

This material will be produced weekly throughout Lent, to include worship, material to assist reflection and bible readings for each day.

Worship services and those produced on CDs will follow the theme.

You are invited to join a group for the duration of the series. There is a webpage at [www.godisgood.org.uk](#) where other resources will be posted and which you are invited to contribute to.



<i>Reflection Number</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Focus</i>
1	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb (Ash Wednesday) to 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Christian Practices
2	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb (Lent 1) to 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Receiving God's Love
3	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb (Lent 2) to 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Loving God in Return
4	7 <sup>th</sup> March (Lent 3) to 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Growing in Grace
5	14 <sup>th</sup> March (Lent 4 and Mothering Sunday) to 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Loving and Serving Others
6	21 <sup>st</sup> March (Passion Sunday) to 27 <sup>th</sup> March	The Grace of Giving
7	28 <sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday) to 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Fruitful Living and Offering God's Love

# Christian Practice

From Ash Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb to 20<sup>th</sup> Feb



Day	Reading	Prayer
1	John 15:1-17	God of abundant grace, help me to rediscover wonder, awe, peace, and the joy of being loved by Jesus. Help me to find my true self, as I offer my life to you, through the moments of each day.
2	James 1:22-27	God who calls us, help me to listen, to hear your word and to follow Jesus. Help me not to be self-deceived and give me courage to take the first step.
3	1 John 4:7-16	Stay with me Lord in the following of the way you are showing me. May your love become real in me in the things I do and say.
4	Philippians 2:1-13	Reach me Holy One, help me to trust your leading as I take the next step towards you. Give me patience and perseverance as I practise your love in times, I formerly thought impossible. Thank you for your presence with me and those making this Lenten journey.

# Receiving God's love: The Practice of Radical Hospitality



From 21<sup>st</sup> Feb (Lent 1) to 27<sup>th</sup> Feb

[Grace] is given not to make us something other than ourselves but to make us radically ourselves.

## *Call to worship*

As we enter the season of Lent, we look to Jesus

## *(light a candle)*

You are the vine; we are the branches

You are the way we follow into life in our hearing and doing

You are the fullness of life pointing to the presence of God

You feed us by your grace that bears fruit in our lives. AMEN

Day	Reading	Prayer
5	1 John 4:7-12	Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me. As the flower opens to the sun, help my heart open to your love, and my actions to follow yours.
6	Luke 19:1-19	Amazing God, open my eyes to see the wonders of your grace living in me and in the lives of those I live with. Help me to be restored to be my true self.
7	Luke 15	Merciful God, forgive me for the ways I neglect you and shut you out and for the things I allow to obscure your great hope and love for me and others. Renew my love for you, as I take these next steps.
8	Acts 9:1-19	Holy Spirit, take up residence in my life. Create in me a clean heart and put a right spirit within me. Move in and make me alive.
9	2 Corinthians 5:17-20	Redeeming God, give me a fresh start. You are the potter and I am the clay. Mould me to your purpose, make me your own.
10	John 1:43-51	God, help me love the things you love and want the things you want. Get me walking in your way. Open my heart to love the people you have placed in my life.

# Loving God in Return: The Practice of Passionate Worship

28<sup>th</sup> Feb (Lent 2) to 6<sup>th</sup> March



Grace is given not to implant in us a foreign wisdom but to make us alive to the wisdom that was born with us in our mother's womb.

## *Call to worship*

In this season of Lent, we look to Jesus

## *(light a candle)*

Who reveals God's love continually renewing and shaping us

Who calls to us to own our part in the beloved community

To have faith in God's freely offered grace that frees us

This is the good news he proclaimed out of love for us to come and see. AMEN

Day	Reading	Prayer
10	Psalm 84	Faithful God, renew my love for you, so that my worship is neither dry nor empty, but full of devotion, eagerness and joy. I long to live in you and for you to live in me.
11	Luke 18:9-14	Holy God, cause me to be what you have called me to be: shaped by your Holy Spirit and changed by my love for Christ. Make me right with you: align me in your love.
12	Matthew 22:34-40	Dear God, may I love you, with all that I am. Enable me to have a passionate longing for you, to be open to worship in honesty and truth that my spirit will thrive.
13	Corinthians 11:23-26	Open the eyes of my heart Holy One, that I may see your extraordinary presence among us in our ordinary worship each week. Help me remember you and discover you in the words and sacraments we share.
14	Matthew 6:25-33	God of life, help me to remember that in returning to you, I find strength; resting in you I find peace, and trusting in you I find completeness.
15	Isaiah 40:28-31	God of relationship, by your spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other and one in ministry to all the world.

# Growing in Grace: The Practice of Intentional Faith Development

7<sup>th</sup> March (Lent 3) to 13<sup>th</sup> March



Grace is given not to lead us into another identity but to reconnect us to the beauty of our deepest identity.

## *Call to worship*

In this season of Lent, we look to Jesus

## *(light a candle)*

Who shows us how to love God with

Joy, living wholeheartedly and humbly

Love, affection for others expressed in the fruits of the spirit,

Serenity, resting in God's loving grace aware always of God's presence AMEN

Day	Reading	Prayer
17	Psalm 1:1-3	God of relationship, Your hands have fashioned me. Thank you for deep friendships and all those people who have made a positive difference to my life, I give you thanks for them now. Thank you for new friendships as I walk new steps each day.
18	Acts 2:37-47	God of the journey, focus my bearings on what is true and loving, the life-giving, not the life-sapping. Build me up in your ways.
19	Matthew 7:7-14	God of wonder, cultivate in me a life of wonder, faith, love, and service. Enable me to embrace the new things you are showing me each day.
20	John 3:1-17	Healing God, restore my sight. Awaken me from dullness of spirit, bring me alive. Show me how to hold your Word up to my life, exposing untruth, correcting misjudgements, and holding my hand as I make changes and my love grows.
21	John 5:1-9	Save me Lord from my own arrogant sense of self-sufficiency. Open me to love others and be loved by others.
22	Romans 12:1-18	Creating God, by your spirit continue to weave me into the fabric of faith, connected to the body of Christ, may I know a sense of belonging to you in relationship with other people.

