

Prayers for Lent

These prayers might be used in a variety of settings: Opening Prayers (at the beginning of worship) or concluding collects (after the Prayers of the People); for church websites or newsletters; or in personal, small group, or family devotion.

First Sunday in Lent

Holy One, whom alone we worship and serve,
your Word and Spirit sustain us in the wilderness.
Keep us faithful in times of struggle and testing
so that we may enter into your glorious realm
with Jesus Christ our Savior.
Matthew 4:1-11 / Year A

Holy God, by the grace of Jesus Christ
you know the tests and trials we face.
Walk with us through this wilderness.
Come to us with ministers of healing
and visit us with messengers of hope,
so that we may return to you in faith,
believing the good news of the gospel;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Mark 1:9-15 / Year B

Gracious God,
you are our way in the wilderness.
In our own times of testing
be our spiritual nourishment,
protect us with your angels,
and show your authority in our lives,
so that we may hunger for righteousness
and live in peace and safety,
worshiping and serving you alone;
through Christ Jesus our Lord.
Luke 4:1-13 / Year C

Second Sunday in Lent

God of great love,
you alone can take away the sting of sin
and remove the venom of death.
Show us a sign of your saving power in Jesus Christ,
so that we may believe in him
and receive the gift of eternal life;
through Christ, our healer and redeemer.
John 3:1-17 / Year A

Eternal God, holy and faithful,
what can we give in return for our life?

Teach us to take up the cross of Christ
with grateful hearts and humble spirits,
offering all for the sake of the gospel,
so that we may receive life in fullness;
through Christ, who is coming in glory.
Mark 8:31-38 / Year B

Lord our God, blessed is the one
who comes in your name!
Gather us in your gentle presence
as a hen shelters her brood
beneath her wings.
Finish the work you have begun in us
so that we may show your glory;
through Jesus Christ our peace.
Luke 13:31-35 / Year C

Third Sunday in Lent

God of spirit and truth,
you alone satisfy our dry and weary souls.
Let us drink from the spring of your mercy
so that we may never be thirsty
for the gift of your saving love;
through Jesus Christ, the water of life.
John 4:5-42 / Year A

Holy God, in Jesus Christ you have built for us
an eternal house, a temple of righteousness,
a place of gracious plenty for the hungry
and abundant life for the poor in spirit.
Fill us with zeal for the body of Christ.
Overturn the tables of corruption and greed
and upset the imbalance of injustice,
so that we may worship you in spirit and truth;
through Jesus Christ, who is risen indeed.
John 2:13-22 / Year B

God of patience and compassion,
cause our lives to bear good fruit –
the fruit of repentance –
so that others may taste and see
your goodness and grace;
through Christ our Lord.
Luke 13:1-9 / Year C

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gracious God, giver of all light and vision,
by your Word you made the day and night.

Let your wondrous work be revealed in us
so that your glory might shine like the sun;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.
John 9:1-41 / Year A

Loving God, giver of all light and life,
you sent Jesus Christ into the world
not to condemn, but to save.
Help us to lift up the light of Christ
so that the world might believe in him
and receive the gift of eternal life;
through Christ, the light of the world.
John 3:14-21 / Year B

God of the lost, the least,
and all who long for home,
when we wander from your ways
and waste the gifts you have given us,
welcome us back, we pray,
so that we may celebrate and rejoice
in your presence forever;
through Jesus Christ your beloved Son.
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 / Year C

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Christ our Savior, you call us by name,
leading us from death into eternal life.
Awaken and unbind us by your Word,
so that we may live and grow in faith,
sharing your saving love with others;
for you are the resurrection and the life.
John 11:1-45 / Year A

God of thundering glory and wondrous love,
you lifted up Jesus Christ from the earth
to draw all people to your holy name.
Like grains of wheat that fall to the dust,
teach us to die—and so to bear much fruit,
giving our lives for the sake of the gospel,
following and serving Christ Jesus forever.
John 12:20-33 / Year B

Loving God, how lavishly you pour out
the costly gift of your grace upon us.
Fill our homes and our lives
with the fragrance of your love,
so that we may show your glory
and serve your people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
John 12:1-8 / Year C