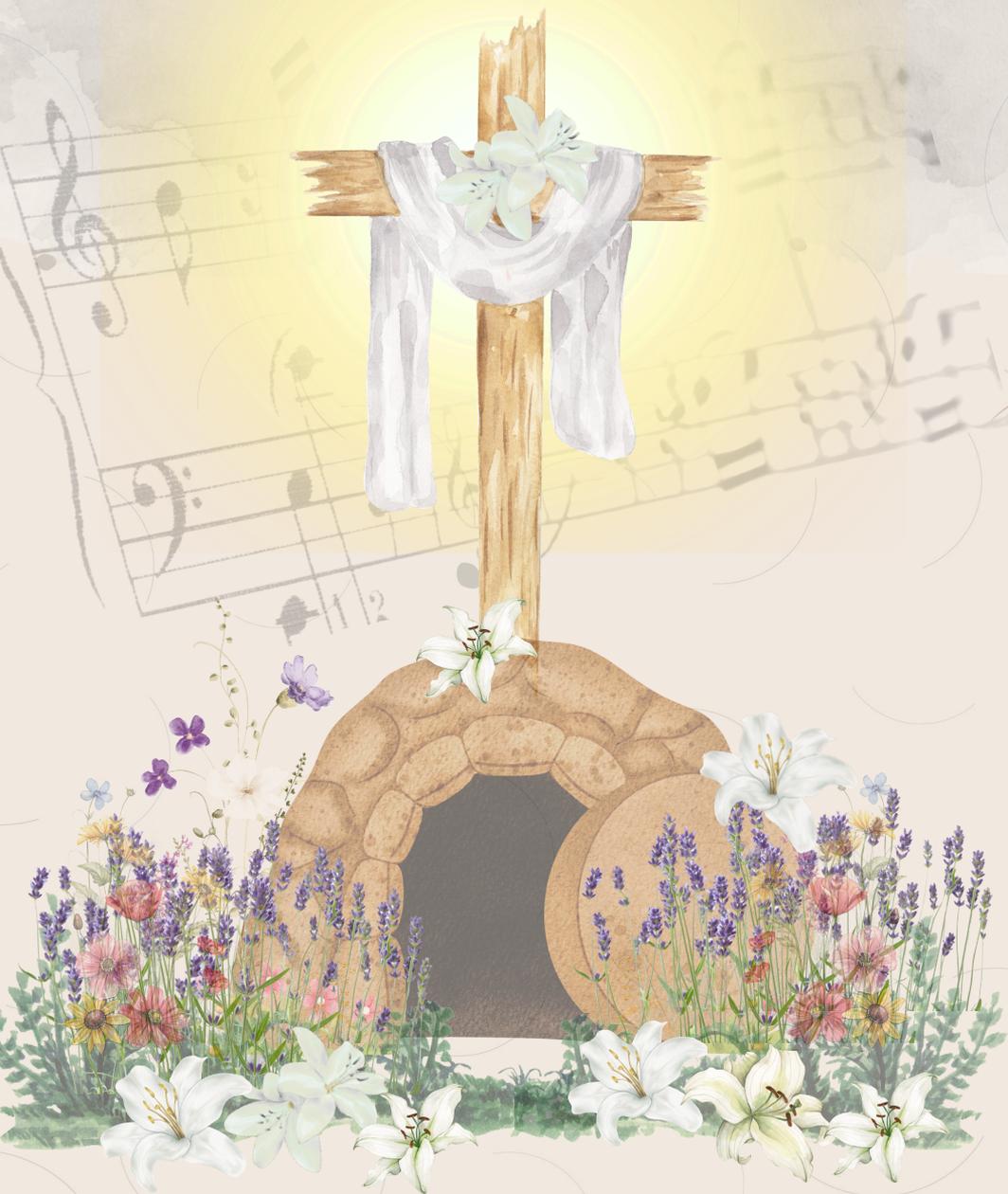


Redeeming Love

2026 Lenten Devotional

Central United Methodist Church Rogers



Pastoral Introduction

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

The season of Lent invites us to slow our pace, examine our hearts, and return to the saving love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. This devotional journey is shaped by hymns of Charles Wesley – a pastor, poet, and theologian whose life was transformed by grace and whose words continue to shape the faith of the church.

Charles Wesley lived much of his early life striving for holiness through discipline and effort, yet he struggled with assurance and peace. Like many of us, he knew the language of faith before he truly rested in grace. It was through a profound encounter with the love of Christ that Wesley came to understand salvation not as something earned, but as a gift freely given. Out of that awakening flowed thousands of hymns – songs of repentance, redemption, assurance, and joyful surrender, numbering more than 6,500 hymns.

Wesley's hymns preach the gospel. They give voice to doubt and hope, to sorrow and praise, and to the redeeming work of Christ on the cross. His lyrics invite us to stand in awe of grace, to trust the sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice, and to allow God's love to continue shaping us into holy lives. As you walk through these forty days, from ashes to the threshold of resurrection, you are invited to linger with these words. Read slowly. Pray honestly. Allow the poetry of faith to open space for reflection, repentance, and renewal. It is my prayer this devotional will guide you into deeper awareness of God's presence and mercy.

May this Lenten journey prepare your heart to encounter the living Christ – crucified, risen, and still singing grace over His people.

In Christ's Redeeming Love,



Reverend Dr. Kerry L. Turnbow



FEBRUARY 18, 2026 – ASH WEDNESDAY

Hymn: “*And Can It Be That I Should Gain*”

Scripture Theme: Romans 5:8

First Verse:

*And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior’s blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*

Reflection:

This hymn stands in holy amazement at the heart of the gospel. Charles Wesley does not soften the truth – Christ died for sinners, even for those who caused His pain. Lent invites us to linger with this unsettling and beautiful reality: grace is not given because we are worthy, but because God is love.

The questions Wesley asks are not doubts, but worship shaped by wonder. At the cross, we discover a love that pursues us even when we turn away. Lent becomes a season of humility and gratitude, where repentance is met not with condemnation, but with mercy beyond measure.

Prayer:

Amazing and grateful God, let me never lose the wonder of Your love. The depth of Your love is nothing my finite, human heart can comprehend. I am grateful that You chose the cross of Christ, given freely for a sinner like me. Draw me into deeper humility, repentance, and joyful gratitude for Your amazing gift of saving Grace. Amen.



FEBRUARY 19, 2026 – THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

Hymn: “Jesus! the Name High Over All”

Scripture Theme: Philippians 2: 9-10

First Verse:

*Jesus! the Name high over all,
In hell, or earth, or sky;
Angels and men before it fall,
And devils fear and fly;
Angels and men before it fall,
And devils fear and fly.*

Reflection:

Charles Wesley lifts our eyes to the majesty and authority of Jesus. This is not poetry of exaggeration, but praise rooted in Scripture. The name of Jesus is not merely a label – it is revelation. It carries His presence, His victory, His mercy, His lordship. Heaven reveres it, earth proclaims it, and darkness trembles before it.

We speak many names in a lifetime: names of leaders, heroes, fears, and desires. Yet only one name saves, heals, and commands the allegiance of all creation. To call upon Jesus is to lean into grace. To trust His name is to anchor our hope in One who has conquered sin and death.

There is comfort here for weary hearts. The name above all names is also the name that welcomes the burdened, forgives the sinner, steadies the anxious, and restores the broken. His exaltation does not distance Him from us – it assures us that the One who walks with us holds all authority.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, Your name is high over all – over my fears, my struggles, my uncertainties. Teach my heart to honor Your name with reverence and love. Let Your authority rule my thoughts, Your mercy shape my actions, and Your presence steady my spirit. I place my trust in You, the Name above every name. Amen.



