to hurry. No need to be first in everything. No need to be perfect. God has made everything beautiful in His own time. Balance is keeping our lives fully anchored and rested in God, in His wisdom and sovereignty, in His love and faithfulness. Balance is not keeping two halves in tension but the whole in harmony. Balance submits to the infinite wisdom of God and to His divine interactions with us in the various seasons of our lives.

Prayer: Sovereign Lord, please help me to trust You fully in the unfolding of Your work in my life, according to Your perfect wisdom and good timing. I am a work in progress. I wrestle and struggle with the ups and downs in the seasons of my life. Cause me to deepen my faith in You. Help me to know that You are the faithful God who will lead me to experience a deep sense of rest and peace in You. Thank You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

February 16

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:1-6; Ephesians 4:11-16

Reflection: In today’s culture, the practice of self-promotion is a norm. We are taught to sell ourselves by publicizing our credentials such as titles, degrees, achievements, accolades, associations, influence, writings and other things. However, to God, self-promotion is neither necessary nor appropriate. For it is God Himself who calls His people to serve and makes them adequate for His work of bringing the gospel to lost people and of building up the body of Christ. Christians often feel inadequate. The truth is we are. But the apostle Paul reminds us that we are not sufficient in ourselves, but “our sufficiency is from God.” God empowers us by His grace for His ministry of grace to others. Through our serving and giving of ourselves, others receive life from God. Sinners are reconciled to a holy and righteous God, and find peace in the arms of a loving and gracious Father.

Prayer: Lord God, thank You for Your grace in my life. You chose me to be Your child, to receive the life of Christ, to carry His name and build up His Church. No earthly title can be greater than “Child of God” and “Servant of Christ”. No worldly accolade can compare with one mightily used by God for the touching and saving of lives for eternity. Please help me to know how much You love me and desire Your glory to be seen in and through me. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

February 17

Scripture Reading: Romans 13:14

Reflection: Did you carefully decide which items of clothing to put on this morning? Or, did you perhaps grab whatever was handy? Was there a purpose for what you are wearing? Regardless of the style or taste, the fact is we wear articles of clothing each day. Just as we make a daily choice about our clothing, we as believers have a daily choice to make regarding how we represent Christ. We are to get dressed spiritually every day. Paul urges the new Christians to put on Christian virtues as they would put on their clothes. We are called to do the same. Conducting ourselves as Christians means showing love and concern for one's brothers and sisters in Christ and compassion for those who do not yet know their Savior. It also means what we do, how we act, and the way we come across to people is a significant part of our witness to the world. So as we think about what clothes we put on daily, let us also be intentional about our spiritual attire as well. To do so, we must spend time with God in prayer, worship and thanksgiving.

Prayer: Lord God, may all I do today, my attitudes, thoughts, and actions, bring honor to Your name and help me grow as Your child. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 18

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 58:10-11

Reflection: Who are the oppressed and hungry? Some may think of far away people in faraway places. But the reality is there are people hungry in our local communities. Isaiah teaches us to "spend yourself on the hungry" and "satisfy the needs of the oppressed". We're told to get involved in a way that goes beyond just giving money. If we are to meet people's needs in a way that consumes us, then we need to get involved on a personal basis. We need to meet people where they need us most. We need to pour ourselves into meeting their needs physically, emotionally and spiritually. Where are the hungry and oppressed? Sitting next to us in church, at our kids' school, in our backyard, anywhere there are people. It's amazing that God uses the act of us pouring ourselves out for the needy as an avenue for blessing us. He promises light for our darkness, guidance when we feel lost, strength when we feel weak, and water for our parched lips. Despite the tragedy of hunger, there is great benefit in providing ministries such as Message and A Meal to provide an opportunity for us to have an impact on fighting hunger and helping to meet medical needs in our community.

Prayer: Dear Lord, Isaiah 58:10 tells us that if we give ourselves on behalf of the hungry, then our light will shine in the dark. Thank You for those who are shining lights, and please call forth others to join in making a difference. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 19

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:9

Reflection: Repentance is turning to God and away from self and sin. But it is first a turning to God. It is turning our affections to God. It is turning over our time to God. It is rearranging our priorities around God. Repentance may involve, not the overt sin we committed, but the godly things we omitted. Repentance is starting to do again the things we have been leaving undone. Where we have neglected our devotional life, we start it again. Where we have neglected Christian service, we get to work. Where we have failed to love others, we love anew. Sometimes we fall, not into adversity, but into doing nothing. That is sin and we must repent of it. Repentance is turning from self. And self is the problem... self-will, self-seeking, self righteousness, self-centeredness, self-sufficiency, and selfishness. Repentance means turning to God and away from self.

