

Devotions for the Season of Lent - 2019

*A Generous
God,
A Generous
People*

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Bel Air, Maryland

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A pattern for household devotions, first week of Lent:

Open by saying: We gather in the name of God, our Creator; Jesus, our Savior; and the Spirit, our Sustainer. Amen.

Light a candle, saying: You are the light of Christ. May we grow in God's grace and generosity at home and away.

Read the daily reading.

Read the daily question and talk about your responses.

Sing or pray:

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Bless each other, marking the sign of the cross on each others' foreheads or hands, and saying: [Name], you are created in the image of a generous God.

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 18:1-9
- Question: How is God generous to children?

Thursday, March 7, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 18:10-14
- Question: How is God generous in this story?

Friday, March 8, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 12:22-37
- Question: How was Jesus generous to the man who could not speak or see?

Saturday, March 9, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 12:38-42
- Question: What signs has God given you?

Sunday, March 10, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 18:15-35
- Question: How has God been generous in forgiving us? What makes it hard to be generous in forgiving others?

Monday, March 11, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 19:1-12
- Question: How was this teaching generous to women in a culture where they were economically dependent on men?

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 19:13-15
- Question: How was Jesus generous to these families?

A pattern for household devotions, second week of Lent:

Open by saying: We gather in the name of God, our Creator; Jesus, our Savior; and the Spirit, our Sustainer. Amen.

Light a candle, saying: You are the light of Christ. May we grow in God's grace and generosity at home and away.

Read the daily reading.

Read the daily question and talk about your responses.

Sing or pray:

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Bless each other, marking the sign of the cross on each others' foreheads or hands, and saying: [Name], you are created in the image of a generous God.

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

- Reading: Genesis 1:27-31a
- Question: How is God generous in this story?

Thursday, March 14, 2019

- Reading: Genesis 9:1-7
- Question: If someone is made in God's image, how do they act? How do you mirror God in your actions?

Friday, March 15, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 19:16-22
- Question: How was Jesus generous to the rich young man?

Saturday, March 16, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 19:23-30
- Question: Share a time when something seemed impossible but worked out after all.

Sunday, March 17, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 20:1-16
- Question: How is God generous in this story?

Monday, March 18, 2019

- Reading: Psalm 78:1-17
- Question: What is the best thing about being your age?

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 20:17-19
- Question: This is the third time Jesus has told his disciples about his death and resurrection. How is he generous here?

A pattern for household devotions, third week of Lent:

Open by saying: We gather in the name of God, our Creator; Jesus, our Savior; and the Spirit, our Sustainer. Amen.

Light a candle, saying: You are the light of Christ. May we grow in God's grace and generosity at home and away.

Read the daily reading.

Read the daily question and talk about your responses.

Sing or pray:

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Bless each other, marking the sign of the cross on each others' foreheads or hands, and saying: [Name], you are created in the image of a generous God.

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

- Reading: John 6:1-14
- Question: How is God generous in this story? What is a gift you have that you can share?

Thursday, March 21, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 20:20-23
- Question: How can wanting “the best” for our families be at odds with modeling generosity?

Friday, March 22, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 20:24-28
- Question: How is serving others an act of generosity?

Saturday, March 23, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 20:29-34
- Question: How is Jesus generous in this story?

Sunday, March 24, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 22:1-14
- Question: How is God generous in this story?

Monday, March 25, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 22:15-22
- Question: What belongs to God? How are you a steward?

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 22:23-33
- Question: How can we be generous in caring for people left in vulnerable situations when a loved one dies?

A pattern for household devotions, fourth week of Lent:

Open by saying: We gather in the name of God, our Creator; Jesus, our Savior; and the Spirit, our Sustainer. Amen.

Light a candle, saying: You are the light of Christ. May we grow in God's grace and generosity at home and away.

Read the daily reading.

Read the daily question and talk about your responses.

Sing or pray:

Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
ev'ry power as thou shalt choose.

Bless each other, marking the sign of the cross on each others' foreheads or hands, and saying: [Name], you are created in the image of a generous God.

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

- Reading: Acts 2:41-47
- Question: What is your favorite possession? Would it be hard to give it away? Why or why not?

Thursday, March 28, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 22:34-40
- Question: How do you use your money in ways that express love for God and love for your neighbor?

Friday, March 29, 2019

- Reading: Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- Question: How does your faith guide your use of money?