FEBRUARY 20, 2026 – FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

Hymn: “Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Scripture Theme: Hebrews 9:24

First Verse:

*Arise, my soul, arise;
Shake off thy guilty fears;
The bleeding Sacrifice
In my behalf appears.*

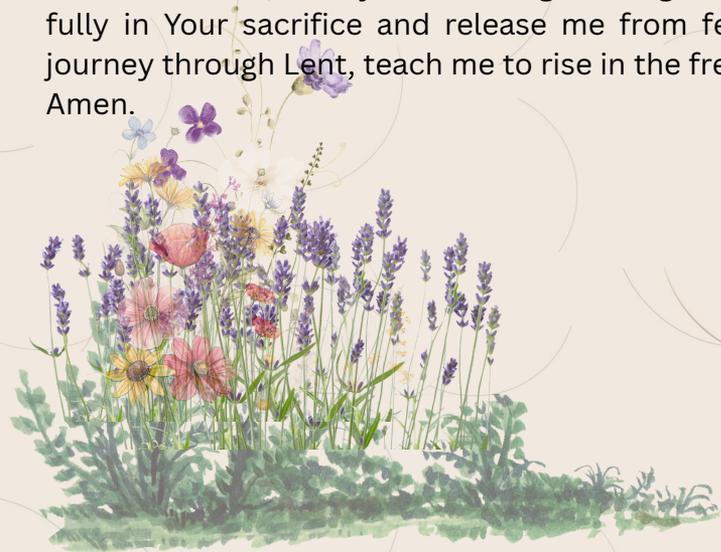
Reflection:

This hymn speaks directly to the heart weighed down by guilt. Lent invites honest confession, but it never leaves us in despair. Charles Wesley points us to the bleeding Sacrifice—Jesus Christ—who stands before God on our behalf. Because of the cross, guilt no longer has authority over us.

To “arise” is an act of faith. It is trusting that Christ’s sacrifice is sufficient, and that grace has already spoken a better word than our fears. Lent becomes a season not of shame, but of rising—freed to live in gratitude and hope.

Prayer:

Gracious Savior, lift my soul when guilt weighs heavy. Help me trust fully in Your sacrifice and release me from fear and shame. As I journey through Lent, teach me to rise in the freedom of Your grace. Amen.



FEBRUARY 21, 2026 – SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

Hymn: “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Scripture Theme: Psalm 103:1-3

First Verse:

*O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer’s praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!*

Reflection:

Sing! Sing for the joy of redemption! Redemption doesn’t silence us – it gives us a reason to sing! Grace sets the heart free to proclaim what Christ has done, the triumph of His grace!

This hymn begins with an overflow of praise born from redemption. Charles Wesley longs for more words, more voices, more life devoted to declaring what God has done. Lent reminds us that praise flows not from perfection, but from grace received. We sing because we have been forgiven, healed, and set free.

As we reflect during this season, our praise is shaped by repentance and gratitude. The “triumphs of His grace” are revealed most clearly at the cross, where mercy overcomes sin and love claims the final word.

Prayer:

Redeeming God, give my life a voice of praise, fill my heart with joy. May I forever proclaim Your glory and triumph of Your grace in word, deed, and faithful devotion. Amen.



FEBRUARY 22, 2026 – FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

This is the Lord's Day – a day of celebration in remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

FEBRUARY 23, 2026 – MONDAY OF WEEK 1 OF LENT

Hymn: “Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love”

Scripture Theme: Ephesians 4:3

First through Fifth Verses:

Blest be the dear uniting love, that will not let us part;

Our bodies may far off remove, we still are one in heart.

Joined in one spirit to our Head, where He appoints we go;

And still in Jesus' footsteps tread, and do His work below.

O may we ever walk in Him, and nothing know beside,

Nothing desire, nothing esteem, but Jesus crucified.

Closer and closer let us cleave to His beloved embrace;

Expect His fullness to receive, and grace to answer grace.

Partakers of the Savior's grace, the same in mind and heart,

Nor joy, nor grief, nor time, nor place, nor life, nor death can part.

Reflection:

These words celebrate one of God's most beautiful gifts: the spiritual bond between believers. Christian unity is more than shared preference, personality, or circumstance – it is a work of the Holy Spirit. It is love rooted in Christ, sustained by grace, and strengthened through humility. Unity is not maintained by avoiding conflict but by walking through it with Christlike hearts.

Such love reflects the very nature of God. The Trinity itself is perfect communion – Father, Son, and Spirit dwelling in eternal harmony. When the church lives in unity, it becomes a living testimony to the world that Christ is present and active among His people.

Prayer:

Lord, unite our hearts in Your love. Teach me to walk in humility, extend grace, and guard the bond of peace. Amen.



FEBRUARY 24, 2026 – TUESDAY OF WEEK 1 OF LENT

Hymn: “Jesus, My Strength, My Hope”

Scripture Theme: 2 Corinthians 12:9

First Verse:

*Jesus, my strength, my hope,
On Thee I cast my care;
With humble confidence look up,
And know Thou hear'st my prayer.*

Reflection:

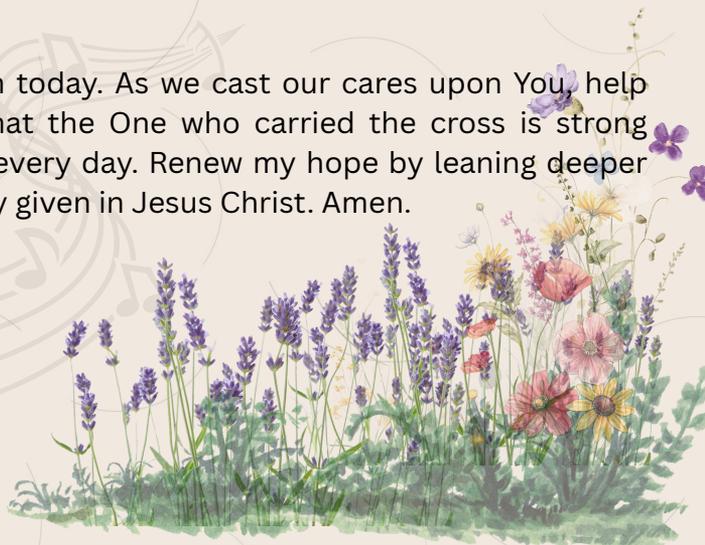
Lent invites us to release the illusion of self-sufficiency and name our need for grace. When Charles Wesley declares, “*Jesus, My Strength, My Hope,*” he confesses a truth at the heart of faith: we do not save ourselves – Christ sustains us.

To call Jesus our strength is to admit our weakness. Lent creates space for honest repentance without despair, because God’s grace meets us before we are ready and carries us when we are not strong enough.

To name Jesus our hope is to trust not in circumstances, but in the faithfulness of God revealed at the cross. Hope in Lent is not optimism, it is surrender.

Prayer:

Lord, be my strength today. As we cast our cares upon You, help me to learn again that the One who carried the cross is strong enough to carry me every day. Renew my hope by leaning deeper into the grace already given in Jesus Christ. Amen.



