



BROKEN



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY - 7:30PM

EASTER SUNDAY - 10:00AM

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FURTHER REFLECTIONS...

*MY SACRIFICE, O GOD, IS A BROKEN SPIRIT;
A BROKEN AND CONTRITE HEART YOU, GOD, WILL NOT DESPISE.*

WELCOME

Welcome to our 2020 Lenten journey. We thank you for joining your church family in experiencing God's presence and voice in the coming forty days.

Lent is remembered by the Church as a season for meditation and reflection on the work of Jesus on our behalf. It is a time of letting go, as exemplified by our decision to "fast" in order to make space for God. It is a time of attentiveness, as we welcome God to examine us for our spiritual benefit.

As we survey the world around us, it is of no surprise that we live within a sea of shattered connections and dramatic upheavals. Every aspect of humanity – our personal relationships, our connection with the earth, our communities of faith, even our view of our own person - are fractured images of God's original design. Without divine means to recognize our divisions, we respond with mistrust, distance, and isolation, exacerbating tiny cracks into larger chasms.

This Lent, God invites us into a posture of lament and repentance. We are prompted by the piercing words of David as penned in Psalm 51, *"My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."* Together, we will walk through these days and approach the Cross of Jesus with an offering of the broken pieces of our lives with the yearnings and hope of His resurrection and the renewal of all life.

WEEK OF APRIL 12 - HOLY WEEK

Psalm 51



How have you experienced God's restoration during Lent?

What specific word from Psalm 51 has most touched you?

How can we live for God in the midst of our continued broken realities?

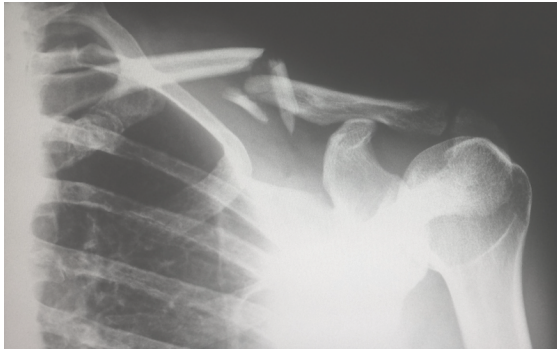


WEEK OF APRIL 5

Psalm 51:18-19

¹⁸ May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of Jerusalem.

*¹⁹ Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt offerings offered whole;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.*



In what ways can you delight in God today?

What parts of your communities do you feel are broken?

How can God's work in you overflow into blessing those around you?

This Lenten Journal is a guide for your Scripture reading, meditation, and prayer. Feel free to read the entire Psalm each day and then center on the verses of the week. Take time to allow those verses take root in your mind and heart. The questions are intended to prompt you toward God and God's activity in your life.

- How is God speaking to me through the Word?
- How is God's still, small voice guiding me in what lies ahead in my day?

Use the available space to journal your prayers. Conclude your time with God with this prayer of commitment:

Almighty and Eternal God, grant that in this day I may stay close to you. Suggest, direct, and lead my every movement, thought, and attitude by the grace and love of Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

May God draw near to all of us during this time.

PSALM 51

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.
- ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

WEEK OF MARCH 29

Psalm 51:13-17

- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- ¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart
you, God, will not despise.



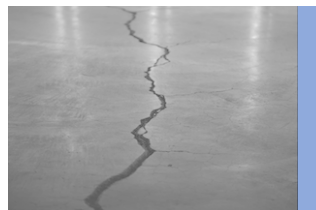
When we feel forgiven, how does this impact the way we see and treat others?

What does a broken and crushed heart look like?

What do you want to offer to God right now?



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- ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
so that sinners will turn back to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
you who are God my Savior,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ Open my lips, Lord,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
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- ¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart
you, God, will not despise.
- ¹⁸ May it please you to prosper Zion,
to build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- ¹⁹ Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the
righteous,
in burnt offerings offered whole;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

WEEK OF MARCH 22

Psalms 51:10-12

¹⁰ *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

¹¹ *Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.*

¹² *Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.*

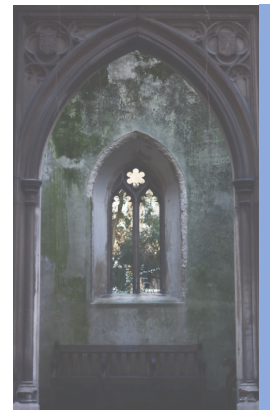
Have you ever experienced the absence of God? What is it like to feel like God's Spirit has left you?