Saturday, March 30, 2019

- Reading: Leviticus 19:17-18
- Question: How is your attitude toward money influenced by peers, family, society or other?

Sunday, March 31, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 25:1-13
- Question: The wise bridesmaids don't share their oil. Are there times when it is unwise for us to be generous?

Monday, April 1, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 22:41-46
- Question: What question do you want to ask Jesus?

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 23:1-12

- Question: Who is a good model for you of being generous, someone who *does* practice what they teach? How?

A pattern for household devotions, fifth week of Lent:

Open by saying: We gather in the name of God, our Creator; Jesus, our Savior; and the Spirit, our Sustainer. Amen.

Light a candle, saying: You are the light of Christ. May we grow in God's grace and generosity at home and away.

Read the daily reading.

Read the daily question and talk about your responses.

Sing or pray:

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Bless each other, marking the sign of the cross on each others' foreheads or hands, and saying: [Name], you are created in the image of a generous God.

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

- Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9
- Question: When have you been surprised by someone's unexpected generosity?

Thursday, April 4, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 23:13-26
- Question: Jesus chides the Pharisees for neglecting justice, mercy, and faith. How could you be more attentive to practicing your faith in daily life?

Friday, April 5, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 23:27-36
- Question: Jesus taught his disciples to pray, fast, and give in secret (Mt. 6) – not for show. Do you give in secret?

Saturday, April 6, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 23:37-39
- Question: How is the “mother hen” an image of generosity?

Sunday, April 7, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 25:31-46
- Question: Where do you see generosity in this story?

Monday, April 8, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 24:1-14
- Question: What keeps your love of God and neighbor “warm” amid challenges to your faith?

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 24:15-29

A devotional adaptation from **The Generosity Project: 5G**, ELCA, 2018. <https://www.elca.org/generosityproject>
The Generosity Project Coordinator, linda@homegrownfaith.net Focused on the Narrative Lectionary,
<http://narrativelectionary.org>, with Bible readings from the Narrative Lectionary Daily Bible Readings Calendar,
Spirit & Truth Publishing <https://spiritandtruthpublishing.com/calendar/>

- Question: How can people be led astray in their generosity?

A pattern for household devotions, sixth week of Lent:

Open by saying: We gather in the name of God, our Creator; Jesus, our Savior; and the Spirit, our Sustainer. Amen.

Light a candle, saying: You are the light of Christ. May we grow in God's grace and generosity at home and away.

Read the daily reading.

Read the daily question and talk about your responses.

Sing or pray:

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Bless each other, marking the sign of the cross on each others' foreheads or hands, and saying: [Name], you are created in the image of a generous God.

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 19:23-30
- Question: Jesus said, “Now the first will be last, and many who are last will be first.” What do you think he meant?

Thursday, April 11, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 24:30-35
- Question: Jesus gives many signs of the end of the age. What signs indicate generosity while we await that day?

Friday, April 12, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 24:36-44
- Question: How can we live generously, not knowing when Jesus will return?

Saturday, April 13, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 24:45-51
- Question: How has God blessed you to be a faithful and wise manager of the things God has given you?

Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 21:1-17
- Question: Where do you see generosity in this story?

Monday, April 15, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 21:23-32
- Question: When have you changed your mind about taking a generous action? What did you experience?

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 26:1-13
- Question: How was the woman with the jar generous?

A pattern for household devotions, seventh week of Lent:

Open by saying: We gather in the name of God, our Creator; Jesus, our Savior; and the Spirit, our Sustainer. Amen.

Light a candle, saying: You are the light of Christ. May we grow in God's grace and generosity at home and away.

Read the daily reading.

Read the daily question and talk about your responses.

Sing or pray:

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Bless each other, marking the sign of the cross on each others' foreheads or hands, and saying: [Name], you are created in the image of a generous God.

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 26:14-16
- Question: Why do you think Judas thought thirty pieces of silver was worth betraying Jesus?

Maundy Thursday, April 18, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 26:17-30
- Question: How was Jesus generous at this meal?

Good Friday, April 19, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 27:27-61
- Question: Where do you see generosity in this account?

Saturday, April 20, 2019

- Reading: Psalm 22:1-11
- Question: What generous actions of God does the Psalmist recall?

Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019

- Reading: Matthew 28:1-10
- Question: How is God generous in this account?

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