

# Lenten 2022 Devotionals

## First Week of Lent



**Ash Wednesday - Service @ church, 5pm**

### Thursday March 3

**Scripture** - Genesis 3:19 - By the sweat of your brow you will eat bread, until you return to the earth, just as you were taken from it. You are dust, and to dust you will return.

**Reflection** - A good spiritual life connects us to where we come from, even in the midst of where we are now. It gives us roots. What gives you roots? What feeds your Spirit from where you've come and where you are now?

**Prayer** - God of our past, help us to remember where we've come from and move us into a future that you envision for our lives as individuals and our place in your kingdom. Amen.

### Friday March 4

**Scripture** - John 16:33- I have told you this that in me you may find peace. You will suffer in the world. But take courage! I have overcome the world.

**Reflection** - The life of Jesus is not a monument to the past; it is an invitation to the fullness of our own futures. What invitations are you currently feeling called toward?

**Prayer** - Suffering God, help us to see suffering as opportunities for growth and solidarity with others. Lead us into a future of your design. Amen.

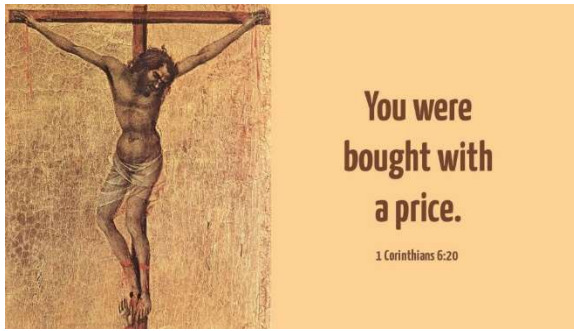
### Saturday March 5

**Scripture** - 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God didn't give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, of self-discipline.

**Reflection** - To live for lesser things of life is to risk not really living at all. What risks are you willing to take in your life to lead a life with more power, love and self-discipline?

**Prayer** - Brave God, make us more like you. Help us to put aside all those doubts, insecurities and hurdles that hold us back from taking more risks for your sake. Amen.

**Sunday March 6 - service @ church 10:45am**



## Monday March 7

**Scripture** - John 12:1-8 - Six days before Passover, Jesus went to Bethany, the village of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they gave a banquet in Jesus' honor, at which Martha served. Lazarus was one of those at the table. Mary brought a pound of costly ointment, pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus, wiping them with her hair. The house was full of the scent of the ointment. Judas Iscariot, one of the disciples; the one who was to betray Jesus, protested. Why wasn't this ointment sold? It could have brought nearly a year's wages, and the money been given to poor people! Judas didn't say this because he was concerned for poor people, but because he was a thief. He was in charge of the common fund and would help himself to it. So Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial. You have poor people with you always. But you won't always have me."

**Reflection** - Lent confirms, there are some things worth living for, even if we find ourselves having to die for them as well. Reflect on living and dying with Christ.

**Prayer** - Creator and destroyer God, help us to value death in you over a life of vanity and greed. Show us how to live and die well in you. Amen.

## Tuesday March 8

**Scripture** - John 1: 38-41 -When Jesus turned around and noticed them following, he asked them, "what are you looking for?" They replied "Rabbi" which means teacher, "where are you staying?" "Come and see!" Jesus answered. So they went to see where he was staying, and they spent the rest of the day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. One of the two who had followed Jesus after hearing John was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. The first thing Andrew did was to find Simon Peter and say, "we've found the Messiah!" which means "the Anointed One."

**Reflection** - Lent is not a ritual. It is time given to think seriously about who Jesus is for us, to renew our faith from the inside out. What will this practice mean for you this Lenten season?

**Prayer** - God of our lives, help us to stay present and mindful of your work in the world and within us. Amen.

Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.