FEBRUARY 25, 2026 – WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 1 OF LENT

Hymn: “Come Sinners to the Gospel Feast”

Scripture Theme: Luke 14:22-23

First Verse

*Come, sinners, to the gospel feast;
Let every soul be Jesus’ guest;
Ye need not one be left behind,
For God hath bid all humankind.*

Reflection:

This hymn proclaims the wide welcome of God’s grace. Lent reminds us that the gospel invitation is not limited to the prepared or the deserving – Christ calls sinners to the table. Grace is not earned before we come; it is received as we come.

Wesley’s words challenge every barrier we place around God’s mercy. In this season of repentance, we remember that God’s feast is set by love, and the invitation extends to all. Lent becomes a time to accept grace anew and to extend that same welcome to others.

Prayer:

Welcoming God, thank You for the open invitation of Your grace. Draw us to Your table with humble hearts. Fill us with gratitude for mercy received and make us witnesses of Your welcome love. Amen.



FEBRUARY 26, 2026 – THURSDAY OF WEEK 1 OF LENT

Hymn: “O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done”

Scripture Theme: Galatians 2:20

First Verse:

*O Love divine, what hast Thou done!
The immortal God hath died for me;
The Father’s co-eternal Son
Bore all my sins upon the tree.
The immortal God hath died for me!*

Reflection:

This hymn stands in awe of the mystery at the heart of Lent: the immortal God has died. Charles Wesley does not try to explain the cross. He invites us to marvel at it. Divine love is revealed not in power held back, but in life poured out for sinners.

During Lent, we are drawn again to the wonder of Christ’s sacrifice. The cross exposes the depth of our need and the greater depth of God’s love. To dwell with this hymn is to confess that salvation is not something we control or comprehend fully. It is something we receive with humility and gratitude.

Prayer:

Love Divine, we stand in awe of the cross. Thank You for the life of Christ given freely for our salvation. As we journey through Lent, draw us deeper into gratitude, and shape our lives by Your self-giving love. Amen.



FEBRUARY 27, 2026 – FRIDAY OF WEEK 1 OF LENT

Hymn: “Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine”

Scripture Theme: Titus 2:11-12

First Verse:

*Come, let us use the grace divine,
And all with one accord,
In a perpetual covenant
Join ourselves to Christ the Lord.*

Reflection:

This hymn reminds us that grace is not only something we receive – it is something we live. During Lent, we are invited to renew our covenant with God, offering our whole lives in response to Christ’s saving love. Grace empowers us to turn again toward faithfulness, not by our strength, but through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Lent is a season of holy surrender. As we “use the grace divine,” we recommit ourselves to living for God, trusting that Christ’s sacrifice makes such devotion possible.

Prayer:

Faithful God, thank You for the grace You freely give. As we journey through Lent, help each of us renew our covenant with You. Help us walk faithfully in Your grace. Guide our lives by Christ’s love and lead us in faithful obedience. Amen.



FEBRUARY 28, 2026 – SATURDAY OF WEEK 1 OF LENT

Hymn: “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky”

Scripture Theme: Malachi 4:2; John 8:12; and 2 Corinthians 4:6

First Verse:

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph over the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.*

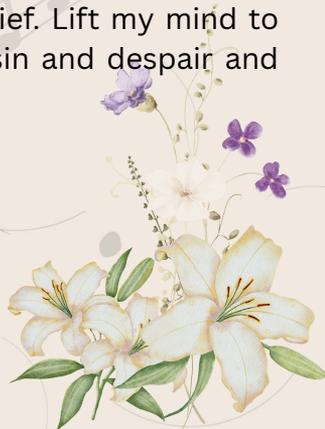
Reflection:

When Wesley first wrote this hymn, he titled it, “A Morning Hymn.” He begins the hymn with a contrast between the light of day and the darkness of night. Wesley then proceeds to use words like Day-star, Dayspring and Sun of Righteousness as personifications of Christ. With the use of these graphic representations of Christ, he lifts our minds to envision Christ’s power over the darkness of sin and despair through the light of redeeming hope.

Just as the sun warms the earth, bringing light and joy as it cast the shadows of night away, the Radiancy Divine scatters our unbelief, removes our sin and grief and fills us with beams of mercy and radiance of warming our hearts.

Prayer:

Radiancy Divine, scatter my thoughts of unbelief. Lift my mind to envision Christ’s power over the darkness of sin and despair and lead me to the light of redeeming hope. Amen.



MARCH 1, 2026 – SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

This is the Lord's Day – a day of celebration in remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

MARCH 2, 2026 – MONDAY OF WEEK 2 OF LENT

Hymn: “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise”

Scripture Theme: Acts 1:9-11

First Verse:

*Hail the day that sees Him rise,
Ravished from our wishful eyes!
Christ, awhile to mortals given,
Reascends His native heaven.*

Reflection:

This hymn lifts our eyes from the earth toward heaven. After the suffering of the cross and the joy of resurrection, Christ ascends – not to abandon us, but to reign and intercede. Lent and Eastertide remind us that Jesus' saving work continues even when we cannot see Him.

The Ascension assures us that Christ's presence is not limited by time or place. Though hidden from sight, He remains near, ruling with grace and promising to return. Faith learns to trust even when vision gives way to waiting.

Prayer:

Ascended Lord, lift our hearts to where You reign. When You feel distant or unseen, strengthen our faith and deepen our trust. Help us live with hope and obedience until the day we see You again in glory. Amen.



MARCH 3, 2026 – TUESDAY OF WEEK 2 OF LENT
Hymn: “Let Us Plead for Faith Alone”

Scripture Theme: Ephesians 2:8-9

First Verse:

*Let us plead for faith alone,
Faith which by our works is shown;
God it is who justifies,
Only faith the grace applies.*

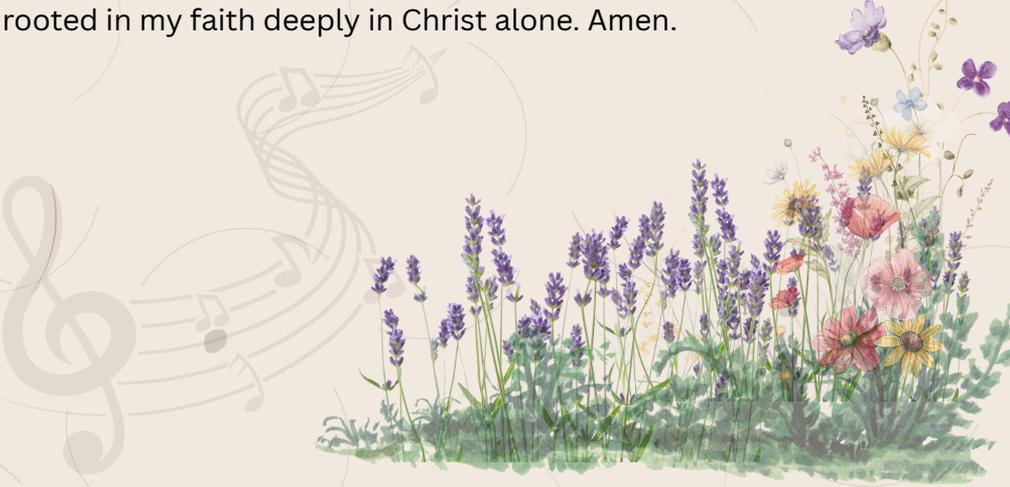
Reflection:

This hymn names a central truth of the gospel: we are justified by faith, not by our efforts. During Lent, it is easy to confuse spiritual discipline with spiritual earning. Charles Wesley reminds us that repentance, fasting, and prayer do not purchase grace – they respond to it.

