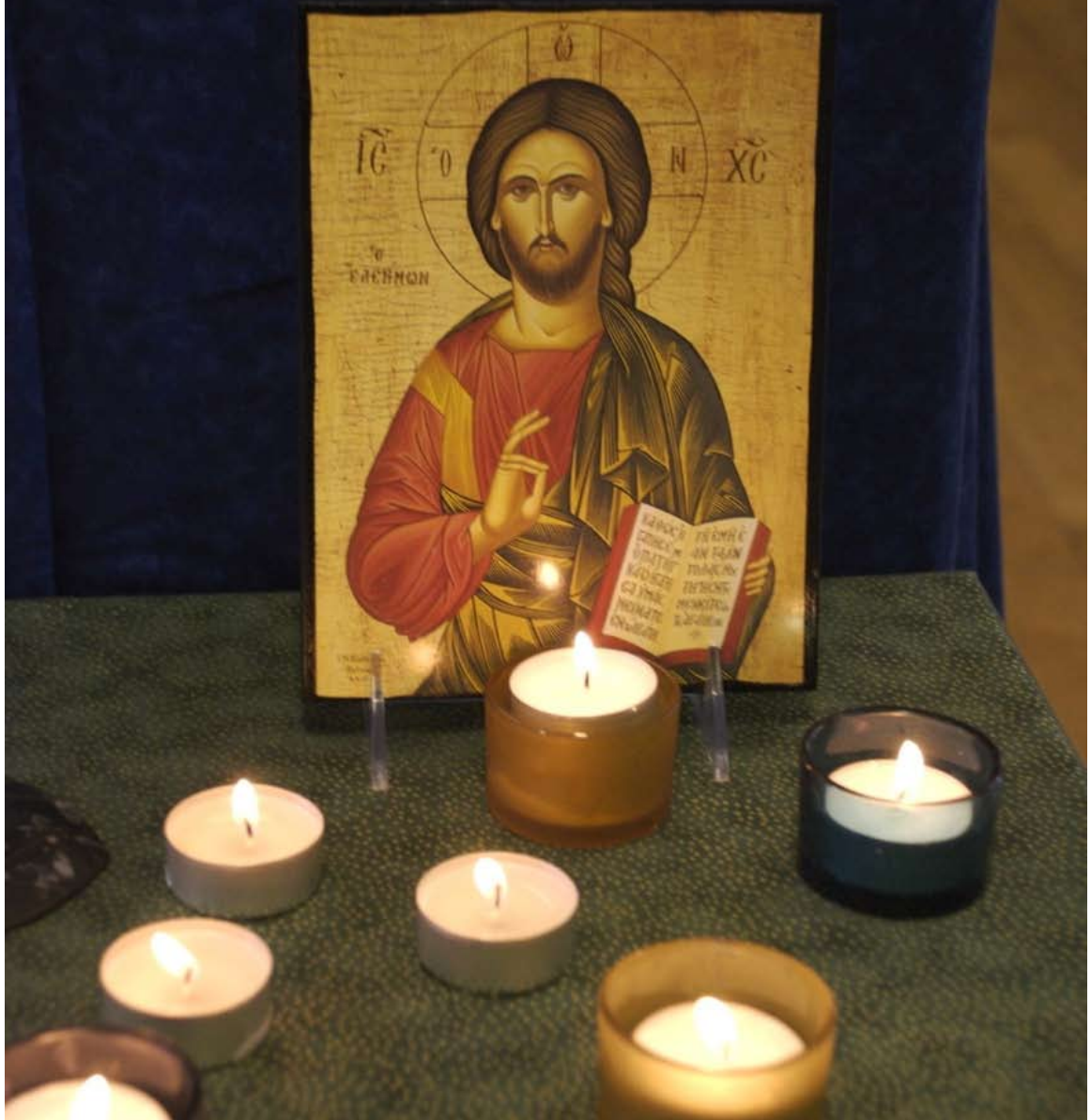


a season of prayer



Prayers and meditations for home

Lent 2009

About the practice of prayer

Prayer is a wonderful, but also sometimes a difficult thing. It is wonderful because it is the foundation of relationship with God; it is the opportunity offered to each of us for conversation with God. But prayer is difficult, because it is also a discipline. It is something that we have to make time in our busy lives to do. Prayer is something that we must practice, day after day, in order to become more comfortable with it. In that way, prayer is a lot like any conversation. When you first meet someone, you might not know what to talk about or how to relate to that person. You might be a little bit (or even a lot) uncomfortable. But as you spend more and more time with a person, getting to know them better, you become more willing to open up to them, and they become more comfortable talking and sharing with you. It can be like that in prayer, in our conversation and relationship with God. The more time that we spend doing it, the more comfortable and open we feel, and our relationship with God, and by extension with the people around us, is greatly improved and enhanced.

That is why, for the season of Lent, Christ Church is inviting each of you to a season of prayer. Because Lent is not, at the heart, a time about giving things up. It is instead a time to grow in your

relationship with God, to prepare for the coming of the Easter celebration. We hope that, this Lent, you will take that seriously, and give prayer a chance. In order to help you do that, we have prepared this booklet. It includes, on the following page, a simple order for daily prayer. Then, on the following pages, there are short selections from scripture and short prayers for every day of the season of Lent.

There are many ways that you could use these prayers. Here are a couple of suggestions to help you get started:

Find some way to set aside a space for prayer. Perhaps it is a room in the house where you always say the prayers, or even just a certain chair or spot. Make sure it is a place that is free from distractions (perhaps even turning off the ringer on your phone). Doing the prayers at the same place each time will help you establish a habit.

Choose a time to pray each day. You might start by saying this order for prayer first thing in the morning, or possibly right before you go to bed. Maybe you could use the prayers either before or after your evening meal, in place of, or in addition to, saying grace. You could

Don't let the hectic pace of your daily life push prayer to the side.

even set aside time during your lunch break at work to close your office door and spend some time sitting in silence and saying these prayers. Once you've chose a time, stick to it. Make that time a priority.