Prayer: Father God, You hear and attend to our prayers because we come in submission according to Your Word. Reveal to us sins hidden in our hearts for which we need to repent and forgive us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 20

Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:2

Reflection: Abraham was blessed so that he could be a blessing! The same is true for us today. The Lord has done so much for us. He has blessed us with so many things, the most important of which is His mercy in that He died for sinners like us. He has bestowed us with so much grace. He has allowed us to come into His Kingdom and be a part of the great things He's doing. What we have received should not just be for our own enjoyment, but also for the salvation of a world in need around us. God gives freely to us so that we may give freely to others.

Let's not be afraid to give out the blessings God has granted us. Share God's goodness. To whom much is given, much is required!

Prayer: Lord, we come before you with open hearts. We ask that you help us to be a blessing to others. Help our words and our actions be a blessing to Your people. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sunday, February 21

Scripture Reading: Psalm 117

Reflection: During Lent, it can be easy for us to turn inward and contemplate our sin and our need for the Savior. We ought to bow before the Lord in humility and awe, confessing our unfaithfulness to God. And yet we shouldn't remain kneeling in isolation. At some point, recognizing God's steadfast love and faithfulness means that we have to stand up and join others in praising God. We can't forget Easter. This standing up is what Psalm 117 calls us to do: "Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples!" The good

news of Jesus' death and resurrection isn't addressed only to the individual; it's meant for whole nations, entire people groups. Moreover, when we experience the steadfast love of God, we should respond by joining with others and praising the Lord.

Prayer: Faithful God, with people from every nation and language, we praise your glorious name. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 22

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:21

Reflection: Jesus is telling this parable to us to illustrate what happens when God gives us resources, responsibilities and a mission. Some of us go above and beyond the call, some do just enough and others don't do anything. For Christians, the goal is to hear those words "well done good and faithful servant." One day, the Bible says that we will have to give an account for what we did with what the Lord has provided. It's easy for us to get caught up looking at everything we have and attributing it to our success or accomplishments. The reality is, however, that everything we have has been given to us with a plan and a purpose attached to it. We have been created to know God, and to make Him known through everything we say and do. We can't misunderstand blessings as a measure of success or a right standing with God. These blessings we have been given are so that we can glorify God. Every blessing He gives us is so that we can immediately turn it back in praise for Him.

Prayer: O Father of all people, give me a heart of concern and compassion for those who are left out and forgotten, especially those abandoned by the world who are your disciples. Please give me courage to identify with those who the world not only shuns and shames, but those the world persecutes and ridicules. Father, give me a heart like Jesus for the people who most depend upon Him. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 23

Scripture Reading: Luke 4:18-19

Reflection: Through the body of Christ, the Church, we have the opportunity and responsibility to bring hope to the poor and to demonstrate that there is life beyond oppression. We can convince the voiceless, the neglected and the deprived that they are loved and cared for.

We are able to empower others by believing that God is among us and within us. God uses each of us to build upon the strong foundation of His love.

Prayer: We pray for hearts to understand Your modeling, Lord. Cover us with Your spirit that we may bring hope to the downtrodden, that we may be eager to heal the brokenhearted, and that we can help deliver those who are bound by the constraints of poverty. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 24

Scripture Reading: Titus 3:14

Reflection: Much of the letter to Titus is devoted to instructions on godly living, urging believers to be ready, to be an example, and to be zealous in doing good deeds. Paul says a lot about good works in Titus, but he never says that good works are necessary to be saved. Rather, good works are always the expression of someone who is saved. Good works are grounded in the grace of God. In this verse Paul tells us who the recipients of our good works are to be. Our good works are “to help cases of urgent need.” Those who are truly in need are to be the recipients. This implies that we are to know those who need special care and attention. This requires that we move beyond the walls of our church to get to know our communities and our neighbors.

Prayer: Dear Lord, teach us to be responsive to the needs of other people. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

February 25

Scripture Reading: Exodus 4:10-12

Reflection: Moses did not feel equipped to be a leader of God’s people. We also may have feelings of not being equipped enough. Sometimes we don’t understand why God calls us to a certain task or ministry. Other people seem far more qualified to meet the challenge that faces us. And yet over and over again in the Bible God used unlikely people to accomplish His goals. When you feel inadequate for the task, realize you are putting your trust in the wrong person. Strive to be excellent at your task, but recognize that God is not dependent on your knowledge or expertise to bring about His results. When you feel overwhelmed, surrender control and trust God. He will provide. When we are like Moses and allow God to speak through us, we will do greater things.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for believing in me and giving me an opportunity to be more than I thought I could. Help me to be open to learning, growing and being used by You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

