

A GUIDE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

Using Scripture References and Questions from our Lenten Worship Series Steadfast Love: A Lenten Playlist

Music is a vital part of worship and a powerful tool for contemplation. As you let music guide your Lenten journey, consider: **How do I use music to improve my overall wellness?** How do the internal songs and comments that play repeatedly in my mind impact my connection with God and help or hinder my personal growth?

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 – SUSTAIN IN ME – PSALM 51:1-17 SONG: "FIX YOU" BY COLDPLAY

What strengthens and nourishes my body, mind, and soul? Am I moving forward on my discipleship journey, prioritizing the things that bring me healing and wholeness?

Am I paying attention to my relationships with God and neighbor? How am I encouraging and keeping others accountable?

Invitation: Come and worship; come hungry and worship with joy.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9 – RESCUE ME – PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16; LUKE 4:1-13 SONG; "RISE UP" BY ANDRA DAY

How has difficulty and distress affected my capacity for growth? Where in my life am I calling out for rescue, and how is God calling me to reach out in love to rescue my neighbor?

What if the heart of Lenten examination is about how I live in community and how I love?

Invitation – to live obediently, loving unreservedly, hoping to rescue and be rescued by brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16 - CONCEAL ME - PSALM 27; LUKE 13:31-35 - SONG - "HEAD ABOVE WATER" BY AVRIL LAVIGNE

Do I have a safe place to withdraw – to breathe and to be? How do I fight fear, worry, and anxiety?

Do I look for ways to provide sanctuary for others in our broken world?

Invitation: to fight fear by filling our lives with the search for God, intentionally seeking God's face in all situations, circumstances, and the faces of others.

SUNDAY, MARCH 23 -MY SOUL CLINGS - PSALM 63:1-8; LUKE 13:1-9 SONG: "LIGHT OF HOME" BY U2

To what do I cling? When I am surrounded by chaos and turmoil, how do I find security, confidence, and home in God? How do I meditate on (remember)the moments that I have been closest to God?

Invitation: remember that even in the dark night, now is the time to cling to life, the full and fruitful life.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30 - STEADFAST LOVE - PSALM 32; LUKE 15:1-3,11B-32 SONG - "RAINBOW" BY KACEY MUSGRAVES

How have I seen God's devout loving-kindness and mercy? Do I include confession in my prayers and praise God for offering undeserved grace?

Invitation: remove anything that gets in the way of a close relationship with God and full communion with the Spirit. Choose to live in joy; breathe deeply in the steadfast love that surrounds you.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 - FILL ME WITH LAUGHTER - PSALM 126:1-2 SONG - "COVER ME IN SUNSHINE" BY PINK

What gives me all that I need and want? What fills me with joy and delight? How do I express my gratitude to God and to others?

Invitation – see hope and live in confidence that all is well.

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13 - OPEN THE GATES - PSALM 31: 9-16; PSALM 118, 1-2, 19-29; LUKE 19:28-40; LUKE 22:14-23:56 - SONG - "YOU WILL BE FOUND" FROM DEAR EVAN HANSEN

Do I claim Christ one moment and reject Him the next moment?

If I were in the crowd during Jesus' triumphant entry, what would I be thinking and hoping for? Would I follow Him, knowing what happens at the end of the week?

Invitation – be open to hope and pain; face the reality of sin and being saved.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17 - YOU HAVE LOOSED MY BONDS - PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19; JOHN 13:1-17, 31B-35 - SONG - "STAND UP" BY CYNTHIA ERIVO

How do I model service in humble ways? How do sacraments strengthen my faith? Commandment – love one another. Just as Christ loved us, we should love one another.

Prayer –Dear God, I give thanks for this holy mystery in which [Jesus] has given Himself to me. Grant that I may go into the world in the strength of the Spirit, to give myself to others.

Amen

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18 – DO NOT BE FAR FROM ME- PSALM 22, JOHN 18:1-19, 42 SONGS –"STRANGE FRUIT" BY BILLIE HOLLIDAY, "THE HANGING TREE" FROM THE HUNGER GAMES.

What's good about Good Friday? How does God's steadfast love strengthen you to be present and tell the truth in the face of sin and evil in the world?

Invitation – Spend time in silence, meditating on the awe, the necessity, and the extreme suffering of Christ's sacrifice.