Think of some special way to signal that this is "holy time." You could light a candle before you begin the service and then extinguish it at the end. Or you could even just spend a few moments in silence to let the rest of the world fall away before you begin your prayers.

You can do the service of daily prayer individually or as a family or group of friends. If you do them as a group, you could take turns leading the prayer service, or you could divide up the parts, so that someone reads the scripture, and someone else leads the prayers.

There are as many different ways to pray as there are people in the world, and only you know what will work best for you. The important thing is to choose a way to pray, and make a commitment to do it on a daily basis. Don't let the hectic pace of your daily life push prayer to the side; for this season, at least, make prayer a priority.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

And after Jesus had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray.

Matthew 14:23

Then Jesus prayed, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."

Luke 23:46

An Order for Daily Prayer

From Psalm 51 (said together)

Open my lips, O Lord,

and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence

and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again

and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading (use the daily selection of scripture)

A period of silence (1-2 minutes) may follow.

Then prayers may be offered for ourselves and others; people are encouraged to name out loud people or things they are worried about, and people or things for which they are thankful.

The Lord's Prayer (said together)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Amen.

Closing Prayer (use the daily selection of prayer)

February 25—Ash Wednesday

Impositions of Ashes today at noon & 7 p.m.

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. *Joel 2:12-13*

Fleshly God, you greet us with bodily presence and thus make it impossible for us to control you. We give thanks for our bodies, destined as they are to death. Through them, you give us life. Make us your resurrection body, that they world may know your Spirit. Amen.

Stanley Hauerwas

February 26—Thursday after Ash Wednesday

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him... Deut 30:19-20a

So the day dawn for me, so the day break
Christ watching over me, Christ as I wake.
Be the day shine for me, be the day bright,
Christ my companion be, Christ be my light.
Be the day dark to me, be the day drear,
Christ shall my comfort be, Christ be my cheer.
Be the day swift to me, be the day long.
Christ my contentment be, Christ be

my song. So the day close for me, so the night fall. Christ watching over me, Christ be my all.

