



LENT 2018

PREPARE OUR HEARTS

Lent is the season of preparation for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday (February 14th this year) and lasts through Holy Saturday (the day before Easter). Traditionally, Christians have observed Lent by praying, fasting and almsgiving (an archaic term that means generosity towards others). We invite you and your children to join us as we observe this holy season, as we prepare our hearts and our lives for Easter. This devotional can be used with all God's children.

Lent is a rich season, of self-examination and renewed interest in the those around us. We invite you and your children to join us as we observe this holy season, as we prepare our hearts and our lives for Easter. This devotional can be used with all God's children, though you will want to adjust the words of the prayers and questions to be age-appropriate and add (or omit) explanations as needed. Place the accompanying alms or miter box on your kitchen counter or dining room table and encourage your children to give, demonstrate by emptying your change daily into the box.

CHANGE for CHANGE

Give your change for William Temple House for their work to change the world. William Temple House has since 1965 worked to provide food and clothing, spiritual and emotional support for many in Portland. Christ Church Parish has been a partner with William Temple since their earliest days. Your change helps them to continue in this work.

These devotions may be offered during a shared meal.

You may wish to begin each meal with the lighting of a candle and a short prayer, which you'll find on the following pages. After the candle lighting, there is a passage of scripture and a short prayer for each week as well as a question or two. Don't feel obligated to press your children to answer all the questions for the week. We pray as you embrace this season, your life with Christ will be enriched and your awareness of the needs of the world will deepen.

A Word of Encouragement

Remember that the primary locus for Christian faith formation is the home. Children learn by watching, participating, and following their parents' lead.

A Prayer for Lent

God of all mercy, you love all that you have made. You forgive the sins of all who are truly sorry. Create and make in us clean hearts, that we, humbly confessing our sins and knowing our brokenness, may receive your forgiveness and blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Written by Anne E. Kitch

Ash Wednesday

and the weekdays that follow

Since Lent begins on a Wednesday, the first week of Lent begins on the following Sunday. For this half-week following Ash Wednesday, the questions explain the traditional Lenten practices of fasting, repenting, and almsgiving and then ask for you to decide how you want to interact with those practices. If you begin the devotion later and you'd like to embrace some or all of those practices, just start with the devotions for this half-week and then jump to whatever week it really is.

Whenever you gather you may want to light a candle and recite the following:

Candle lighter: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Everyone else: And renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 51.11

Ash Wednesday and following

Scripture:

Yet even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain-offering and a drink-offering
for the Lord, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;

call a solemn assembly;
gather the people.

Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;

gather the children,

Joel 2:12-16(NRSV)



Prayer: Lord Jesus, as we enter into Lent, may we remember your great love for us. Amen.

Today is the **first day of Lent**, the season when we prepare for Easter. Many Christians fast during Lent. Fasting is when we choose not to eat a certain food or participate in a certain activity, so that we can practice living and loving like Jesus. From what shall we fast this Lent? And what can we do instead? Consider how giving coins to **William Temple House** will be part of your Lenten journey.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you are generous with us. Help us to be generous with others. Amen.

Today is the **second day of Lent**, the season when we prepare for Easter. One of the things that many Christians do during Lent is repent. "Repent" means to turn around from doing wrong things and to go in a different direction—toward what is right. Let's think of one thing that each of us can repent of during Lent.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help us this Lent to learn to love you more so we might love others more too. Amen.

Today is the **third day of Lent**, the season when we prepare for Easter. One of the things that many Christians do during Lent is a time to give to other people. Who can we give to? What can we give?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, be with us as we travel on our Lenten journey, help to know where we need to go. Amen.

Today is the **fourth day of Lent**, the season when we prepare for Easter. During Lent, Christians fast, repent, and give of themselves to others. Let's remind each other: What is our Lenten fast? What are each of us repenting of? Who are we giving to? What are we giving?

Activity: CHANGE for CHANGE.