February 26

Scripture Reading: Acts 9:2-17

Reflection: Many people have read the story of Paul’s conversion. It is very powerful and a great example of how to be obedient to the Lord and see the world be changed. But another powerful illustration of obedience is that of Ananias. Ananias was no more than a disciple who loved the Lord and wanted to obey Him no matter the cost. He knew the hideous things that Saul (later Paul) had been doing to “the Way.” Never the less, Ananias knew the Lord told him to go! So, in Acts 9:17 scripture says that Ananias, “Left and entered the house”. Through his obedience, he was able to be the mouthpiece of God to Saul. This ordinary man was used by our extraordinary God to do extraordinary things.

When we find our satisfaction in Christ through our obedience, our significance to the world may be little, but to the Kingdom, it is great.

Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for being a loving God who sees our imperfections but calls us anyway to be close so that we may be used to make a difference. Help me have an obedient spirit to continue to follow your lead being a committed follower of Jesus Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 27

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:20

Reflection: As a disciple of Christ we cannot underestimate the ministry of presence. Everywhere we go we bring the radiance, expectation, and authority of Christ. As Jesus has come to proclaim good news to the poor, God has designed redemption to be carried on by the Church. In the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit the Church is called to be the redeeming presence of God among the poor and broken. There is no substitute to the responsibility of relationship unto which we are called. While we find accountability, growth and fellowship when we gather within our church family, we cannot grow comfortable to continually exist within these familiar settings. God has empowered and expects us to avail ourselves outside the Christian walls we can conveniently build around ourselves. We are called to be God's representative voice and heart in the broken places of this world which requires us to live out our faith outside of the church walls.

Prayer: Lord, reveal to us the people and places that require us to cross over borders of comfort and familiarity. Help us to be the presence of God's hope in the world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sunday, February 28

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 4:23; Psalm 51

Reflection: In Proverbs 4:23, God commands us to guard our hearts or innermost being "with all vigilance" or "above all else." This is of utmost importance, because our hearts are the core of our very being. That is why it is important for us to do like David in Psalm 51 and confess our sin, repent and pray for restoration. David wrote this Psalm after Nathan confronted him about his sin with Bathsheba. He didn't hesitate to confess to God. When we come before God, deeply sorry for what we have done, He will forgive us. He will heal us and restore us. We can once again walk with the Lord in full confidence that we are forgiven.

Prayer: God of wondrous mercies, I thank You for Your restorative work in my life. Although I am bruised, You restored my life to victory and wholeness. In Your love,

please shine Your searching light in me. Create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me. Strengthen me with Your presence. Restore joy and peace in me. Then in my redemptive journey, I will proclaim Your righteousness and declare the praise of Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 29

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:24-27

Reflection: In this parable, Jesus gives clear instructions about constructing a proper foundation. There are disciplines that we can practice daily that draw us closer to God and deepen and strengthen our foundations of faith. Lent is the perfect occasion to focus on prayer, Bible study, selflessness and service. We also can take time to reflect on how we are practicing faithful stewardship through being intentional about how we use our time and resources. We must be willing to live out our faith in the world, to go beyond our level of comfort to reach those in need, and be willing to go beyond ourselves and serve God first.

Prayer: Dear Lord, we thank You for the opportunity to be a part of your world. As we work to make Your love and hope a reality for many, help us to remain faithful and reach beyond ourselves to provide for those in need. During this Lenten season, may we reflect upon and be energized by the transforming power of Your life and witness in the world. Please help each of us to remain rooted and established in Your love so that we are not swayed or discouraged by daily challenges, but press on to accomplish the great work You have called us to do. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

March 1

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Reflection: It is an outward expression of an inward desire to fulfill your purpose in living out God's love through you in serving others. As you pursue God, He opens your heart to give of your time to serve in an open invitation to others to come and experience God's love, mercy, faith, forgiveness and fellowship as we live this life on earth. Faith without works is an empty faith. By plugging into the body of Christ, one experiences the joy and fullness of brotherly love; and isn't love the ultimate expression of God's design for mankind? Don't miss the opportunity. If you are willing, God will work through you to make a difference in someone who needs to see your example of selflessness.