Faith alone does not mean faith that is inactive; it means faith that trusts fully in what Christ has done. From that trust flows a life shaped by love and obedience. Lent becomes not a season of striving for approval, but a season of deepening trust in the grace already given.

Prayer:

Justifying God, teach me to trust in faith alone. Free me from the need to earn Your love, and help me to live transformed by grace, rooted in my faith deeply in Christ alone. Amen.



MARCH 4, 2026 – WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 2 OF LENT

Hymn: “*Spirit of Faith, Come Down*”

Scripture Theme: Romans 8:15–16

First Verse:

*Spirit of faith, come down,
Reveal the things of God,
And make to us the Godhead known,
And witness with the blood.*

Reflection:

This hymn is a prayer for assurance. Charles Wesley recognizes that faith is not sustained by effort alone, but by the work of the Holy Spirit within us. During Lent, we often confront doubt, weakness, and uncertainty. In these moments, we ask the Spirit to come near—to reveal God’s presence and to confirm the grace already given in Christ.

The Spirit’s witness does not remove all questions, but it anchors us in trust. Lent becomes a season of deeper listening, where faith is strengthened not by proof, but by God’s living presence within us.

Prayer:

Spirit of faith, come and dwell within me. Reveal the love of God through Christ and strengthen my trust in Your grace. As I journey through this holy season, and every season, bear witness to my heart that I belong to You. Amen.



MARCH 5, 2026 – THURSDAY OF WEEK 2 OF LENT

Hymn: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Scripture Theme: 1 John 4:9–10

First Verse:

*Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.*

Reflection:

This hymn reminds us that God’s love does not remain distant – it comes down to dwell among us. During Lent, we are invited to open our hearts to that love, allowing Christ to enter every trembling place within us. Wesley’s words point beyond forgiveness toward transformation: a love that not only saves but restores and renews. Lent calls us to surrender our resistance and trust the Spirit’s work in us. As divine love takes root, we are shaped more fully into the people God created us to be – lives moving steadily toward holiness, grace, and joy.

Prayer:

Love Divine, come and dwell within us. Breathe Your Spirit into our hearts, take away all that keeps us from You, and shape us into vessels of Your perfect love as we journey through Lent, draw us closer to Christ, until our lives are filled with wonder, love, and praise. Amen.



MARCH 6, 2026 - FRIDAY OF WEEK 2 OF LENT

Hymn: “’Tis Finished! The Messiah Dies”



Scripture Theme: John 19:30

First Verse:

*’Tis finished! The Messiah dies,
Cut off for sins, but not His own;
Accomplished is the sacrifice,
The great redeeming work is done.
’Tis finished! All the debt is paid;
Justice divine is satisfied.*

Reflection:

Jesus declared the turning point of history: “It is finished.” Not a cry of defeat, but a proclamation of completion. Charles Wesley captures the triumph – the sacrifice accomplished, the redeeming work done, the debt fully paid. The Lamb bore what was ours. Justice was not ignored; it was satisfied. Mercy was not delayed; it was released.

How often we live as though something more must be added – more striving, more proving, more self-atonement. Yet the gospel insists: Christ’s work is sufficient. Our obedience flows from acceptance, not toward it. Our repentance arises from grace, not fear. The cross silences both despair and pride.

“’Tis finished” - Death is reframed – not an end, but a doorway opened by the Crucified and Risen One. Jesus is the resting place and our living hope.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, You completed what I could never accomplish. Thank You for the full and final sacrifice of the cross. Teach me to live in the freedom of Your finished work – to lay down my striving, release my guilt, and trust Your grace. Let gratitude shape my obedience and hope steady my heart. Amen.

MARCH 7, 2026 – SATURDAY OF WEEK 2 OF LENT

Hymn: “I Want a Principle Within”

Scripture Theme: Psalm 51:10

First Verse:

*I want a principle within
Of watchful, godly fear,
A sensibility of sin,
A pain to feel it near.
I want the first approach to feel
Of pride or wrong desire,
To catch the wandering of my will,
And quench the kindling fire.*

Reflection

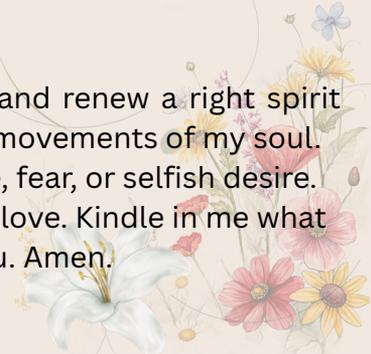
In this hymn, the longing is not for outward perfection but inward awakening. Wesley’s words name a holy sensitivity – the grace to notice the “first approach” of pride, resentment, or misdirected desire. Such awareness is not condemnation; it is protection. It is the Spirit’s gentle alert system, inviting us to turn back to God before small sparks become consuming fires.

David’s prayer in Psalm 51 echoes the same desire: “Create in me a clean heart.” Transformation begins within. When God renews the heart, obedience becomes more than duty – it becomes delight. And in recognizing, we are given the gift of returning.

Where might God be inviting you to notice the “first approach” today? Not to shame you, but to draw you nearer.

Prayer:

Gracious Lord, create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me. Give me a holy sensitivity to the movements of my soul. Help me recognize the first stirrings of pride, fear, or selfish desire. By Your Spirit, steady my will and purify my love. Kindle in me what is good, and quench what leads me from You. Amen.



MARCH 8, 2026 – SUNDAY OF WEEK 3 OF LENT

This is the Lord's Day – a day of celebration in remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

MARCH 9, 2026 – MONDAY OF WEEK 3 OF LENT

Hymn: “Glory to God, and Praise, and Love”

Scripture Theme: 1 Chronicles 29:11; Hebrews 13:15

First Verse:

Glory to God, and praise and love

Be ever, ever given

By saints below and saints above,

The Church in earth and heaven.

Reflection:

“Glory to God, and praise and love” gathers the posture of a grateful heart into a single offering. Glory acknowledges who God is – sovereign, holy, and worthy. Praise expresses what God has done – His faithfulness, mercy, and sustaining care. Love responds with devotion – not merely spoken, but lived.

Too often, we separate these. We may glorify God in worship yet withhold praise in hardship. We may speak praise yet struggle to love when obedience is costly. But true devotion weaves them together. Glory steadies us in awe. Praise lifts us in gratitude. Love anchors us in trust.

Psalm 115 gently redirects the heart: “Not to us... but to Your name be the glory.” It frees us from self-centered living. Our successes are not ultimate; God's faithfulness is. Our anxieties are not final; His love is. When glory, praise, and love align, life itself becomes worship.

Prayer:

Gracious God, to Your name be glory, praise, and love. Lift my heart above pride and fear. Fill my mouth with gratitude. Shape my life into an offering that honors You. In joy and in trial, teach me to glorify, praise, and love You always. Amen.

MARCH 10, 2026 – TUESDAY OF WEEK 3 OF LENT

Hymn: “Depth of Mercy”

Scripture Theme: Lamentations 3:22–23

First Verse:

*Depth of mercy! Can there be
Mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear,
Me, the chief of sinners, spare?*

Reflection:

This hymn gives voice to a question many carry into Lent: Is there mercy for me? Charles Wesley brings our doubts honestly before God and discovers that grace is deeper than guilt. Lent invites us to face our sin without fear, trusting that God’s compassion does not run dry.

The cross answers every question with mercy. Christ’s sacrifice assures us that forgiveness is not limited, withheld, or exhausted. In repentance, we discover not rejection, but renewal.

