

FEBRUARY 28, 2016  
THIRD SUNDAY IN  
LENT

taking+  
faith  
home

*Return to the Lord.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree
Monday	Psalms 63:1-8	Delight in God's presence
Tuesday	Isaiah 55:1-9	Seek the Lord
Wednesday	Ezekiel 18:25b-32	Repent and live
Thursday	Hosea 14:1-7	Return to the Lord
Friday	Luke 3:1-9	The fruit of repentance
Saturday	Psalms 34:11-22	Turn from evil and do good
Sunday	Luke 15:1-3,11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Turn to the Lord! He can still be found. Call out to God! He is near. Give up your crooked ways and your evil thoughts. Return to the Lord our God. He will be merciful and forgive your sins. **Isaiah 55:6-7 (CEV)**

### **SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

O God, show us your mercy and love as we turn to you each day. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Mealtime is here, O what a spread! Thanks be to God, who gives us bread. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God satisfy your deepest needs. May God show you kindness and be your helper. Amen. (Psalm 63:3-7)



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### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Are you a patient or an impatient person? When is it hard to be patient?
- Read Jesus' parable about the fig tree (Luke 13:6-8). Where do you see patience shown in this story? How is God patient with us?
- Being forgiven is the heart of the grace and mercy of God. Talk about a time you have been forgiven.

### DEVOTIONS



The theme of repentance runs through the Bible readings for this Sunday. God gives us the Ten Commandments to help us examine our thoughts, words, and actions. In your family devotion times this week, listen together to the Ten Commandments and talk about what they mean.

- You shall have no other gods.
- You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
- Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- Honor your father and your mother.
- You shall not kill.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
- You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse, or their manservant, or their maidservant, or their cattle, or anything that is your neighbor's.

### SERVICE



"Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters" (Isaiah 55:1-2). With this passage in mind, commit to drinking only water at home this week. Estimate what you will save and donate it to a worthy cause. Use this opportunity to reflect on God's gift of water and our new birth through the waters of baptism.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Repentance is above all else gaining a new mind, a new way of seeing things. Use Psalm 51:10 as a Lenten greeting with family and friends: One person says, "**Create in me a clean heart, O God.**" The other responds, "**and put a new and right spirit within me.**" This can be done with a spirit of joy by doing a "high-five" as the words are exchanged.

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

