

Daily Bible Readings for March

This month sees the Lenten Journey to its conclusion. The readings that stick out to me as particularly seasonal are the ones from Hebrews. Hebrews is an anonymous letter which focuses on the issue of salvation particularly with reference to the priesthood of Jesus. The priest in Jewish tradition is the one who enters the Holy of Holies in the temple and offers sacrifices to God on behalf of the people. The priest is the mediator between us and God. Christ, the letter argues, is the true high priest, the one who offered the only sacrifice that is necessary, the offering of the Cross. In that event, theologically speaking, Christ became both priest and victim. He offered his life...and his life was the offering. Christ became the one great High Priest who mediates between us and God, the One who bridges the gap between God and us.

Our readings list comes from the Revised Common Lectionary recommended for use by the United Church of Christ and by many other Christian denominations in North America. The daily Bible readings are clustered into weeks with Sunday being the center of each week. The readings for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of each week orient our prayer and preparation for the Sunday lessons; the readings for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday reflect on Sunday's lessons.

In the worship of Grace Church we normally read only two lessons. However, many Sundays the Psalm for the day is also incorporated into the service as a Call to Worship or prayer.

Third Week of Lent

Mar 1	Psalm 19 Exodus 19:1-9a 1 Peter 2:4-10
Mar 2	Psalm 19 Exodus 19:9b-15 Acts 7:30-40
Mar 3	Psalm 19 Exodus 19:16-25 Mark 9:2-8
Mar 4	<i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22
Mar 5	Psalm 84 1 Kings 6:1-4, 21-22 1 Corinthians 3:10-23
Mar 6	Psalm 84 2 Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19 Hebrews 9:23-28
Mar 7	Psalm 84 Ezra 6:1-16 Mark 11:15-19

Fourth Week of Lent

Mar 8	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Genesis 9:8-17 Ephesians 1:3-6
Mar 9	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Daniel 12:5-13 Ephesians 1:7-14
Mar 10	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Numbers 20:22-29 John 3:1-13
Mar 11	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21
Mar 12	Psalm 107:1-16 Exodus 15:22-27 Hebrews 3:1-6
Mar 13	Psalm 107:1-16 Numbers 20:1-13 1 Corinthians 10:6-13
Mar 14	Psalm 107:1-16 Isaiah 60:15-22 John 8:12-20

Fifth Week of Lent

Mar 15 Psalm 51:1-12
Isaiah 30:15-18
Hebrews 4:1-13

Mar 16 Psalm 51:1-12
Exodus 30:1-10
Hebrews 4:14—5:4

Mar 17 Psalm 51:1-12
Habakkuk 3:2-13
John 12:1-11

Mar 18 *Fifth Sunday in Lent*
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

Mar 19 Psalm 119:9-16
Isaiah 43:8-13
2 Corinthians 3:4-11

Mar 20 Psalm 119:9-16
Isaiah 44:1-8
Acts 2:14-24

Mar 21 Psalm 119:9-16
Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23
John 12:34-50

Sixth Week of Lent

Mar 22 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Deuteronomy 16:1-8
Philippians 2:1-11

Mar 23 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Jeremiah 33:1-9
Philippians 2:12-18

Mar 24 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Jeremiah 33:10-16
Mark 10:32-34, 46-52

Mar 25 *Palm/Passion Sunday*
Palms Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
Passion Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1—15:47
or Mark 15:1-39 [40-47]

Mar 26 *Monday of Holy Week*
Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 36:5-11
Hebrews 9:11-15
John 12:1-11

Mar 27 *Tuesday of Holy Week*
Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 71:1-14
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 12:20-36

Mar 28 *Wednesday of Holy Week*
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 70
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13:21-32

Easter

Mar 29 *Holy Thursday*
Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Mar 30 *Good Friday*
Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Heb. 10:16-25 or Heb. 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1—19:42

Mar 31 *Holy Saturday*
Job 14:1-14 or Lam. 3:1-9, 19-24
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16
1 Peter 4:1-8
Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

Apr 1 *Resurrection of the Lord, Easter Day*
Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

Apr 1 *Resurrection of the Lord, Evening*
Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 114
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
Luke 24:13-49