Timothy Dudley-Smith

February 27—Friday after Ash Wednesday

Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.” Matt 9:13

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve others throughout the world who live and die in poverty or hunger. Give them, through our hands, this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give peace and joy.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

February 28—Saturday after Ash Wednesday

The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” Jesus answered, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance.” Luke 5:30-32

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name

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March 1—First Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist at 8, 10:30 and 6

*Preaching series: The Rev'd Scott Gunn preaches on
"Our father in heaven. Hallowed be your name."*

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." Mark 1:15

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in my eyes and in my looking. God
be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be
in my heart and in my thinking. God be at
my end and at my departing.

Sarum primer

March 2—Monday in the First Week of Lent

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14

Grant Lord, that I may not, for one moment, admit willingly into my soul any thought contrary to thy love.

E. B. Pusey

March 3—Tuesday in the First Week of Lent

"Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And

forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. Matt 6:9-13

Dear Jesus, send your Spirit on us so that we will be taught to pray. Prayer is hard, requiring great effort, but when done, effortless. I confess I have never liked to pray. Prayer is too much like begging. So I have to pray that your generous Spirit will teach me to beg. I beg you to help all of us discover that our lives are constituted by prayer, so that we may be in your world one mighty, joyous prayer. Make us so rested by such prayer, so content to be your people, that we kill no more. Amen.

Stanley Hauerwas

March 4—Wednesday in the First Week of Lent

Holy Eucharist at 6:15 p.m., with a meditation on Chad, Bishop of Lichfield

Wednesday Prayer Series: Making Space for Prayer at 7 p.m.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Psalm 50:10

O God, I know that if I do not love Thee with all my heart, with all my mind, with all my soul and with all my strength, I shall love something else with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. Grant that putting Thee first in all my lovings I may be liberated from all lesser loves and loyalties, and have

Thee as my first love, my chiefest good and my final joy.

George Appleton, Oxford Book of Prayer

March 5—Thursday in the First Week of Lent

Then Queen Esther, seized with deadly anxiety, fled to the Lord. She took off her splendid apparel and put on the garments of distress and mourning, and instead of costly perfume she covered her head with ashes and dung... Esther 14:1-2a

Do not withhold from me, O my God, the best, the Spirit of your dear Son; that in that day when judgment is set I may be presented to you, not blameless, but forgiven, not effectual but faithful, not holy but persevering, without desert but accepted, because he has pleaded the cause of my soul, and redeemed my life.

Eric Milner White

March 6—Friday in the First Week of Lent

But if the wicked turn away from all their sins that they have committed and keep all my statutes and do what is lawful and right, they shall surely live; they shall not die. None of the transgressions that they have committed shall be remembered against them; for the righteousness that they have done they shall live. Ezekiel 18:21-22

Incline us O God! To think humbly of ourselves, to be saved only in the examination of our own conduct, to consider our fellow-

creatures with kindness, and to judge of all they say and do with the charity which we would desire from them ourselves.

Jane Austen

March 7—Saturday in the First Week of Lent

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you... Matthew 5:43-44

Grant me, O Lord, an understanding heart, that I may see into the hearts of thy people, and know their strengths and weaknesses, their hopes and their despairs, their efforts and their failures, their need of love and their need to love. Through my touch with them grant comfort and hope and the assurance that now life begins at any age and on any day, redeeming the past, sanctifying the present and brightening the future with the assurance of thy unfailing love and grace brought to us in Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord.

George Appleton, Oxford Book of Prayer

March 8—Second Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist at 8, 10:30 and 6

Preaching series: The Rev'd Flora Keshgegian preaches on "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. Mark 8:34

Blessed sister, holy mother, spirit of the fountain, spirit of the garden, suffer us not to mock ourselves with falsehood. Teach us to care and not to care. Teach us to sit still, even among these rocks. Our peace in his will. And even among these rocks Sister, Mother, and spirit of the river, spirit of the sea. Suffer me not to be separated and let my cry come unto Thee.

