

Lent Week Two

Wednesday

Read: Psalm 69:13a *Turning to God*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Is there an acceptable time you are looking for in your prayers today?*
2. *Give thanks today for God's steadfast love, no matter what challenges or doubts we face.*

Prayer Focus We are yours, God of Grace, because you loved us first. We re-commit ourselves to praying to you and you alone as the center of all love.

Thursday

Read: Psalm 69:13b-15 *Praying*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Are you struggling with something in your life or faith that seems overwhelming?*
2. *How has God delivered you from trouble in the past?*

Prayer Focus When we look over our lives so far, we see so many times and places where you were with us, whether we knew it or not. Thank you, God of Glory, for staying close and for watching over us, always.

Friday

Read: Psalm 69:16 *Counting on God's help*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *How will you know if God has turned toward you?*
2. *What aspect of God's abundant mercy could you offer to someone else today? What steps could you take toward that?*

Prayer Focus We're blessed that you're the God who listens: when we suffer, when we celebrate, even when we complain. We're humbled that Jesus was shamed, suffered, rejected and more, all to show us the way to you. Because of all of this, we are yours and you are ours.

Pastor's message: Psalm 69:8-16

Message Notes:

Small Group Format

Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Have you ever been the “new kid” in some situation? How did you get past that feeling?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Psalm 69:8-16**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)



LENT WEEK TWO

March 5, 2023

Monday

Read: Psalm 69:8-9 *Shaming*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Have you ever been rejected? How did you handle it?*
2. *Do you feel you are criticized for your faith, or for what others believe about the church in general?*

Prayer Focus We want to belong and feel a part of our world, Holy God. We also know that there are people who do not want to see or hear about our faith. We are grateful that we can look to you for comfort when we are hurt or rejected.

Tuesday

Read: Psalm 69:10-12 *Suffering*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Do you feel comfortable talking about your faith to those outside the church? Why?*
2. *Is there a spiritual practice you'd like to try but feel awkward about what others might say? How might you resolve this?*

Prayer Focus It hurts when we do what we believe is right in our faith and others use it against us. Help us not to give up, to run, or to disguise who we are. Stand with us, God