Prayer:

Merciful God, when guilt weighs heavy on my heart, remind me of the depth of Your mercy. Help me trust Your forgiveness and receive the grace You freely give in Christ. Amen.



MARCH 11, 2026 – WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 3 OF LENT

Hymn: “Ye Servants of God”

Scripture Theme: Psalm 96:2–3

First Verse:

*Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad His wonderful name;
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol.*

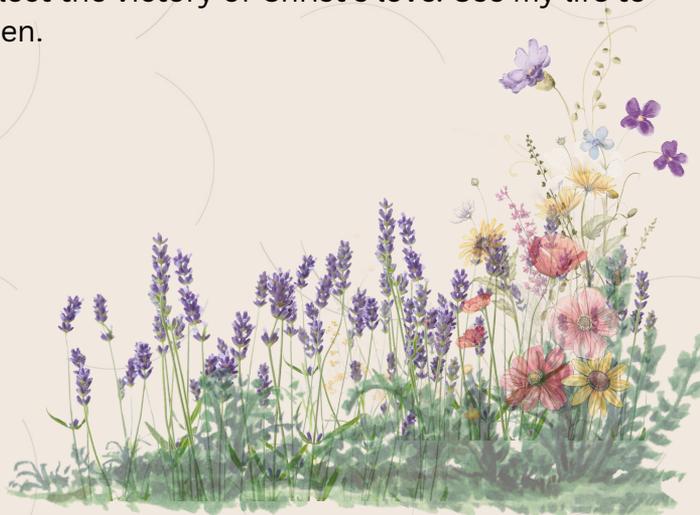
Reflection:

This hymn reminds us that those who have been redeemed are also called to witness. Lent is not only a season of inward reflection, but a time to remember whom we serve. To proclaim Christ as Master is to acknowledge that our lives belong to Him—shaped by obedience, gratitude, and praise.

Even as Lent leads us toward the cross, we proclaim a victorious name. Christ’s triumph is not rooted in force, but in faithful love poured out for the world. As servants of God, we bear witness to that love in word and deed.

Prayer:

Faithful Lord, You have called me Your servant and entrusted me with Your name. Shape my life to proclaim Your glory. May my words and actions reflect the victory of Christ’s love. Use my life to glorify Your name. Amen.



MARCH 12, 2026 – THURSDAY OF WEEK 3 OF LENT

Hymn: “*Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*”

(Also known as, “Wrestling Jacob” the original poem contained 14 stanzas. Dr. Isaac Watts - prolific hymn writer of more than 750 popular hymns, including famous works such as “Joy To The World” - offered praise and compliments for Wesley’s poetry stating this one poem was more than all the versus he himself had ever written.)

Scripture Theme: Genesis 32:24-26

First Verse:

*Come, O Thou Traveler unknown,
Whom still I hold, but cannot see;
My company before is gone,
And I am left alone with Thee.*

Reflection:

The lyrics give voice to a deeply personal moment of faith – when all familiar supports fall away, and we are left alone with God. We all find ourselves on the road to Emmaus, walking along not knowing the Traveler with us is the risen Lord. Redemption often unfolds through divine epiphanies. Grace meets us on our personal roads to Emmaus and transforms us through resurrection encounters. Lent often brings us into this kind of holy solitude – stripped of distractions, we encounter God not as fully known, but as deeply present.

Like Jacob wrestling through the night, we cling to God even when we cannot clearly see or understand. Faith in this season is not about certainty, but persistence. Transformation happens when we remain present with God, trusting that blessing is born out of struggle.

Prayer:

Mysterious God, when I feel alone and unsure, help me cling to You. Mysterious God, meet me in my questions. Shape me through Your redeeming presence into one who trusts Your blessings. Amen.



MARCH 13, 2026 – FRIDAY OF WEEK 3 OF LENT

Hymn: “Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love”

Scripture Theme: Romans 8:37-39

First Verse:

*Jesus, Thine all-victorious love
Shed in my heart abroad;
Then shall my feet no longer rove,
Rooted and fixed in God.*

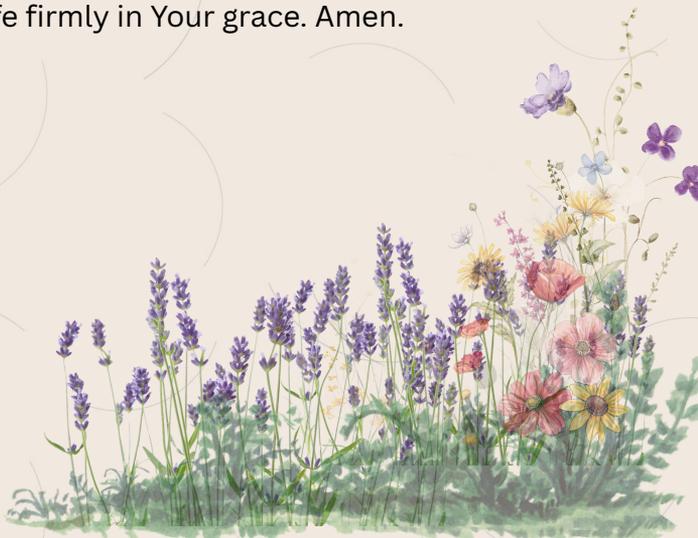
Reflection:

Proclaiming a love that does not merely forgive but overcomes! Charles Wesley points to Christ’s victorious love – strong enough to root wandering hearts and hold them fast in God. Lent invites us to examine where our hearts drift and to welcome the love that steadies and restores us.

At the cross, love proves stronger than sin, fear, and death. As Christ’s love takes deeper hold within us, we are anchored more firmly in grace and freed to live faithful, renewed lives.

Prayer:

Victorious Christ, let Your love take deep root in my heart. Where I wander, draw me back; where I am weak, hold me fast. As I journey through Lent, fix my life firmly in Your grace. Amen.



MARCH 14, 2026 – SATURDAY OF WEEK 3 OF LENT

Hymn: “How Can We Sinners Know”

Scripture Theme: Romans 8:1

First Verse:

*How can we sinners know
Our sins on earth forgiven?
How shall our guiltless souls get through
The gates of death and heaven?*



Reflection:

This hymn names one of the most important questions of faith: How can we know we are forgiven? Lent gives space to ask this honestly, without rushing past our doubt or guilt. Charles Wesley points us not to feelings or achievements, but to the assurance found in Christ alone.

Forgiveness is not something we guess at – it is something God declares. Through the cross, Christ removes condemnation and replaces fear with confidence. Lent becomes a season not of uncertainty, but of growing assurance rooted in grace.

In worship, the assurance of pardon proclaims freedom after confession. It tells the repentant heart: You are forgiven. You are restored. You may rise and walk in new life. Lent, therefore, is not a season of lingering guilt, but of honest repentance followed by confident hope.

Prayer:

Assuring God, when doubt and guilt trouble my heart, lead me again to the cross of Christ. Help me trust Your promise of forgiveness and live in the freedom of Your grace. Amen.



MARCH 15, 2026 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

This is the Lord's day – a day of celebration in remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

MARCH 16, 2026 – MONDAY OF WEEK 4 OF LENT

Hymn: “Forth in Thy Name, O Lord”

Scripture Theme: Colossians 3:17

First Verse:

*Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go,
My daily labor to pursue;
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know
In all I think, or speak, or do.*

Reflection:

This hymn grounds faith in daily life. Lent is not only about prayer and repentance, but about allowing devotion to shape ordinary work and conversation. Charles Wesley reminds us that holiness is lived out in the rhythms of everyday obedience – thinking, speaking, and acting in Christ's name.