When life is difficult, how is it hard to see God's presence?

Where in your life do you need God to put a "new faithful spirit" in you at this time?



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WEEK OF MARCH 15

Psalms 51:7-9



⁷ *Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.*

⁸ *Let me hear joy and gladness let the bones you have crushed rejoice.*

⁹ *Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.*

Reflect on the imagery of these verses. What does the process of being cleansed entail?

Sin leaves stains. What stains are in your life? How is God working to remove them?

How can you experience God's joy in the midst of being broken and crushed?

WEEK OF MARCH 1

Psalms 51:1-2

¹ *Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.*

² *Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*



What prompted David to pen this psalm (read II Samuel 11-12)? What was broken in David's life?

When have you experienced mercy from someone else?

When has God shown you mercy?

Where do you need to experience God's mercy today?

WEEK OF MARCH 8

Psalms 51:3-6



³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

⁵Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

⁶Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.



Think of a time when you have felt wronged. How did this affect you? How have you struggled to forgive?

How have you been able to “name” your offenses to God?
Why is this difficult to do?

What does it mean that God desires faithfulness in the womb? and wisdom in our lives?

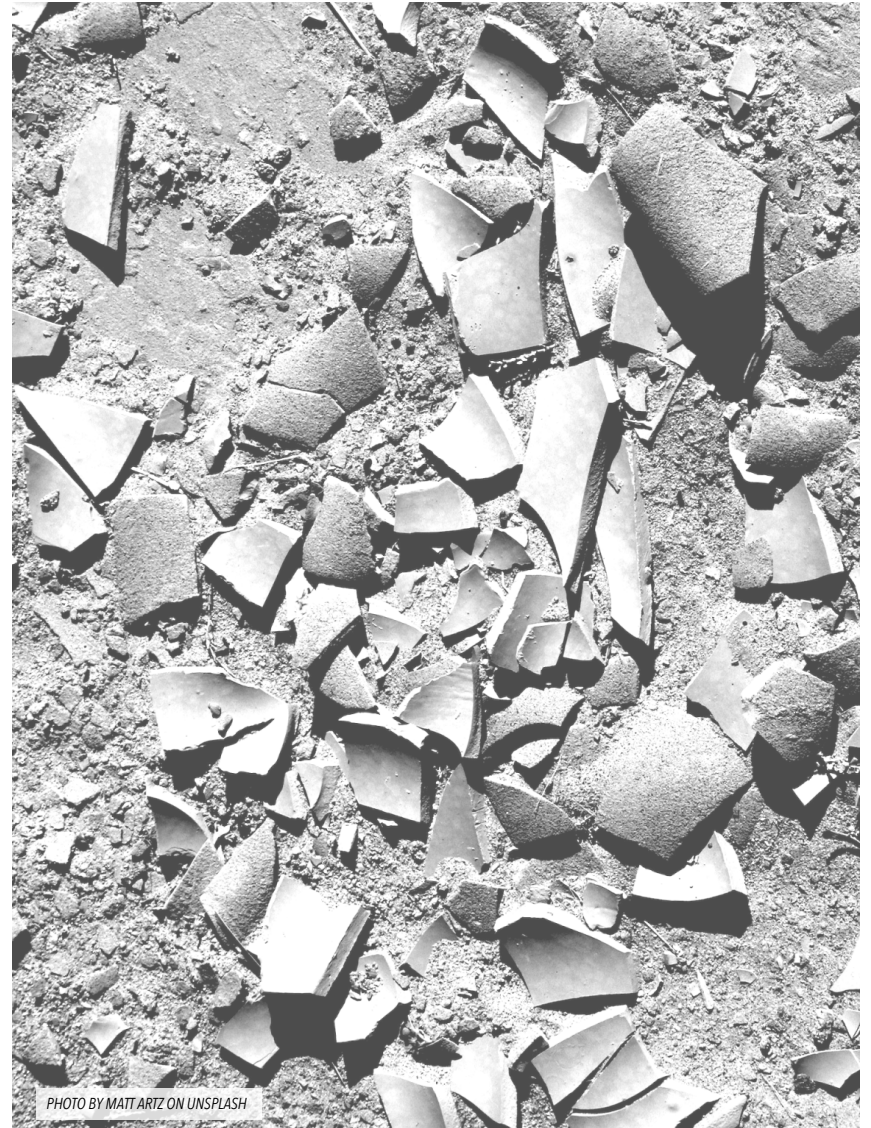


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