T. S. Eliot

March 9—Monday in the Second Week of Lent

But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. Luke 6:27-28

Loving Lord, as I begin this journey into a prayer-filled life, please be with me—guarding and guiding. Protect me, O God, from all evil. Surround me with the light of Christ; cover me with the blood of Christ; seal me with the cross of Christ. This I ask in the name of Christ. Amen.

Richard Foster

March 10—Tuesday in the Second Week of Lent

...though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. Isaiah 1:18b

O Lord, The house of my soul is narrow; enlarge it that you may enter in. It is ruinous, O repair it! It displeases Your sight. I confess it, I know. But who shall cleanse it, to whom shall I cry but to you? Cleanse me from my secret faults, O Lord, and spare Your servant from strange sins.

Augustine of Hippo

March 11—Wednesday in the Second Week of Lent

Holy Eucharist at 6:15 p.m., with a meditation on Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa

Wednesday Prayer Series: The Spirit of Taiḗe at 7 p.m.

Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. Jeremiah 18:6

O Lord, my God. Form me more fully into your likeness. Use the circumstances and interactions of this day to form your will in me. From the frustrations of this day form peace. From the joys of this day form strength. From the struggles of this day

form courage. From the beauties of this day form love. In the name of Jesus Christ who is all peace and strength and courage and love. Amen.

Richard Foster

March 12—Thursday in the Second Week of Lent

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

Psalm 1:1-2

The things, good Lord, that we pray for, give us the grace to labor for.

Thomas More

March 13—Friday in the Second Week of Lent

Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”?’ Matthew 21:42

Govern everything by your wisdom, O Lord, so that my soul may always be serving you in the way you will and not as I choose. Let me die to myself so that I may serve you; let me live to you who are life itself. Amen.

Teresa of Avila

March 14—Saturday in the Second Week of Lent

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of your possession? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing clemency. He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:18-19

Almighty and most merciful God, kindle within us the fire of love, that by its cleansing flame we may be purged of all our sins and worthy to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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March 15—Third Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist at 8, 10:30 and 6

*Preaching series: Ms. Sherilyn Pearce preaches on
“Give us today our daily bread.”*

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
1 Corinthians 1:18

Take, Lord, all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my whole will. You have given me all that I have, all that I am, and I surrender all to Your Divine will. You have given me all that I have, all that I am, and I surrender all to Your Divine will. Give me only your love and your grace. With this I am rich enough, and I have no more to ask.
Amen.

Ignatius of Loyola

March 16—Monday in the Third Week of Lent

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. Psalm 42:1-2a

I came to love you late, O Beauty, so ancient, so new. I came to love you late! Look! You were internal and I was external, running about in my ugly fashion, seeking you in the beautiful things you made. You were with me, but I was not with you. Those things kept me far from you, even though if they were not in you, they would not be at all.

You called and cried out and broke open my deafness. You gleamed and shone and chased away my blindness. I breathed your fragrance and pant for more. I tasted and now hunger and thirst. You touched me and I burn for your presence.

Augustine of Hippo

March 17—Tuesday in the Third Week of Lent

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. John 4:23

Deliver us, O Lord, from silly devotions and sullen saints. Govern all by your wisdom so that our souls may always be serving you as you will and not as we choose. Do not punish us, Lord, by granting that which we wish or ask, if it offends your love which would always live in us. Let us die to ourselves that we may serve you. Let us live to you who in yourself are the true life. Amen.

Teresa of Avila

March 18—Wednesday in the Third Week of Lent

Holy Eucharist at 6:15 p.m., with a meditation on Joseph

Wednesday Prayer Series: Praying with Icons at 7 p.m.

