

MARCH 10, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY
IN LENT



Jesus speaks God's word faithfully.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 4:1-13	The temptation of Jesus
Monday	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	A confession of faith
Tuesday	Romans 10:8b-13	Salvation is for all
Wednesday	Zechariah 3:1-10	The Lord clothes Joshua
Thursday	1 John 2:1-6	Christ helps us
Friday	Job 1:1-22	Job and his family
Saturday	Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16	The Lord is my fortress
Sunday	Luke 13:31-35	Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus answered [the devil], "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" **Luke 4:8 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God of truth, your word is true and in you only can we trust. Thank you for Jesus, the one whose trust in you is our hope and salvation. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

We thank you for this gift of food to satisfy us and to remind us of your care and saving presence. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord your God be with you in times of trouble and rescue you and honor you all the days of your life. (Psalm 91:15)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Lord, Speak to Us,
that We May Speak*



CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What does it mean to be a good listener?
- What gets in the way of good listening?
- In Luke 4, the devil valued himself at the center of the universe. Jesus places God at the center. When we see ourselves as the most important part of a conversation, how does that influence how we listen to others?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 4:1-13.

This story is often called the "Temptation of Jesus." That description focuses on Jesus' ability to resist sin. However, the Hebrew word for "tempted" can also be translated as "tested." This other translation is helpful since the story is more about testing Jesus to see what kind of messiah he plans to be, one who seeks personal power and prestige, or one who is faithful to the God of the Bible. When the focus is on temptation, we can easily miss how we, like the devil, can try to change Jesus into someone who serves our desires for personal importance. Both Jesus and the devil quote Scripture. We can use the Bible and our faith in unfaithful ways. Part of our sinfulness is to make Jesus into someone who serves our desires instead of the one who points us to worship and trust God to take care of our real needs. Think about or discuss how Jesus is our Savior by overcoming evil and idolatry (desire for personal power and glory) and by placing his trust in God.

Pray: **Dear God, we thank you that Jesus speaks your word faithfully; help us to listen to your word and trust in you. Amen.**

SERVICE



Romans 10:8b states, "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim)." Confessing faith in the Lord not only assures you of your salvation, but is a source of proclamation so that others may be encouraged to have faith in Christ. The Reformation theme of the priesthood of all believers includes our calling to tell others of the good news of Jesus Christ. Use your voice this week to affirm faith in Jesus. It may be as simple as a table grace, nighttime prayer, or blessing given to a family member or friend.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



During the forty days of Lent we do not hear the word "Alleluia" spoken or sung during worship. We reflect on repentance and what it means. In Luke 4, Jesus is led by the Spirit to go into the desert for a time of spiritual reflection. Time for spiritual reflection and devotions is a traditional part of the Christian life. Commit to a regular time in your home during Lent when you can read scripture and pray. Place this Taking Faith Home bulletin on a table where you can easily use it to do a portion of it each day.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org