Prayer: Lord, help me this day stay alert to opportunities to say a good word for the Lord Jesus. Fill my heart with a contagious love for the people I will meet. Help me love all the people of God throughout the world, and, having loved them, help me bear the Good News of Jesus as a faithful servant. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 2

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 10:12-13

Reflection: What does the Lord ask of us? That's a great question, isn't it? What does God really want us to do? If we take a serious look at this scripture we can see that we are to live in awe of God which involves an attitude towards Jesus that saturates our being and shows through our actions. We are to live in obedience to God by submitting ourselves to God's instruction throughout our day. We are to live in Love accepting with whole hearts His love for us which shows through our appreciation to who He is in our lives. We are to live out service by allowing our God-given abilities to be used as a way of honoring Him. We are to read, study and live out the Lord's Word that teaches and instructs us on the Lord's way so that we are doing the very thing that is best for us.

Prayer: Father, thank you for giving us instruction that is for our best. Help us to read Your Word, learn Your commands, and get them done in a way that honors You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

March 3

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:35-40b

Reflection: Who did Jesus mean by the least of these? When you work at the community pantry, feed the hungry, or serve at Message and a Meal, you are serving the least of these. When you prepare dinner for your children, aged parent, or nursing home resident, you are serving the least of these. When you donate time and money at the homeless shelter or the domestic violence center, you are serving the least of these. When you volunteer your time at the local thrift shop or when you distribute blankets to the needy, you are serving the least of these. When you send a card, make a hospital call, or sit with a dying friend, you are serving the least of these. When you visit prisoners or pray for those who are incarcerated, you are serving the least of these. Serving the least of these may be no more than lending a hand, giving a smile, or sharing a burden. The service is a heartfelt response to the love Jesus has poured on us.

Prayer: Lord, help me to look for opportunities to serve others. Help me to remember that my service is actually a gift to You and a response to the love You have given to me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

March 4

Scripture Reading: Luke 18:1

Reflection: As a child I remember being taught the words "God is great; God is good" before meals and repeating the words "Now I lay me down to sleep" each night before bed. These words repeated daily became imbedded in my heart and served as my prayer to the Lord for a large part of my life. As I reflect over my prayer life now, it's amazing how at one point in my life I probably believed that prayer was something that could only be done at the dinner table or as I knelt beside my bed at night. However, as I have grown

older and matured in my faith, I know that prayer can be done anywhere and at any time. In the Bible we have read many accounts of how prayer changed people and situations. So, in whatever situation we may find ourselves in, whether we need healing, strength, wisdom, a financial blessing or a desire to simply pray for someone else, we must remember that God admonishes us to come boldly before the throne of grace always.

Prayer: Lord help us to remember that you are always available to us. Thank you that we have the honor to come before you with all our concerns, our needs and our praises. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 5

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:58

Reflection: Our service to the Lord rarely sees instantaneous results. Constant effort over a period of time is required before the desired results are achieved. There are times the desired result will not be achieved. We cannot guarantee results, but God requires faithfulness on our part. Noah did not build the ark overnight; however, when the floods came, it floated. Christians must give constant and consistent effort to the Lord. Discouragement often comes, but it is not a reason to quit serving God. The passing of time does not diminish our duty to the Lord. The greater our effort the more likely we are to see the desired results. Faithfulness will bring the reward of the Lord. We must give our best to Christ.

Prayer: Lord help us to stand firm in our faith trusting and believing that our labor is not in vain. Show us where we stand in the work You have called us to do. Where we have lost sight of the task at hand, renew our strength and remind us of Your vision. Thank You for loving us and leading us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sunday, March 6

Scripture Reading: Psalm 13

Reflection: When things are good it is easy to come to Jesus with praise and thanksgiving. Unfortunately, life is not always filled with occasions for praise. Sometimes life is difficult. Sometimes our situations are more than we can handle. It is in these times we turn to Jesus in lament. A lament is a prayer that begins by crying out to God from a deep sense that something is wrong with the world. Out of pain and despair we call on God. Our cries do not come from a lack of faith, but are, in fact, a sign of faith. We turn to God because God is the only one who can help us. During our times of struggle we do not need to hide our feelings and pretend that everything is all right. In the face of the pain and trouble in our world, we have the gift of lament available to us. Jesus calls us to bring our needs before Him and promises that our prayers will be heard. Lament is part of an honest, trusting relationship with God. Whatever may be happening in your life right now, know that you can offer it to God in prayer.

Prayer: O Lord, help us as we turn to you. Hear us and deliver us from the pain and despair in our lives. In the midst of any difficulties we may face in life, we trust You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 7

Scripture Reading: Numbers 14:24

Reflection: Have you ever thought about what is so different for the person willing to serve? Servant-hood requires a mental shift, a change in our attitudes. God is always more interested in why we do something than in what we do. Attitudes count more than achievements. Real servants have to be focused on others, not themselves. This is true humility: not thinking less of ourselves but thinking of ourselves less. Real servants think about their responsibilities and not what others are doing. They don't compare, criticize, or compete with other servants or ministries. They're too busy doing the work God has given them. Ministry for the real servant is seen as an opportunity and not an obligation. They enjoy helping people, meeting needs and doing ministry. They serve with gladness. In this year of "sent people" let us rejoice in knowing that we can be used by God in the service of His Kingdom.