Cut out and create your Lenten offering box **CHANGE for CHANGE**. Place it on your kitchen counter or dining room table and make a commitment to add coins every day.

First Week of Lent: Into the Wilderness

The stories for the first week of Lent are of Jesus' temptations in the wilderness and the calling of the first disciples. Though the passages may not seem related at first glance, the theme of faithfulness to God's call unites them. As you ask the questions for each day, you may also want to encourage each other in your chosen Lenten disciplines.

Scripture: And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. *1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)*

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother

John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him. *Mark 1:12-20 (NRSV)*

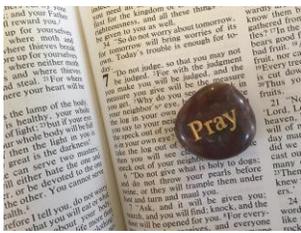
Prayer: Lord Jesus, you know what it feels like to fast. When our Lenten fast becomes difficult, help us to be strong as you. Amen.

Lent is 40 days long. Why do you think Jesus fasted for 40 days? Why do you think we fast for 40 days to get ready for Easter?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you are the beloved Son of the Father. Please help us to know that we are God's beloved children, too. Amen.

Was there something you were tempted to do today? Did you give in to the temptation or did you say no? How do you feel about that decision?

What do you think would have happened if Jesus had listened to the devil? Why?



Activity: CREATE A PRAYER ROCK!

Find a large rock and decorate with stickers or paint or markers. You may place it near your Lenten collection box or near your bed. It can be a reminder to pray for others. Talk about the kinds of things we might pray; those who are hungry or sick, things for which we are grateful, people we love, etc.

Second Week of Lent: Upside Down

The stories for the second week of Lent remind us of the upside-down nature of God's kingdom: the last are first; the first are last; what people reject is what God chooses; humility and gentleness are the marks of Jesus; and the weak and the small are God's guests of honor.

Scripture: Lord I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9 (NRSV)

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 10:13-16 (NRSV)

Why do you think the disciples told the people to stop bringing the children to Jesus? Why do you think Jesus wanted to be with the children?

Prayer: Jesus, help us to be people who pray and keep our focus on living and loving like you, just as you were a person who prayed and always looked out for even the children. Jesus, help us to know how much you love us and how much you enjoy being with us. We want to be with you, too. Amen.

What does it look like to be gentle? How have you been gentle today (or, this week)?

Prayer: Jesus, help us learn from you how to be gentle. Amen.



Activity: Good Deed Beads.

Create a strand of Good Deed Beads. These originated in the childhood of St. Therese of Lisieux. When Therese was a small girl, her older sister gave her a set of beads on which to count the things she offered up for God.

Simply add small beads to a piece of yarn or cord for every good deed.

This became a regular and consistent practice for St. Therese. She wrote, *“Love proves itself by deeds, so how am I to show my love. The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions for love.”*

Third Week of Lent: Forgiveness

This week the focus is on forgiving and loving others. This is usually difficult for most children who are justice-loving, fairness-seeking. Allow for enough time to talk with your kids about their questions. Emphasizing that God is forgiving, in always and to all people.

Scripture: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.

Psalms 103:11-12 (BCP Psalter)

Then Peter came and said to him, ‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven* times.

Matthew 18. 21-22 (NRSV)

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you are faithful to forgive us when we hurt others. Help us to forgive others as you forgive us. Amen.

Jesus said we need to forgive people when they hurt us. When is it easy to forgive someone? When is it hard?

Prayer: Jesus, help us to forgive other people the way you forgive us. Amen.

Prayer: Jesus, sometimes it is very, very hard to forgive other people, and we need you to help us love them. Please help us to want to forgive and to love. Amen.

Who is unkind to you? How do you feel when Jesus says to love that person? Is there something you could do (or stop doing) to show love to that person?

Prayer: Jesus, some people are very hard to love, but You love them anyway. Help us to be like you and to love even the people we don't like very much. Amen.

When have you given something without expecting anything in return? How can we do that now, during Lent?

(Repentance is when someone turns away from doing wrong things and turns toward God.)

