

Returning to God

Theme: Turning Toward the Cross – Learning the Way of Love

Monday (March 9)

Scripture

Luke 9:23 – “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

Reflection

Lent turns our eyes toward the cross—the place where love is costly and grace is abundant. Following Jesus is not only a one-time decision but a daily choice to surrender pride, fear, and self-centeredness. Taking up the cross means choosing forgiveness instead of resentment, generosity instead of scarcity, and trust instead of control. Each small act of faith becomes a step closer to the heart of Christ.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, teach me what it means to take up my cross and follow you. Help me choose love, humility, and faithfulness today. Amen.

Tuesday (March 10)

Scripture

John 13:14–15 – “If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.”

Reflection

On the night before the cross, Jesus knelt to wash his disciples’ feet—an act of humble service that turned expectations upside down. Lent invites us to notice the ordinary opportunities to serve: a listening ear, a kind word, a helping hand. When we serve others, we mirror Christ’s love and discover that true greatness is found in humility.

Prayer

Servant Lord, open my eyes to opportunities to serve. Give me a humble heart and willing hands to love others as you have loved me. Amen.

Wednesday (March 11)

Scripture

Micah 6:8 – “What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

Reflection

God’s call is beautifully simple and deeply challenging. Lent gives us space to examine our lives and ask where we might grow in justice, kindness, and humility. Walking humbly with God means listening before speaking, showing compassion before judgment, and trusting God’s guidance above our own certainty.

Prayer

God of justice and mercy, guide my steps. Help me act with compassion, speak with kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen.

Thursday (March 12)

Scripture

Romans 12:12 – “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.”

Reflection

Faith is shaped in the tension between hope and hardship. Lent reminds us that prayer is not only for moments of crisis but for daily perseverance. When we continue to pray—even when answers seem delayed—we place our trust in God’s faithful presence and timing. Prayer becomes the steady rhythm that carries us forward.

Prayer

Faithful God, strengthen my hope, deepen my patience, and sustain my prayer. Help me trust you through every challenge. Amen.

Friday (March 13)

Scripture

Isaiah 53:5 – “By his wounds we are healed.”

Reflection

The cross reveals a God who enters human suffering rather than standing far away from it. In Christ’s wounds we see both the depth of human pain and the power of divine love. Lent invites us to bring our brokenness honestly before God, trusting that healing often begins where we allow grace to meet our vulnerability.

Friday (March 6)

Prayer

Healing Savior, bring your grace to the broken places in my life and in the world. Help me trust in your redeeming love. Amen.

Saturday (March 14)

Scripture

Hebrews 12:1 – “Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.”

Reflection

The journey of faith is more like a marathon than a sprint. There are days of energy and days of weariness, yet God invites us to keep moving forward. Lent encourages steady faithfulness—small prayers, quiet acts of love, and daily trust that God is shaping us along the way.

Prayer

God of endurance, give me strength for the journey. Help me continue in faith, trusting your guidance each step of the way. Amen.

Sunday (March 15)

Scripture

John 12:24 – “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”

Reflection

Jesus teaches that new life often begins with surrender. Lent invites us to release what we cling to—habits, fears, or expectations—and trust that God can bring growth from what feels like loss. When we place our lives into God’s hands, we discover that God’s transforming love always leads to new life.

Prayer

Life-giving God, help me trust that you bring new life from surrender. Receive my life and use it to bear fruit for your kingdom. Amen.