Prayer: God, allow me to serve others with a joyful heart, never keeping score, always giving, never expecting to receive. Allow me to give of myself, to give of my talents and of my goods, to give of my time and of my energy, to give of my heart and of my soul. Help me understand the needs of others and how I may know what I need to do to help meet those needs. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 8

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 26:3

Reflection: In today's Scripture Isaiah is giving us the remedy for dealing with the storms of life. "You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in You." Yes, there will be storms in the forecast for us. Storms are inevitable. But we also have the confident assurance that the Lord will shelter us in the storms. He will not always use the same methods to protect us, but He will protect us. At times He will allow the storms to pass by on each side while we are protected in the palm of His hand. At other times He will permit us to go through some storm. I think He does this to show how true believers should react when our world is turned upside down. Do you want peace in the midst of your storm? Place your trust in the Lord and do not allow the storm to shake your faith. Praise the Lord that He is greater than any storm we will encounter!

Prayer: Father, my mind can be easily distracted. One moment I feel my heart is full of faith, the next moment it is full of fear. Help me to keep my mind focused on you. You alone deliver the peace that passes human understanding. In Jesus' name. Amen.

March 9

Scripture Reading: John 5:36-38

Reflection: We have the privilege of proclaiming Christ's testimony because of what He's done, is doing, and will continue to do in each of us who believe in Him. We have an excellent testimony because He lives in us. We have an excellent testimony because we now belong to Him. A testimony is not focused on how bad our past was, but instead the power of Christ in us, changing us each and every day. We do belong to Him and that is testimony enough to share with others. Let's make sure we are proclaiming the excellencies of Him. Truly our testimony is greater because He is greater.

Prayer: Dear Lord, we thank you for revealing Yourself to us through a myriad of ways. We desire to know more of You and what is currently weighing on Your heart. We desire to participate in the work of Your kingdom. In Jesus' name I pray. In Jesus' name. Amen.

March 10

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:25-37

Reflection: Jesus used the parable of the Good Samaritan, one of the most well-known parables of the Bible, to share what it means to love your neighbor as yourself. Who are the people God has placed around you who need encouragement, comfort, or financial help? How often do you take the time to notice those in need or those who are hurting around you? Do you tend to stop what you're doing to help others, or are you most often too busy to notice? When was the last time you did stop to help someone, either by being there for them for encouragement, helping them with a financial need, or helping meet other pressing needs. How did you feel afterward? We are all created to love God and love others. God wired us in a way that we desire to love our neighbors when we have Christ in our lives. Spend time confessing any sin these verses reveal, and think of changes you need to make in your life. Ask God to help you become more compassionate, with a love for others that leads you to action. Who knows? The day may come when we need a Good Samaritan to help us when we are in need as well.

Prayer: Holy God, help us serve everyone who needs it and love and serve one another unconditionally. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 11

Scripture Reading: Matthew 8:1-4; Luke 7:11-15

Reflection: Imagine yourself in the following scene. After Jesus finishes preaching on the mountain, He comes down. You see massive crowds follow Him so you follow as well. You think everyone must want to learn more about this unique teacher whose very presence exudes authority. Suddenly you notice a leper, shoulders hunched and head bowed, coming towards Jesus. The man's presence could be seen as intrusive. His appearance is repulsive. His smell is nauseating. The people nearest to Jesus begin to quickly move away. But you notice that Jesus remains still, His eyes looking with

compassion at the man. The leper falls to his knees before Jesus and says, “Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.” The Lord stretches out His hand toward the leper to touch him. The crowd of people gasps in horror. The leper also pulls back unsure of what might happen but then recovers his position, trembling. With the words “I will, be clean”, Jesus touches the leper and he is instantaneously healed! You think wow! The leper cleansed all because Jesus is willing. After witnessing this miracle, you think what am I willing to do for the less fortunate in this world? While we are not able to perform miracles, there are ways for us to be involved with those in need.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, Your gospel is one of compassion and love. Please open my eyes, ears and heart to those who are less fortunate. Help me guard against my pride and prejudices. Fill me with Your love and compassion for all people. Lord, I want to be like You; I want to be willing. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