Activity: 70 x 7.

Observe how a sponge mops up a spill. Where there are children, there will be spills. Take advantage of a "spill" that takes place in your home by telling your children about "God's sponge." As you are cleaning up the mess, equate the spill with someone doing something wrong – something that hurts you. Use an example that your children will relate to, such as name calling, teasing, pushing or taking a toy without permission. Explain how to respond in these situations by conveying the following message: What we do in response to the wrongdoing – the "spill" – is our choice. One option is to splash the spill back into the face of the one who has done wrong. This is like trying to make someone "pay" for the wrong they have done. Forgiveness happens when the person apologizes for doing wrong and we forgive them. Grace happens when we forgive a person who does not acknowledge that they have done wrong. God offers us both grace and forgiveness.

Fourth Week of Lent: Refreshment

This week we focus on God's loving nurture. The emphasis on refreshment and care provides a respite from the sometimes darkness of Lent and reminds us that God cares for us always even in the darkness.

Scripture: I can do all things through him who strengthens me! *Philippians 4:13 (ESV)*

Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.'

John 4:7-10 (NRSV)

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you are the living water. Help us to come to you whenever we feel tired and in need of rest and refreshment. Help us to be living water to those we meet. Amen.

Do you think Jesus is talking about water, like water in a glass? What is the living water that Jesus gives the woman? How is Jesus like water?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, we are halfway through Lent. Help us to press on in our fasting and repentance and almsgiving as we prepare for Easter. Amen.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you love us and look after us like our parents; we drink deeply of your goodness and grace. Amen.

What kinds of things do mothers and fathers do for their babies? How do you think God is like a parent?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help us to be like the child resting against its mother: calm and content simply because we are with You. Amen.

When do (or did) you sit in your mom or dad's lap? How do you think she/he feels when you sit with her/him? Could you sit in God's lap? What would that be like?



Activity: Living Water.

Practice pouring clean water from a pitcher in to glasses like for an evening meal. Spend time talking together about clean water and how we often take it for granted. you may have a conversation about baptism and the water of the font. Do a little research, as a family, on water resources throughout the world locate the places where water is scarce and where indoor plumbing is rare. Fill a bucket with water and carry it to the end of your street and back. A reminder that many children around the world carry water every day for their households.

Fifth Week of Lent: Touch That Heals

This week's stories are of Jesus touching people and healing them and of His raising Lazarus from the dead. Children who have chronically ill or dying family members or who have recently lost someone who is dear to them may have questions about why Jesus didn't heal their loved ones. Be honest in your responses to those questions. If you wonder that, too, tell your children, but also assure them that Jesus loves them and the person who is ill or who died. Take your time with this week's devotions, especially if you anticipate that these stories will call forth your child's (or your own) questions and pain.

Scripture: In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5:16 (NRSV)*

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. *Mark 1.29-33 (NRSV)*

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you that you touched Peter's mother-in-law and made her well. Thank you that you are a God who heals. Help us to reach out and touch those who suffer. Amen.

How does it feel to have a fever? How do you think Peter's mother-in-law felt when Jesus touched her hand? How do you think Jesus heals people today?

They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, 'Can you see anything?' And the man looked up and said, 'I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.' Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently, and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. *Mark 8:22-25 (NRVS)*

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you touched the blind man's eyes and he was able to see. Thank you that you are a God who heals. Amen.

How does it feel to wake up in the dark and not be able to see? How do you think it would feel to see for the first time ever? How do you think the blind man feels about Jesus? What are we to do if we are to live and love like Jesus?

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' *John 11:17-23(NSRV)*

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you loved Mary and Martha, and you came to be with them after the death of their brother. Thank you that you are with us, too, when we are sad and miss people we love. Help us to comfort others who are sad. Amen.

How does Martha feel in this story? How would you feel if your brother died? (If your child has lost someone they love, you could ask how they felt about that, instead of this hypothetical question.) What did Jesus promise Martha? What does Jesus promise us? How do you think Mary and Martha feel at the end of this story? What will happen to us at the end of our stories? How do you think we'll feel at the end of our stories?