To go forth “in Thy name” is to carry Christ into each task, trusting that God is present in the ordinary. Lent invites us to examine how our faith shows up beyond worship, forming lives of integrity, humility, and love.

Prayer:

Faithful Lord, as I go about my daily work, help me live in Your name. Shape my thoughts, words, and actions so that all I do reflects Christ's love. Remind me to walk faithfully with You in every moment. Amen.



MARCH 17, 2026 – TUESDAY OF WEEK 4 OF LENT

Hymn: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Scripture Theme: Matthew 11:28

First Verse:

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.*

Reflection:

This hymn names the deep longing of the human heart for – freedom, healing, and rest. Lent invites us to acknowledge the fears and sins that weigh us down and to bring them honestly before Christ. Jesus comes not only as Savior, but as Deliverer, releasing us from what binds us and drawing us into true rest.

In a season marked by repentance and waiting, we remember that Christ meets us where we are. Our rest is not found in striving harder, but in trusting the One who comes to set us free.

Prayer:

Long-expected Savior, release me from fear and sin. Draw me into Your rest and peace. Teach me to trust Your saving work and to wait with a hopeful heart. Amen.



MARCH 18, 2026 – WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 4 OF LENT

Hymn: “See How Great a Flame Aspires”



Scripture Theme: John 3:30

First Verse:

*See how a great flame aspires, kindled by a spark of grace,
Jesus' love the nations fires, sets the kingdoms on a blaze.
To bring fire on earth He came, kindled in some hearts it is;
O that all might catch the flame, all partake the glorious bliss!*

Reflection:

A flame always reaches upward. It does not strain toward the ground; it naturally seeks the heights. Charles Wesley's imagery reminds us that the life touched by God's grace carries the same holy instinct. When Christ ignites the heart, the soul begins to lean toward heaven – toward love, purity, and purpose.

Yet every flame must be fed. Without fuel, even the brightest fire dims. The spark of grace within us is sustained through prayer, Scripture, worship, obedience, and surrender. Growth in Christ is not self-powered ambition but Spirit-driven ascent. John the Baptist captured this posture perfectly: “He must increase, but I must decrease.” The rising flame is not the glorification of self, but the exaltation of Christ.

There are seasons when our fire feels small – when discouragement, distraction, or fatigue seem to smother the glow. But the promise of grace is this: God does not despise the flicker. He breathes upon embers. He rekindles what feels nearly lost. Even a trembling flame can become a steady light when placed again in His hands. Where is your flame today – burning brightly, or struggling to rise? What practices help “feed the fire” of your faith?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, You are the true fire within my soul. Kindle again what has grown dim. Burn away pride, fear, and distraction. Lift my desires upward toward You. May my life reflect Your light and warmth so others may see Your grace at work in me. Amen.

MARCH 19, 2026 - THURSDAY OF WEEK 4 OF LENT

Hymn: "O Come and Dwell in Me"

Scripture Theme: 1 Corinthians 3:16

First Verse:

*O come and dwell in me,
Spirit of power within,
And bring the glorious liberty
From sorrow, fear, and sin.
Hasten the joyful day
Which shall my sins consume;
When old things shall be done away,
And all things new become.*

Reflection:

This hymn is a tender invitation for the Holy Spirit to do what we cannot – to dwell within and transform from the inside out. Wesley's prayer reaches beyond comfort toward renewal: liberty from fear, healing from sorrow, freedom from sin.

The Spirit's indwelling is not distant theology but daily reality. God does not merely guide us from afar; He resides within us. His presence strengthens the weak, calms the anxious, corrects the wandering heart, and steadily reshapes us into Christ's likeness. Where the Spirit dwells, change begins. Old patterns loosen. New desires awaken. Hope grows where heaviness once ruled. The prayer "O come and dwell in me" becomes the posture of a heart open to God's sanctifying grace. Today, welcome His presence afresh.

Prayer:

Holy Spirit, come and dwell in me. Bring Your power where I am weak, Your peace where I am troubled, and Your freedom where I am bound. Renew my heart, consume what is not of You, and make all things new within me. Amen.



MARCH 20, 2026 – FRIDAY OF WEEK 4 OF LENT

Hymn: “Jesus, United by Thy Grace”

Scripture Theme: John 17:20–21

First Verse:

*Jesus, united by Thy grace
And each to each endeared,
With confidence we seek Thy face
And know our prayer is heard.*

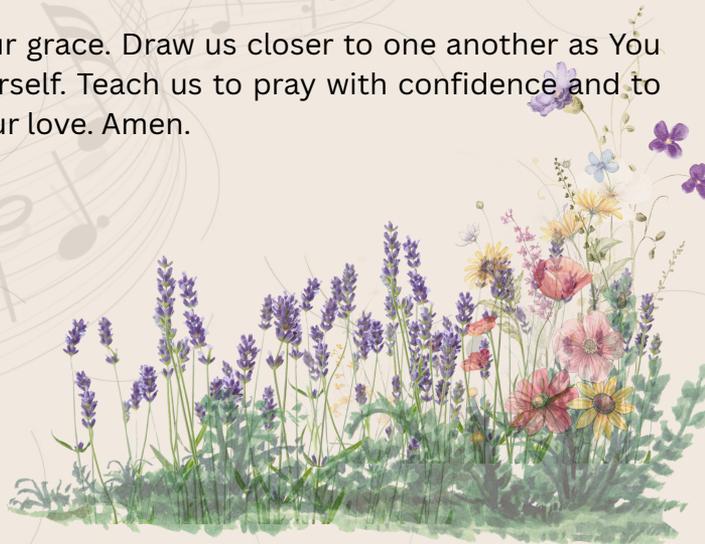
Reflection:

Oh the wonders of God’s grace and love! Grace not only saves us, but it also calls us into a redeemed community bound by Christ’s sacrifice. Therefore, let us always remember, we are all united by Christ into the family of God. Lent is a season not only of personal repentance, but of communal renewal. As we are united by grace, we are drawn into deeper love for one another and greater confidence in God’s presence among us.

Charles Wesley points us to a faith that is shared. When Christ unites hearts, prayer becomes bold, and hope becomes collective. In a divided world, grace forms a community rooted in love, trust, and attentive listening to God.

Prayer:

Jesus, unite us by Your grace. Draw us closer to one another as You draw us closer to Yourself. Teach us to pray with confidence and to live as one body in Your love. Amen.



MARCH 21, 2026 – SATURDAY OF WEEK 4 OF LENT

Hymn: “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

Scripture Theme: Philippians 2:8–11

First Verse:

*Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
And triumph evermore.*



Reflection:

At first glance, rejoicing may seem out of place in Lent. Yet this hymn reminds us that Christ’s kingship is revealed most clearly through humility and sacrifice. Jesus reigns not by power seized, but by love poured out on the cross. Lent calls us to remember that the path to resurrection joy always passes through obedience and surrender.

To rejoice during Lent is not to ignore suffering, but to trust that Christ is Lord even in the valley. His reign assures us that repentance leads to renewal, and the cross leads to victory.

Prayer:

Reigning Christ, You are King even in suffering and humility. Lord, I ask that you teach me to trust Your rule over my life. Help me follow You in obedience and hope, until my rejoicing is made complete in resurrection joy. Amen.