March 12

Scripture Reading: John 15:12-17

Reflection: There are many commands from our Lord throughout His Word. We are called and commanded to obey every one of them, but we can only do that by surrendering to Him and allowing His Spirit to be in complete control of our lives. It’s through Him living in us that we are able to fulfill His Word both in us and through us. In this passage Christ is very clear: “love one another, just as I have loved you.” To love with this selfless love can never be accomplished in and of ourselves. We do not have the capability of loving this way by ourselves. This love, from our Lord, is totally unconditional. With Christ living in us, through His Holy Spirit, we are able to love this way. It is our choice to be obedient to Him and by loving others this way we bring honor and glory to Him. Jesus then goes on to explain that this greater love leads others to lay down their lives for their friends. Let’s make sure we are following Him, obeying Him and loving Him by loving each other with the greater love He has given us.

Prayer: Lord help us to abide in Your love that we may bear much fruit for Your Kingdom. Help us to hold the commandment to love one another close to our hearts. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Sunday, March 13

Scripture Reading: Psalm 55

Reflection: Prayer is more than just a way to get what we want, and calling out in prayer to God is more than just a way to send him a message. To pray is to be in relationship with God; the one to whom we are praying. Through prayer we are able to come before God honestly and directly. The Bible assures us that God listens to our prayers and cares for us more than we will ever understand. The awareness that God listens to us is a comforting thought. Listening seems almost a lost art in our world where busy people have a hard time

slowing down enough to pay attention to what others are saying. We are too often distracted and think about what we are going to make for dinner, the email we need to respond to, or trying to map out time to finish everything on our to do list. We are so focused on our internal dialogue that we fail to really listen to one another.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Parent, thank you for being a God to whom I can turn to evening, morning, and noon. Thank you for being someone I can cry out to in times of distress or when my heart is in anguish. You make yourself available to me so that I can turn to you. You listen to my prayers and you do not ignore my pleas. You hear me and you answer me. I thank you for being this kind of God. Indeed, you are my Heavenly Parent to whom I can turn to in times of need and when my thoughts are troubled or when I have fears in my life. You are a God who I can cast all my cares upon and I can trust that you will sustain me and not let me fall down. Thank you Lord for listening. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 14

Scripture Reading: Micah 4:3-5

Reflection: Today's scripture reading is a beautiful vision of peace in a world where everyone has a place to eat and to drink, a place to feel safe and a place to feel at peace. Micah's vision didn't stop there, and neither should ours. Micah goes on in verse 5 to say, "For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever." As we strive to keep God at the center of all that we do, this verse gives much encouragement. We are called to work in partnership with our brothers and sisters of any faith or no faith to fulfill this prophetic vision to create a world of peace for all.

Prayer: Loving God, we have heard Your call to serve one another, to give refuge to the stranger, to show hospitality to those in need. When we answer this call, we give witness to Your grace and love and help bring healing and hope to our communities. We humbly ask You to grant us the faith, hope and love to keep God at the center of all that we do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 15

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 3:5-6

Reflection: As Christians, we are on a journey that carries us in many different directions. We sometimes find this Christian journey discouraging, hurtful and confusing. In other words, we have been broke, busted and disgusted. Before we accepted Christ as Lord and Savior of our lives we had no direction to lead us through this journey. Right here is where we can give God, the glory, honor and praise for sending Jesus. Through studying God's Word, the Holy Bible, our compass and direction, our souls are able to rejoice in the "God of our Salvation," and we can have peace that surpasses all understanding. All of these blessings come from trusting in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Gracious God, in the name of Your Precious Son Jesus I give you glory honor and praise. I thank you for the miracle of salvation. You are such a wonderful and awesome God! I pray you will continue to bless, keep and protect your people. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 16

Scripture Reading: Psalm 133

Reflection: There is a message in these verses for the church today. For as the people united under one king in the Old Testament, so the people of God must unite today under Jesus as the Kings of Kings. As they experience great glory in this unification of the old, so we will experience a greater glory in the new. As they experienced a tremendous victory over their enemies because of unification, so we will enjoy freedom from the enemies control today. Let's stay connected to Jesus the vine and we will all produce the same kind of fruit and we will all live in unity. Seek ways to be harmonious.

Prayer: Lord we pray that as believers we will experience and demonstrate true unity of purpose. We pray that we will be one so that the world may be won. Help us to do all that we can to be unified. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 17

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:53-58

Reflection: This scripture includes the account of Jesus going to His hometown to teach. When people heard Him, they were astonished. However, their astonishment did not lead them to respond to His teaching in obedience and faith. Their lives could have been radically changed for the better. Their community could have been radically changed. However, no positive changes occurred in the people or the town of Nazareth. Why? The Scripture gives the reason, "Because of their unbelief." Unbelief shuts the door on the transformational power of Jesus. Faith opens the floodgates to that same transformational power. In contrast to this passage of Scripture are countless others where Jesus worked miracles in response to the faith present in the lives of people. When Jesus looks at your life what does He find? An attitude of faith? or unbelief?