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Matthew 5:17

Grant me the ability to be alone; may it be my custom to go outdoors each day among the trees and grasses, among all growing things and there may I be alone, and enter into prayer to talk with the one that I belong to.

Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlav

March 19—Feast of Saint Joseph

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, for ever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. Psalm 89:1

O God, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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March 20—Friday in the Third Week of Lent

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Hosea 14:1

Saving God, free us from hardness of heart, take from us all pride and pretension, strip us clean of all that makes us incapable of being witnesses of your gentle love. Make us worthy agents of your peace, so that even as we contend with one another the world may say, “But see how they love one another.” Amen.

Stanley Hauerwas

March 21—Saturday in the Third Week of Lent

‘Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. Hosea 6:1

Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me, and in all Your creatures – I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve, and with boundless confidence, For you are my Father.

Charles de Foucauld

March 22—Fourth Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist at 8, 10:30 and 6

Preaching series: The Rev'd Paul Pickens preaches on "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil."

And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. John 3:19

God of Light, shine in our darkness that we may see that this world, for all its distortion by sin, is still your world. Give us the virtue of courage to fear rightly that which we should rightly fear. Give us that virtue of love that we might rightly hate that which is hateful. Give us the virtue of prudence that we might know what to fear and hate. For this task we pray that we might learn to trust one another, as we are incapable of being faithful alone. Amen.

Stanley Hauervas

March 23—Monday in the Fourth Week of Lent

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. John 9:1-3

Beloved Lord, Almighty God! Through the rays of the sun, through the waves of the air, through the all-pervading Life in space, purify and revive me, and, I pray, heal my body, heart, and soul. Amen.

Hazrat Inayat Khan

March 24—Tuesday in the Fourth Week of Lent

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. Psalm 46:4-5

Creator, open our hearts to peace and healing between all people. Creator, open our hearts to provide and protect for all children of the earth. Creator, open our hearts to respect for the earth, and all the gifts of the earth. Creator, open our hearts to end exclusion, violence, and fear among all. Thank-you for the gifts of this day and every day.

Native American - micmac

March 25—The Annunciation

Holy Eucharist at 6:15 p.m., celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation

Wednesday Prayer Series, Lectio Divina: Praying with Scripture at 7 p.m.

Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her. Luke 1:38

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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March 26—Thursday in the Fourth Week of Lent

But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. Micah 7:7

O Lord, we beseech thee to deliver us from the fear of the unknown future; from fear of failure; from fear of poverty; from fear of bereavement; from fear of loneliness; from fear of sickness and pain; from fear of age; from fear of death. Help us, O Father, by thy grace to love and fear thee only, fill our hearts with cheerful courage and loving trust in thee; through our Lord and Master Jesus Christ.

Akanu Ibaim,

March 27—Friday in the Fourth Week of Lent

The Lord is near to the broken-hearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18

O Merciful God, who answers the poor, answer us. O Merciful God, who answers the

lowly in spirit, answer us. O Merciful god, who answers the broken of heart, answer us. O Merciful God, answer us. O Merciful God, have compassion. O Merciful God, redeem. O Merciful God, save. O Merciful God, have pity upon us, now, speedily, and at a near time.

Jewish prayer for the Day of Atonement

March 28—Saturday in the Fourth Week of Lent

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” John 7:37-38

May all I say and all I think be in harmony with thee, God within me, God beyond me, maker of the trees.

Chinook Psalter

March 29—Fifth Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist at 8, 10:30 and 6

Preaching series: The Rev'd Melody Shobe preaches on "For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen."

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' John 12:32

Brother Jesus, you have reminded me of my need to anchor my soul in a place of prayer, a place where we can come together to worship the Father. Free me from my restless activity, my slavery to the clock, my habit of bobbing along on the open sea when you have called me to be still. When I consider how you consented to enclosure in Mary's womb, in a narrow manger, in a carpenter's home, on the wooden cross, in the bread of Eucharist, my heart is moved to seek enclosure with you. Amen.