MARCH 22, 2026 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

This is the Lord's Day – a day of celebration in remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

MARCH 23, 2026 – MONDAY OF WEEK 5 OF LENT

Hymn: *“O For a Heart to Praise My God”*

Scripture Theme: Psalm 51:10

First Verse:

*O for a heart to praise my God,
A heart from sin set free,
A heart that always feels Thy blood
So freely shed for me.*

Reflection:

This hymn expresses Lent's deepest longing – not only for forgiveness, but for renewal. Charles Wesley prays for a heart reshaped by grace, one that remembers Christ's sacrifice and responds with praise. Lent invites us to ask God to do more than remove sin; it calls us to be transformed from the inside out.

A heart freed by grace becomes a heart turned toward gratitude, worship, and faithful living.

Prayer:

Renewing God, create in me a heart that praises You in all things. Cleanse me by the grace of Christ and shape my life in gratitude and faithfulness. Touch my heart this Lenten season that I may seek your will and allow those who know me and meet me to see You in my actions and attitude. Amen.



MARCH 24, 2026 – TUESDAY OF WEEK 5 OF LENT

Hymn: “Maker, In Whom We Live”

Scripture Theme: Acts 17:28

First Verse:

*Maker, in whom we live,
In whom we are and move,
The glory, power, and praise receive
For thy creating love.
Let all the angels throng
Give thanks to God on high,
While earth repeats the joyful song
And echoes to the sky.*

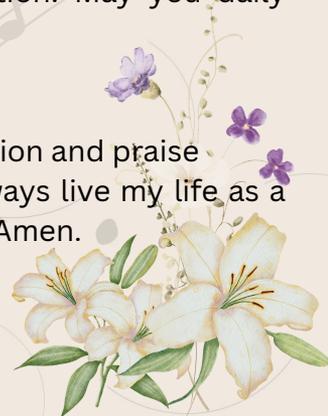
Reflection:

I like to contemplate the mind of the author when I read something. What must have Charles Wesley been thinking and feeling as he wrote the words to this song? It seems his mind and spirit were overflowing with thoughts of the Creator’s love and interaction in our lives. In Wesley’s mind, the thought of God’s relationship with us moved him to adoration to give God glory, power, and praise for the love he was feeling. Not only was Wesley feeling the need to worship the Maker, he felt compelled to call all of God’s creation, including angels to echo sounds of worship.

As you move through this season of Lent, I hope you are moved to give glory, power, and praise for the Creator’s loving act of sending His Son to die on the cross for our redemption. May you daily repeat the joyful songs of the Maker’s love.

Prayer:

Maker, Divine, how my heart is filled with adoration and praise to you for your unfailing love for me. May I always live my life as a joyful song that echoes your praises to the sky. Amen.



MARCH 25, 2026 – WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 5 OF LENT

Hymn: “*Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose*”

Scripture Theme: Ephesians 2:14; John 14:27; Matthew 11:28–29

First Verse:

*Thou hidden source of calm repose,
Thou all-sufficient love divine;
My help and refuge from my foes,
Secure I am, if Thou are mine;
From sin and grief, from guilt and shame
I hide me, Jesus, in Thy name.*

Reflection:

This hymn was first published in 1749 in Hymns and Sacred Poems. Written by Charles Wesley, he wanted this hymn to speak to those going through tough times. Wesley wanted the singer to focus on the Savior’s peace, security, and spiritual comfort. The emphasis of the hymn is that Jesus is our “all in all.” Even in the midst of sorrow and fear, Christ offers us strength, refuge, and joy.

Whatever you may be going through this Lenten season, remember Wesley’s admonition to trust Christ’s strength, peace, and spiritual comfort. Even in the midst of the storms of life allow Christ to be your Source of calm repose.

Prayer:

Oh Thou my Source of Calm Repose, be with me this day. Walk with me throughout the storms of life. May I always find your strength, refuge, and joy regardless of my circumstances.



MARCH 26, 2026 – THURSDAY OF WEEK 5 OF LENT

Hymn: “Soldiers of Christ, Arise”

Scripture Theme: Ephesians 6:10–11

First Verse:

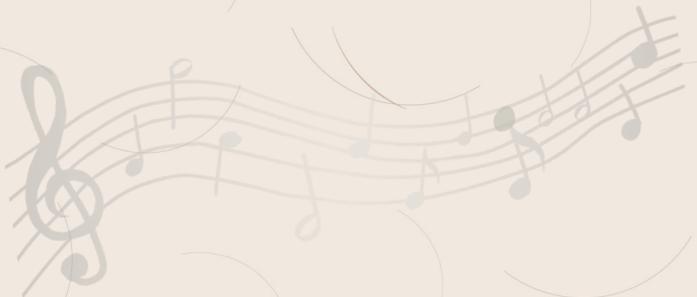
*Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armor on,
Strong in the strength
Which God supplies
Through His eternal Son.*

Reflection:

As a soldier of God, we are called into the service of the King. But this calling comes with a promise of grace that equips the redeemed for faithful perseverance. Christ’s sacrifice empowers spiritual endurance and promises the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, strengthen me by Your grace. Help me stand firm in the victory You won. May I walk in the power of Your Holy Spirit., standing firm in faith, relying not on myself but on the strength You freely give through Christ. Amen.



MARCH 27, 2026 – FRIDAY OF WEEK 5 OF LENT

Hymn: “A Charge to Keep I Have”

Scripture Theme: Micah 6:8

First Verse:

*A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save,
And fit it for the sky.*

Reflection:

Purpose. Do you live with purpose? Redemption gives purpose. Grace calls us to live faithfully in response to Christ’s sacrifice. Within each of us that has received Christ as our Savior, we have been infused with divine purpose. Out of God’s love for us, flows the purpose to spread the good news of salvation.

Prayer:

Faithful Savior, help me live with holy purpose. May my life glorify You until I see You face to face. Amen.



MARCH 28, 2026 – SATURDAY OF WEEK 5 OF LENT

Hymn: “O Love Divine, How Sweet Thou Art”

Scripture Theme: 1 John 4:16

First Verse:

*O Love divine, how sweet thou art!
When shall I find my willing heart
All taken up by thee?*

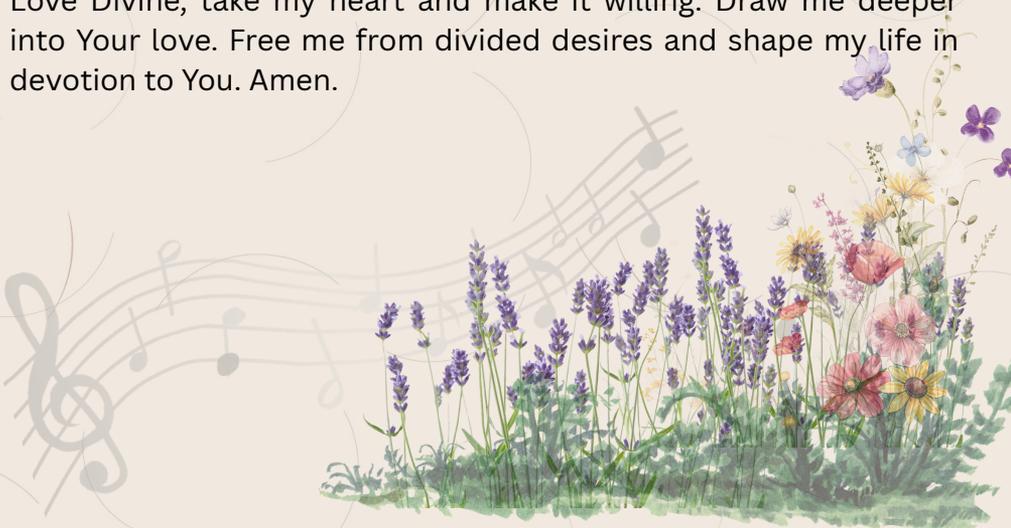
Reflection:

Oh taste and see the love of God divine! Our hearts awaken in response to love. Redemption draws our hearts toward Christ’s self-giving sacrifice. Oh, Love divine, how wonderful you are!