Prayer: Lord thank you for whom you are in our lives. We asked that anything that may be blocking our belief, that you remove it. Strengthen our faith in You. Helps us to believe. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 18

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 32:17-44

Reflection: Sometimes we forget how powerful God is. We forget the great things that God has done in the past. We often allow the immensity of our own problems and challenges to overshadow the greatness of our God. Our view of God diminishes to an anemic, powerless God.

In order to build a case for the greatness and power of God, Jeremiah reminds us of what God has done in the past. He reminds us that God “made the heavens and the earth.” What a display of power! God spoke, and the world came into existence. No one but God could do that. Creation itself is a testimony to the fact that God can do anything. Through scripture we can see the many great things that God has done. We can also remember the great things He has done in our lives personally and the great things He has done in our church.

Prayer: Lord, I pray that You would give me a confident heart in Christ. Take me beyond believing in You to truly believing You. Help me rely on the power of Your promises and live like they are true. You say blessed is the one who trusts in You and whose hope and confidence are found in You. Those who hope in You will not be disappointed, because You work all things together for good for those who love You and are called according to Your purpose. You are all powerful. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

March 19

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 2:1-2

Reflection: One of the common needs expressed in church is the need for more leaders. These concerned people of God are saying we need people to lead in the children’s programs, to work with youth, to do outreach, to give financially for the work of the church and on and on. But where will these leaders come from? Paul gives Timothy the answer concerning the need for more leaders: you raise them up. Christian leaders are made not born, and II Timothy 2:2 tells us how to make one. Mature Christian leaders are to teach and train faithful people who can become leaders and then teach and train others. Are you willing to personally train another person in your church to become a leader or would you be willing to be trained yourself to eventually lead in some way in church?

Prayer: Lord, you have equipped each one of us with what is necessary to serve and lead in your Kingdom. We pray for a movement in our hearts, that we are willing to share with others what you have gifted us to do. We pray for a strong desire in our spirits to want raise up a new generation of leaders and servants of the Lord. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



HOLY WEEK
Daily Prayers

We enter into a week made holy forever by the self surrendering love of Jesus for us all. All week, we will remember how Jesus loves us. Whatever we do, no matter how busy or distracted we might be, we can let the power of this week be filled with our prayers of thanksgiving. Jesus entered into our life, with its profound joys and its punishing evils, that we might never experience those struggles alone. So no matter what we experience this week, we can let it become a holy week, letting it all be touched by the graces of this week.

Sunday, March 20

**Join us in Worship Service for The Messiah in the
Passover Celebration presented by Chosen Ministries**

Loving God, I continue to realize how much you love me. Your son, Jesus was humble and obedient. He fulfilled your will for Him by becoming human and suffering with us. I ask you for the desire to become more humble so that my own life might also bear witness to You. I want to use the small sufferings I have in this world to give You glory. Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth. Strengthen my life by the example of Jesus. Help me to be with Jesus in this week as He demonstrates again His total love for me. He died so that I would no longer be separated from You. Help me to feel how close You are and to live in union with You. May the Lord give us peace, wisdom, strength and bring us to everlasting life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 21

God of love, my prayer is simple: Your son, Jesus, suffered and died for me. I know only that I cannot have real strength unless I rely on You. I cannot feel protected from my many weaknesses until I turn to you for forgiveness and your unalterable love. Help me to share this strength, protection and love with others. May You, Lord give us peace, wisdom, strength and bring us to everlasting life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 22

God of such unwavering love, how do I celebrate the passion and death of Jesus? I often want to look the other way and not watch, not stay with Jesus in his suffering. Give me the strength to see his love with honesty and compassion and to feel deeply your own forgiveness and mercy for me. Help me to understand how to celebrate this week. I want to be able to bring my weaknesses and imperfections with me as I journey with Jesus this week, so aware of his love. May the Lord give us peace, wisdom, strength and bring us to everlasting life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 23**Joint Worship Service at Providence Baptist Church at Noon**

My Savior, do you invite me to share in the glory of the resurrection? Please stay with me as I struggle to see how accepting the crosses of my life will free me from the power of the one who wants only to destroy my love and trust in You. Help me to be humble and accepting like Your son, Jesus. I want to turn to You with the same trust He had in Your love. Save me, Lord. Only You can save me. May the Lord give us peace, wisdom, strength and bring us to everlasting life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 24**Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30pm**