Activity: HANDS that HEAL

Have everyone trace their hands on pieces of paper. Inside the outline of the hand prints list all the ways our hands help to heal others. For example; simple ways like holding doors for others or serving meals or giving hugs!

Holy Week: Parades and Processions walking in the way of Jesus.

The sixth week of Lent is Holy Week, the week before Easter. It begins with great rejoicing on Palm Sunday and ends with the three darkest days of the Christian year—Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday—when we recall the betrayal, arrest, crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus. These three days are called the Triduum (TRID-ee-um). It is traditional not to light a fire on these three days, as a way of remembering that the Light has gone out of the world. In your house, you may choose not to light candles at your meal and by saying a different litany.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the LORD.
God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
Psalm 118:26-27

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethpage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.” They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! *Mark 11:1-10 (NSRV)*



Palm Sunday

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you are the King. You are good and humble and powerful and gentle. We praise you, our King. Amen.

Why are the people in this story so excited? What do you do when you're excited? What would you do if you knew Jesus was coming to our town/city?

Litany for the Triduum

Leader: I give you a new commandment,

Everyone else: that you love one another as I have loved you.

Maunder Thursday: A new commandment

Scripture: Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' *John 13:4-8 (NRSV)*

Prayer: Lord Jesus, this is the day you last ate with your disciples and friends. Help us to remember we are to serve others as you serve us. Amen.

Who do you think the servant is? Why do we wash our feet on this night?



Activity: ATTEND a MAUNDY THURSDAY LITURGY

Have your feet washed, wash another's feet.

Good Friday: Jesus is condemned and dies

Scripture: They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none.

For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, We heard him say, "I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands." 'But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?' But he was silent and did not answer.

Again, the high priest asked him, 'Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?'

Jesus said, 'I am; and "you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power", and "coming with the clouds of heaven."' Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?' All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, 'Prophecy!' The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, 'You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.' But he denied it, saying, 'I do not know or understand what you are talking about.' And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, 'This man is one of them.' But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, 'Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.' But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, 'I do not know this man you are talking about.' At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, 'Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!' In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land* until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. *Mark 14:53-15:41 (NRSV)*

Prayer: Lord Jesus, this is a dark day. It is the day you were arrested, found guilty and sentenced to die. Help us to remember even to the end you loved us. You trusted God, even when life was scary and you were afraid. Help us to trust in you when we are afraid. Amen.

How does it feel to be afraid? Who can we turn to when we're afraid? What can we do? Why did Jesus die? (There are lots of answers here. Encourage older children to think beyond the rote "for our sins.")



Activity: STATIONS of the CROSS

Christ Church Parish Youth have created a photographic Stations of the Cross. The Stations are the story of the last hours of Christ's life. Find a time to come and see them.

Holy Saturday: The world is quiet

Scripture: When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. *Mark 15:42-46*

Prayer: Lord Jesus, this is a quiet and dark day. It is the day when all the world waits. Help us to remember that in you all things are possible. Amen.

On Easter morning, wake your children with these words:

Alleluia Christ is risen!

Everyone else: Alleluia! Christ is risen, indeed!

Feast of the Resurrection | Easter Sunday

Scripture: When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.'

Mark 16:1-7

Lord Jesus, this is a bright and glorious day. It is the day Jesus rose from the dead and triumphs over death and sin and sadness and pain. Help us to remember that amazing triumph today. We give God praise and honor and glory. Amen.

What are signs of resurrection, the signs of new life in our world? How do we share that glorious news with the world?

A Prayer of Self-Dedication

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer p.832, written by William Temple

For more information

William Temple House www.williamtemple.org/

Lent and how to observe a holy one:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/library/glossary/lent>

www.episcopalnet.org/TRACTS/5ThingsLent.html

Water Resources

<http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/water/>

<http://www.kidsglobal.net/the-issues/water>

The Triduum:

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