This hymn gives voice to a longing at the heart of Lent – the desire for a heart fully yielded to God. Charles Wesley names not only the sweetness of divine love, but our struggle to surrender to it. Lent invites us to notice what still competes for our attention and affection, and to open those places to God’s transforming love. To be “all taken up” by divine love is not loss, but fulfillment. As Christ’s love takes deeper root, our hearts are reshaped toward holiness, compassion, and faithful devotion.

Prayer:

Love Divine, take my heart and make it willing. Draw me deeper into Your love. Free me from divided desires and shape my life in devotion to You. Amen.



MARCH 29, 2026 – SUNDAY OF HOLY WEEK IN LENT

This is the Lord's Day – a day of celebration in remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

MARCH 30, 2026 – MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK OF LENT

Hymn: "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"

Scripture Theme: Isaiah 61:10

First through Fifth Verses:

*Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.*

*Bold shall I stand in that great day;
For who aught to my charge shall lay?
Fully absolved through these I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.*

*Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy seat of God
Forever doth for sinners plead,
For me—e'en for my soul—was shed.*

*Lord, I believe were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.*

*When from the dust of death I rise,
To claim my mansion in the skies,
E'en then, this shall be all my plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.*

(Cont.)



Reflection:

This hymn reminds us that our standing before God rests entirely in Christ. We are clothed in Jesus' blood and righteousness. Lent invites us to let go of shame and self-reliance, trusting fully in the grace made known at the cross. Because Christ has lived and died for us, we stand forgiven and free.

Prayer:

Gracious God, clothe us in Christ's righteousness. Free us from guilt and fear, help us trust fully in Your saving grace. As we journey through Lent, help us trust not in ourselves, but in the saving power of the cross. May our lives reflect gratitude for Your boundless grace. Amen.

MARCH 31, 2026 – TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK OF LENT

Hymn: "O Thou Who Camest from Above"

Scripture Theme: Luke 24:32

First Verse:

*O Thou who camest from above,
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.*

Reflection:

Do you ever feel like you need a rekindling of your spiritual fire? Redemption ignites holy love. Grace transforms ordinary hearts into places of sacred fire. Let the altar of your heart be transformed today through the knowledge of Christ's loving sacrifice for you.

Prayer:

Holy God, kindle Your love within me. Let my life burn with devotion to Christ. Amen.



APRIL 1, 2026 – WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK OF LENT

Hymn: “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Scripture Theme: Psalm 46:1

First Verse:

*Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.*

Reflection:

This hymn gives voice to trust during trouble. Lent often brings us face to face with storms – inner turmoil, uncertainty, or fear. Charles Wesley reminds us that faith does not deny the tempest; it seeks refuge in Christ within it.

To call Jesus the lover of my soul is to confess that we are held, protected, and known even when circumstances feel overwhelming. Lent invites us to stop striving for control and instead rest in the presence of the One who shelters us with steadfast love.

Prayer:

Jesus, Lover of my soul, when storms rise around me, draw me close to You. Be my refuge and my peace and help me trust Your saving love through this Lenten journey. Amen.



APRIL 2, 2026 – MAUNDY THURSDAY

Hymn: “All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord”

Scripture Theme: Ephesians 2:8–10

First Verse:

*All praise to our redeeming Lord,
Who joins us by His grace,
And bids us, each to each restored,
Together seek His face.*

Reflection:

All praise to our redeeming Lord! We are joined together in unity by God’s restorative grace! Redemption restores relationship – with God and with one another. Grace heals what sin divided. Let us rejoice in God’s restorative grace, bound together in unity, love and faithfulness by the freedom of our redeeming Lord!

Prayer:

Redeeming Lord, restore my relationships through Your grace. Help me walk in reconciliation and peace. Amen.



APRIL 3, 2026 – GOOD FRIDAY

Hymn: “Praise the Lord Who Reins Above”

Scripture Theme: Psalm 103:19; Psalm 97:1; Revelation 19:6

First Verse:

*Praise the Lord who reigns above
And keeps his court below;
Praise the holy God of love
And all his greatness show;
Praise him for his noble deeds,
Praise him for his matchless power,
Him from who all good proceeds
Let earth and heaven adore.*

Reflection:

We speak of God Omnipresence, that there is no place in heaven or earth that we can not encounter God. In this hymn, Wesley reminds us that the Lord’s reign is both heavenly and earthly. Wesley wants us to see the vastness of God and then to praise God for His exceeding greatness. God’s work is noble. God’s work is matchless in it’s power. All good comes from God. Wesley wants those who are singing this hymn to know of God’s greatness and then lift their voices in praise and adoration.

Prayer:

To the God who reigns above and keeps his court below, thank you for your amazing love for me. Thank you for the good gifts that come from you. All the good in my life is a wonderful gift that proceeds from Your love.



APRIL 4, 2026 – HOLY SATURDAY
Hymn: “Blow Ye the Trumpet, Blow”

Scripture Theme: Luke 4:18-19

First Verse:

*The gladly solemn sound;
Let all the nations know,
To earth’s remotest bound:
The year of jubilee is come;
Return, ye ransomed sinners, home.*

Reflection:

Wesley’s hymn rings with the language of Jubilee – the biblical season of release, restoration, and homecoming (Leviticus 25). When Jesus read Isaiah in the synagogue, He declared that this promise was fulfilled in Him. The trumpet of Jubilee is no longer merely a ritual blast; it is the gospel itself.

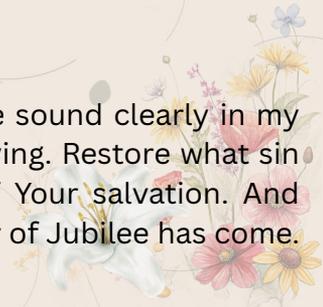
“Blow ye the trumpet” is a call to awaken hope. It announces that debts of sin are cancelled, captives are freed, and wanderers are welcomed home. Grace is not whispered timidly, it is proclaimed boldly. To resound *“to earth’s remotest bound.”*

Yet the hymn is also deeply personal. The trumpet must sound within us. Where guilt has lingered, Christ declares pardon. Where fear has bound us, He speaks peace. Where we have drifted far from God, He calls us home.

Jubilee is not just history or poetry, it is present reality in Jesus. The door of mercy stands open. The invitation is active. The sound is still echoing.

Prayer:

Redeeming Lord, let the trumpet of Your grace sound clearly in my heart. Break every chain of fear, guilt, and striving. Restore what sin has scattered. Draw me again into the joy of Your salvation. And make my life a living proclamation that the year of Jubilee has come. Amen.



APRIL 5, 2026 – EASTER SUNDAY, RESURRECTION DAY!

Hymn: “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

Scripture Theme: 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

First through Fifth Verses:

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where’s thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!*

*Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!*

*Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!
Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail, the Resurrection, Thou, Alleluia!*

Reflection:

Alleluia! Alleluia, I raise my voice in joy and triumph high!

Prayer:

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! May the power of the resurrection fill your life with hope. May the grace that carried you through Lent now lead you into joy. Celebrate as Easter people, redeemed by love. Amen.



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