Gloria Hutchinson

March 30—Monday in the Fifth Week of Lent

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, 'Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' John 8:7

Grant to me, O Lord, to know what I ought to know, to love what I ought to love, to praise what delights Thee most, to value what is precious in thy sight, to hate what is offensive to Thee. Do not suffer me to

judge according to the sight of my eyes, nor to pass sentence according to the hearing of the ears of ignorant men; but to discern with true judgment between things visible and spiritual, and above all things to enquire what is the good pleasure of thy will

Thomas a Kempis

March 31—Tuesday in the Fifth Week of Lent

Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord: that he looked down from his holy height, from heaven the Lord looked at the earth, to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die; Psalm 102:18-20

Lord of the springtime, Father of flower, field and fruit, smile on us in these earnest days when work is heavy and the toil wearisome; lift up our hearts, O God, to the things worthwhile-- sunshine and night, the dripping rain, the song of the birds, books and music, and the voices of our friends. Lift up our hearts to these this night and grant up Thy peace. Amen.

W. E. B. DuBois

April 1—Wednesday in the Fifth Week of Lent

Holy Eucharist at 6:15 p.m., with a meditation on John Donne, Priest

Wednesday Prayer Series: Walking the Prayer Labyrinth at 7 p.m.

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.'
John 8:31-32

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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April 2—Thursday in the Fifth Week of Lent

Very truly, I tell you, whoever keeps my word will never see death. John 8:51

O Lord, who hast mercy upon all, take away from me my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of thy Holy Spirit. Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore Thee, a heart to delight in Thee, to follow and enjoy Thee, for Christ's sake, Amen.

Ambrose of Milan

April 3—Friday in the Fifth Week of Lent

If I say, 'I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name', then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. Jeremiah 20:9

We who prayed and wept for liberty from kings and the yoke of liberty accept the tyranny of things we do not need. In plentitude too free, we have become adept beneath the yoke of greed. Those who will not learn in plenty to keep their place must learn it be their need when they have had their way and the fields spurn their seed. We have failed Thy grace. Lord, I flinch and pray, send Thy necessity.

Wendell Berry

April 4—Saturday in the Fifth Week of Lent

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. Psalm 85:7

O Master and God, Father almighty, Lord, and only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit, one divinity and power, have mercy on me a sinner, and save me, your unworthy servant, in any way you know; for you are blessed unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Orthodox prayer of St. Mardarios

April 5—Palm Sunday

Holy Eucharist at 8, 10:30 and 6

Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Mark 11: 8-10

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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April 6—Holy Monday

I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare... Isaiah 42:8-9a

God before and God behind, God for us and God for your own self, Maker of heaven and earth, creator of sea and sky, governor of day and night. We give thanks for your or-

dered gift of life to us, for the rhythms that reassure, for the equilibriums that sustain, for the reliabilities that curb our anxieties. We treasure from you, days to work and nights to rest. We cherish from you, days to control and nights to yield. We savor from you, days to plan and nights to dream. Be our day and our night, our heaven and our earth, our sea and our sky, and in the end our true home. Amen.

Walter Brueggemann

April 7—Holy Tuesday

Jesus was teaching and saying, 'Is it not written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations"? But you have made it a den of robbers.' Mark 11:17

Lord, today you made us known to friends we did not know, and you have given us seats in homes which are not our own. You have brought the distant near, and make a brother of a stranger. Forgive us Lord... We did not introduce you.

Prayer from Polynesia

April 8—Holy Wednesday

No Eucharist today. The Office of Tenebrae will be offered at 7 p.m. in the Church.

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another? John 13:35

Almighty, everlasting God, let our prayer in your sight be as incense, the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. Give us grace to behold you, present in your Word and Sacraments, and to recognize you in the lives of those around us. Stir up in us the flame of that love which burned in the heart of your Son as he bore his passion, and let it burn in us to eternal life and to the ages of ages. Amen.