# Loving and Serving Others: The Practice of risk-Taking Mission and Service



14<sup>th</sup> March (Lent 4 and Mothering Sunday) to 20<sup>th</sup> March

And grace is given not that we might find some exterior source of strength but that we might be established again in the deep inner security of our being...

## *Call to worship*

In this season of Lent, we look to Jesus

*(light a candle)*

Who desires us to commit to the beloved community  
recognising our interdependence and our need for encouragement in our faith  
learning to hold hope for one another and embracing the suffering of others  
listen as God speak through Scripture: living out justice, loving kindness and walking humbly AMEN

Day	Reading	Prayer
23	Luke 10:25-37	God, my rock, give me an obedient heart to do the things you call me to do, that I sometimes choose to neglect or ignore. Forgive me. Change me. Use me.
24	Matthew 25:31-40	Servant God help me to forget myself enough to truly help the other. Shape my worries into prayers and my prayers into practices that serve you by serving others.
25	John 13:1-17	Enlivening Holy Spirit, make me quick to respond to those in distress, not irritated or discouraged but eager help, finding you in serving others.
26	Matthew 16:24-26	Holy God, help me to distinguish between the merely convenient, easy and rewarding and those attitudes and motives that are essential for serving others with real love and respect.
27	1 Corinthians 13	Calling God, help me grab the initiative and treat others as I would like to be treated. Teach me humility, courage, perseverance, discernment and respect in serving others.
28	Luke 4:16-21	Faithful God, open my lips dear Lord, that I may speak for you, even though I feel embarrassed to act on behalf of those who suffer. Remain with me, and be with those who need your sustaining presence through me. Help me to live positively for others, as you lived and died for each one of us.

# The Grace of Giving: The Practice of extravagant Generosity

21<sup>st</sup> March (Passion Sunday) to 27<sup>th</sup> March



[Grace is] ...in learning to lose ourselves in love for one another to truly find ourselves. John Philip Newell

## *Call to worship*

In this season of Lent, we look to Jesus

## *(light a candle)*

Who invites us to follow finding life in embracing the suffering of others  
seeing the overlooked and ignored letting go of our position and status  
giving without expecting return  
living out justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God AMEN

Day	Reading	Prayer
29	Timothy 6:17-19	Life-Giving God, you have invited me to give; provoke me to greater generosity so that I may discover more of your life in mine.
30	Mark 12:41-44	Creating God, I am your project, use my desire to give to reorientate my life. Thank you that you never forget me, even when I forget you.
31	Luke 12:13-21	Vulnerable God, help me to put aside defensiveness and self-deception to look honestly at my giving, so that actions reflect your love for me.
32	Matthew 25:14-30	Revealing Holy Spirit, I pray that in you I will break fresh ground in my thinking and living.
33	2 Corinthians 8:1-7	Searching God, I am so full of myself sometimes, help me to seek you above all things, to offer my best, to be rich in helping others, and to be able to offer extravagant generosity to those in my life.
34	Psalms 104	Awesome God, what a wildly wonderful world. All that I have comes from beyond myself. Open my heart, receiving and giving, like breathing in and out.

# Fruitful Living and Offering God's Love

28<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday) to 3<sup>rd</sup> April



[Grace] is given not to make us something other than ourselves but to make us radically ourselves. Grace is given not to implant in us a foreign wisdom but to make us alive to the wisdom that was born with us in our mother's womb. Grace is given not to lead us into another identity but to reconnect us to the beauty of our deepest identity. And grace is given not that we might find some exterior source of strength but that we might be established again in the deep inner security of our being and in learning to lose ourselves in love for one another to truly find ourselves.

## *Call to worship*

As we enter Holy Week, we look to Jesus

## *(light a candle)*

Who invites us to live extravagantly generously in word and action  
creating a climate of generosity; seeing all of life as God's gift  
learning to live accountably and responsibly  
using resources to the glory of God AMEN

Day	Reading	Prayer
35	Galatians 5:22-26	Thank you Jesus, for your love that will not let me go and for your grace that searches for me through friends, family and strangers. Thank you.
36	Matthew 28	Loving God, you have embraced me with your unmerited, gracious and everlasting love. Help me to love others as you love me. Widen my vision. Stretch me. Push me.
37	Matthew 5:13-16	Timeless God, the old life is gone, your new life flourishes in me. Enable me so to love that I might encourage others to take steps of discovery of your love for themselves.
38	Matthew 13:1-9	Inviting God as you meet us, may we offer others your love revealed through your Holy Spirit, with your grace, in the right time, the right tone, the right words at the right moment.
39	Luke 10:1-11	Holy One, you have poured out your life in Christ, restored us to yourself, given back our lives in the eternity of your love. Thank you.
40	John 20	Loving God, I give you my hands, my heart, my hope. Use the change in me to offer change to others, May the light of your love be seen in my life.

# Easter Sunday

*Call to worship*

On Easter morning,

*(light a candle)*

The risen Jesus meets us,  
shining with the glory of God's gracious presence that honours all of life  
offering a relationship that will continuously transform our living  
as we come to know him, ourselves and others as beloved of God  
AMEN

