



ALL SAINTS

PRESBYTERIAN

WOMEN'S STUDY

Wednesday, February 24

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 gracea 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.

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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"

A) sabbat (to cease from work)

B) nuakh (to dwell with; settle; be restfully present)

C) melachot (constructive, creative effort, demonstrating dominion over nature)

D) shamar (to guard; keep; carefully preserve)

E) oneg (to delight; treat as a delicacy)

1. What is the purpose of the Fourth Word to ancient Israel?

2. What was the meaning in the 1st century Israel?

3. What is the meaning of the Fourth Word to the family of God in 2021?

And what rest is there in the rooms we keep?
The rich may rest my friend. It's their real power.
Daily the traffic wakes.
Our narrow winding streets, or narrow drives
Make sleep impossible the lifelong night
Yet the rich man's paths are always cut,
And shoulder-high he's borne on four slaves.
~ Juvenal, Decimus Julius (trans. Jerome Mazzaro)

BLESSING FOR LIGHTING OF SHABBAT CANDLES
*"Blessed are you, God, King of the Universe
Who made us holy with his commandments
And commanded us to kindle the Shabbat light"*

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- 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?

COMPARATIVE STUDY : SHELLEY MALACHOWSKI "JERICHO AND AI"

(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 TMYear 1 cycle.

DAILY LECTIONARY

FEB 25 - MAR 3

Thur, Feb 25

Ps. 50 / 19, 46
Deut. 9:23-10:5
Heb. 4:1-10
John 3:16-21

Fri, Feb 26

Ps. 40, 54 / 51
Deut. 10:12-22
Heb. 4:11-16
John 3:22-36

Sat, Feb 27

Ps. 55 / 138-139
Deut. 11:18-28
Heb. 5:1-10
John 4:1-26

Sun, Feb 28

Ps. 24, 29 / 8, 84
Mark 3:31-4:9

Mon, Mar 1

Ps. 56, 57 / 64-65
Jer. 1:11-19
Rom. 1:1-15
John 4:27-42

Tue, Mar 2

Ps. 61-62 / 68
Jer. 2:1-13
Rom. 1:16-25
John 4:43-54

Wed, Mar 3

Ps. 72 / 119:73-96
Jer. 3:6-18
Rom. 1:28-2:11
John 5:1-18

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?

YOUR MERCY

*I once was lost I walked away
The road was dark I could not see
My hope was gone the pain was real
But your mercy*

*Your loving-kindness
It leads me to repentance
Your loving-kindness
It leads me to repentance*

*You saw my steps you felt my fears
You heard my cries you caught my tears
Arms open wide you ran to me
With your mercy*

*Lord let your kindness
Lead us to repentance
Lord let your kindness
Lead us to repentance*

*Your mercy Your mercy
I stand before my king
And bow my heart to sing
You save me You raise me
You died so I could live
No greater love than this
Your mercy*

*Your mercy Your mercy
I stand before my king And I bow my
heart to sing
You save me You raise me You died so
I could live
No greater love than this*

*You gave me life beyond the grave
My deepest shame is cast away
You sing a song that covers me
It's your mercy*

*Your mercy Your mercy
I stand before my king And I bow my
heart to sing
You save me You raise me You died so
I could live
No greater love than this
Your mercy, Your mercy,*

*Your mercy Your mercy
I stand before my king
And I bow my heart to sing
You save me You raise me
You died so I could live
No greater love than this
Your mercy, Your mercy*

Lord Your mercy, Your mercy