Wash me clean Lord. I want to receive all you have for me. I am blessed and honored when you serve me; I am humbled by your humility. Help me remember your healing and cleansing. Don't let me forget my salvation. In darkness help me call on your name, Jesus. In darkness, be the light of my heart; may I never be afraid. I am longing for your sunrise, Jesus. In your mercy, give me the gift of hope. And by your love, help me to love others. Teach me your way in the coming days. Help me to understand how you have loved me, and how you love me still. May the Lord give us peace, wisdom, strength and bring us to everlasting life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 25**Good Friday Service at 12 Noon**

God, how can we thank you enough? You did not spare your own Son, but gave Him up for us. We echo the words of the songwriter who asked, "What wondrous love is this?" Thank you for Jesus, the perfect sacrifice, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Now, as He lives in us by the Holy Spirit, may we become living sacrifices, pouring all that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be into the advancement of your kingdom? May You give us peace, wisdom, strength and bring us to everlasting life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 26

Reflection: Holy Saturday is a very significant day. Holy Saturday is between the Death and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It's a solemn day in which we are deeply saddened by Jesus' death on Good Friday, but it's also a day in which we have faith that tomorrow will bring us much joy when He is resurrected from the dead on Easter Sunday. We should take time on this day to reflect on that waiting period in our own lives and have faith that we will have a better tomorrow. When we go through struggles of our own, we need to have faith that God will bring us through our hardships in His time, not in ours. We need to draw some of the strength that Jesus had, knowing that He was going to die, yet was confident that God would save Him, and He did.

Prayer: Our prayer today is simply that God be with us in the waiting, and may we wait with hope, today and every time in between. May the Lord give us peace, wisdom, strength and bring us to everlasting life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

March 27

Easter

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:1-3

Reflection: Jesus is our light who has come! His is the glory that has risen upon us! The Lord is the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, yet who chooses to dwell with those who are of a regretful and lowly spirit. For Christians, to shine is to live a righteous and obedient life pleasing to God and separated from the corrupt lifestyles of the world, a life where husbands love their wives, wives respect their husbands and children obey their parents. Every Christian needs to walk in the light of the gospel, and shine this light onto others by bearing witness to Jesus Christ in our homes, workplaces, schools and in every area of our lives.

Prayer: Eternal God, Loving Lord and Faithful Spirit, shine Your holy brightness upon us. Bless our daily labor as Christians and as a church for our community and our world. Let Your light in our hearts bring forth our deepest prayers for the people in darkness. May we pursue right living without self-righteousness, unity without conformity and strength without pride. May we walk in the light of Jesus' presence that others may awaken to the brightness of His glory. In Jesus' name, Amen

John 20:21-“As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

Let the lyrics to the song “Send Me, I’ll Go” by William McDowell be your prayer:

Send me I'll go,
I'll go to the nations,
So the whole world will know,
Your love and compassion,
The harvest is ready,
Your people are hungry,
To know you,
Send me I'll go

Give me a heart to hear the cry,
Help me to see things through your eyes,
That we can bring healing to the broken,
When we speak the words that you have spoken,

How will they hear unless we speak,
You are the only one we need,
How will they know until we go,
Send me I'll go

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES
 “SENT PEOPLE”

Wednesday, February 10:		Ash Wednesday	“A Call to Repent”
Sunday, February 14:	Lent	"All Things New" <i>Young Adult Sunday</i>	Genesis 35:9-15
Sunday, February 21:	Lent	“Sent to Die”	Luke 13:31-35
Sunday, February 28:	Lent	“Sent to Prodigals”	Luke 15: 1-32
Sunday, March 6:	Lent	“Sent to Pray”	Luke 18:1-8
Sunday, March 13:	Lent	“Sent to Heal”	Luke 18:35 -43

HOLY WEEK BEGINS

Sunday, March 20:	Passion	“Sent to Strengthen” <i>Presentation of “Messiah in the Passover” by Chosen People Ministries</i>	Luke 22:14-32
Wednesday, March 23:		Holy Wednesday	12 noon Joint Worship with Providence
Thursday, March 24 th		Maundy Thursday	6:30pm Worship
Friday, March 25 th		Good Friday	12 Noon
Sunday, March 27 th :	Easter	“Sent to Witness”	John 20:1-18

WEDNESDAY LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday leading up to Holy Week Pastor Moffett will facilitate a bible study discussion regarding our Lenten theme- “sent people.” The Bible Study and discussion will begin at 6:30pm each Wednesday and will be based upon the sermon themes and scriptures listed above.

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