

WOMEN'S STUDY

Wednesday, March 3

THE PRAYERS

PLEASE KNEEL.

Leader: And so are we gathered here, uniquely in all of history, we

particular people in this singular time and place. **People**: Accomplish your purposes among us, O God.

Leader: Tune our hearts to the voice of your Spirit.

People: Wake us to be present to you and to one another in these shared hours

we are given.

Leader: For it is you, O Lord, who have so gathered us from our various

places,

People: and you alone who know our hearts and our needs.

Leader: Among us are some who arrive anxious, some who are lonely,

some who suffer pain or sorrow.

People: May we in our joys find grace to enter the sorrows of others.

Leader: Among us are some who arrive rejoicing, hearts made light by

good news, good health, glad anticipation.

People: May we in our sorrows find grace to embrace the joys of others.

Leader: Let us prize these moments and care for one another deeply—for each of us, and our relationships to one another, are precious and fleeting.

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord; **People**: *And grant us your salvation.*

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness

People: Let your people sing with joy.

Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world; **People:** For only in you can we live in safety.

Leader: Lord, keep this nation under your care; **People:** *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

Leader: Let your way be known upon the earth; **People:** *Your saving health among all nations.*

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten; **People:** *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God; **People**: *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of our hearts be

acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our rock our my redeemer.

People: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

And God spoke all these words: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

- 1. You shall have no other gods before me.
- 2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- 3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.
- 5. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
- 6. You shall not murder.
- 7. You shall not commit adultery.
- 8. You shall not steal.
- 9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

LESSON: KIM HALL "THE FOURTH WORD PART 2"

What did it mean to "keep the Sabbath holy" in the Ist-century?
Matthew 11:28-29 - 12:8. What can we learn about the Sabbath from this gospel account?
Sabbath as shadow (Colossians 2:16-17; Hebrews 10:1; 1 Cor. 7:17-19).
Notice the things Jesus did on the Sabbath
What does the 'Fourth Word' mean to God's household in 2021?
Old Covenant v. New Covenant (Acts 15:28-29; Romans 14:5-6; Galatians 4:8-11)
How can we get better at "shabbatting"? What is required of us?

QUESTIONS:

1) If the OT Sabbath was a step of faith that trusted God to provide for his people, do my patterns of work + sabbath rest show that I trust God to provide?

2) Is my life structured according to a pattern of disciplined work and real sabbath rest? Or am I caught up in a ceaseless cycle of stress/sloth?

3) Does my daily/weekly/monthly work + sabbath rest suggest that I am restfully present with our Father, creation, and others?

4) Am I actively offering Sabbath rest to others?

COMPARATIVE STUDY : SHELLEY MALACHOWSKI "SHECHEM"

(please stand)

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. (Words: Thomas Ken, Music: Louis Bourgeois)

BENEDICTION

Leader: O Lord, guide us waking and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and friend; and the love of God, binding us together and building us up, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit; knitting us together, be with us until we meet again.

People: Amen.

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. They are set in the Revised Common Lectionary, a schedule of daily Bible reading in accord with the Church year. They are designed around a two-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently. We are currently in the ™Year 1 cycle.

Daily Lectionary Mar 4 - Mar 10

Thur, Mar 4

Ps. 71 / 74 Jer. 4:9-10. 19-28 Rom. 2:12-24 John 5:19-29

Fri, Mar 5

Ps. 69 / 73 Jer. 5:1-9 Rom. 2:25-3:18 John 5:30-47

Sat, Mar 6

Ps. 75-76 / 23, 27 Jer. 5:20-31 Rom. 3:19-31 John 7:1-13

Sun, Mar 7

Ps. 93, 96 / 34 Mark 5:1-20

Mon, Mar 8

Ps. 80 / 77 Jer. 7:1-15 Rom. 4:1-12 John 7:14-36

Tue, Mar 9

Ps. 78:1-39 / 40-72 Jer. 7:21-34 Rom. 4:13-25 John 7:37-52

Wed, Mar 10

Ps. 119:97-120 / 81-82 Jer. 8:18-9:6 Rom. 5:1-11 John 8:12-20

DAILY LECTIONARY MEDITATIONS

Attend:

Take a few moments to sit quietly and scan the events of the previous day and the circumstances presented today. Pay attention to the inner conversations and words, both said and unsaid, that have occupied your heart and mind. Offer these cares to our Father, and in doing so, make space for his life-giving word to you.

Meditate:

Carefully read or listen to the passages from the Old and New Testaments.

What message is the author aiming to communicate?

What imagery does he use to convey his message?

What is God revealing or illuminating?

What questions do you have about either passage?

Why do you think these two texts were paired together in this season of Epiphany?

What do these particular scriptures have to say to those who would 'wear' the name of Christ?

Respond:

Consider the concerns and the words you offered to the Father a few minutes ago. How has his word been a light to your path and lamp to your way? How are the Father and the Son worthy of your believing loyalty, your affection, and your praise?

LET THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH

Song by Fernando Ortega

Let the words of my mouth be pleasing to You

The meditation of my heart be pleasing to you Oh Lord, my strength And my Redeemer

> Whatever is true Whatever is pure Whatever is lovely Whatever is worthy

Think on these things Let the words of my mouth Be pleasing to You