

OUR BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?



These promises are made as part of The Baptismal Covenant, found in The Book of Common Prayer, pages 304-305.

WORD OF THE WEEK: WELCOME

Bienvenue
velkommen velkommen
Добро
dobrodošli
willkommen
powitanie
स्वागत
vítejte
Sveiki
merhba
welkom vitajte
venit
benvenuto
bem-vindo ati
fáilte
fogadtatás
bienvenida
welcome
Benvido
teretelnud

A SEASON OF PRAYER: 40 DAYS IN THE DESERT



WEEK 1

Exile, hospitality, and migration are recurrent themes in the Bible and throughout the history of the church. As we grapple with these issues as Christians, we invite you to make these prayers and scriptural passages part of your Lenten devotions. May they help guide your Lenten journey and help us find in Christ our Promised Land.

Starting on Ash Wednesday and continuing through each day of Lent, we offer a prayer or psalm from *The Book of Common Prayer* or a passage from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. You can find these prayers and scriptures, along with additional resources, at ForwardMovement.org/SeasonOfPrayer. We invite you to follow Forward Movement on Facebook and share these Lenten resources with friends, in person and online.

PRAYERS AND SCRIPTURES FOR WEEK 1

Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday

Give thanksgiving for the diversity of races and cultures

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Thursday, March 2

Luke 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who

fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Friday, March 3

Pray for our enemies

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Saturday, March 4

John 4:3-9, 27-30

[Jesus] left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)...Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Sunday, March 5

Watch

Archbishop Justin Welby: "Hospitality and love are our most formidable weapons." In this inspiring video, Archbishop Welby reminds us that "Jesus was a refugee" and encourages us to keep giving asylum to those escaping war and oppression—especially children. Watch this video at <https://youtu.be/vzBsywB-Sg8>.