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April 9—Maundy Thursday

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ 1 Corinthians 11:23-24

Eternal Spirit of Justice and Love, at this time of Thanksgiving we would be aware of our dependence on the earth and on the sustaining presence of other human beings both living and gone before us. As we partake of bread and wine, may we remember that there are many for whom sufficient bread is a luxury, or for whom wine, when attainable is only an escape. Let our thanksgiving for Life’s bounty include a commitment to changing the world, that those who are now hungry may be filled and those without hope may be give courage. Amen.

Congregation of Abraxas

April 10—Good Friday

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. John 19:30

Stretching out Thy divine hands upon the Cross, Thou hast joined together that which before was divided, and by Thy mediation Thou hast offered as a gift to the Father the nature of mortal man, that was under condemnation. Therefore we sing the praises of Thy sinless Crucifixion.

Joseph the Studite

April 11—Holy Saturday

So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Matt 27:59-60

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on his holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

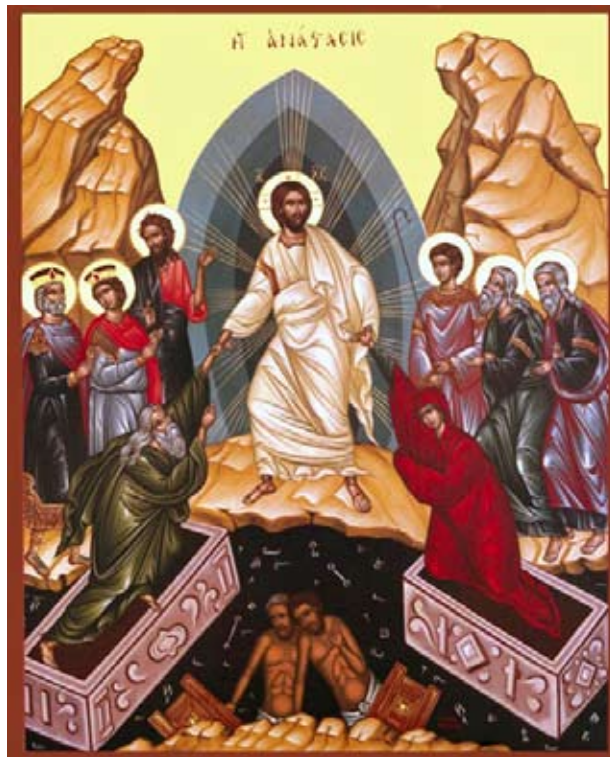
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April 12—Easter Sunday
Holy Eucharist at 8, 10:30 and 6

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Matthew 16:5-6

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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Prayer Resources

Most of the prayers in this volume were taken from this collection of prayers. You might enjoy these books in your prayer life. Please speak with Scott or Melody if you would like to talk about prayer or to pray together.

Book of Common Prayer. 1979.

Appleton, George. *The Oxford Book of Prayer.* Oxford University Press, 2002.

Foster, Richard J. *Prayers from the Heart.* HarperOne, 1994.

Hauerwas, Stanley M. *Prayers Plainly Spoken.* Wipf & Stock, 2003.

Roberts, Elizabeth. *Earth Prayers From around the World: 365 Prayers, Poems, and Invocations for Honoring the Earth.* HarperOne, 1991.

The Episcopal Church welcomes you!

Sundays at Christ Church

HOLY EUCHARIST (quiet, no music) – 8 .m.

HOLY EUCHARIST (joyous music) – 10:30 a.m.

CLASSES FOR ALL AGES – 9:15 a.m.

EMMAUS (ancient, casual, thoughtful worship) – 6 p.m.

Wednesdays

HOLY EUCHARIST with meditations on the lives of saints – 6:15 p.m.

Holy Days

Holy Eucharist as announced

*To learn more about the life and ministries of Christ Church,
contact our Parish Office or speak with our clergy.*

christ church

1643 Lonsdale Avenue
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

(401) 725-1920

www.christchurchlincoln.org