

APRIL 3, 2022
FIFTH SUNDAY
IN LENT

taking⁺ faith home

Christ's death and resurrection gives us hope.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 12:1-8	Mary anoints Jesus at Bethany
Monday	Isaiah 43:16-21	The Lord will prepare the way
Tuesday	Philippians 3:4b-14	Pressing on toward the goal
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	The wisdom and strength of God
Thursday	Romans 6:1-14	Dying and rising with Christ
Friday	1 Peter 1:17-25	Call to holy living
Saturday	Psalm 126	A harvest of joy
Sunday	Luke 19:28-40	Blessed is the king who comes

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.

Philippians 3:10a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, give us faith that trusts in the power of Christ's life, death, and resurrection as the source of life that knows no end. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of abundant grace, with this gift of food we give you thanks and praise, for you continue to do great things for us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the love of God and the power of Christ's resurrection give you hope.



APRIL 3, 2022
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Lord of All Hopefulness

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- How do you show someone that you love them through actions and/or words?
- How do you show your love for God in Christ through actions and/or words?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Philippians 3:4b-14.

Paul rejects any understanding of a righteousness, that is, having a right relationship with God, based on anything we do or are. Like Mary in John 12, faith in Christ displays extravagant love and thankfulness. Our faith and our hope reflect a living and loving relationship to Christ who endured all things, including death, for us. It expresses a trust in God that will not be taken away from us. We, like Paul, can see our own life story in Christ's story. Life and death will not take away our living hope in the resurrection from the dead. Hope is a confidence that allows us to join Paul and say that we *"press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus"* (v. 14). It is a life filled with confidence in God, that is, confidence in Christ that overcomes all our doubts and fears.

Discuss: How does confidence in God through Jesus Christ help you overcome your doubts and fears?

Pray: Dear God, we thank you for Jesus Christ and his righteousness, for he is the one who gives us confidence in you and your promise for our lives now and forevermore. Amen

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who may have lost hope and is feeling in despair?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Lent is a time to focus on prayer. Walking outside can improve your mood, improve blood circulation, and is good exercise. While walking, think about your daily schedule and your plan for the weeks to come. Pray for confidence through God in Christ for all that lies ahead. If children are present, take sidewalk chalk and draw pictures of what they are thankful for or what they see outside. After the walk, light a candle and say: **Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The light no darkness can overcome.** Close with the Lord's Prayer.

