

MARCH 12, 2017  
SECOND SUNDAY IN  
LENT



*God has shown love for the whole world by giving us  
Jesus, our Savior.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 3:1-17</b>	<b>For God so loved the world</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Genesis 12:1-4</b>	<b>God chooses Abram</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>John 7:53–8:11</b>	<b>Jesus does not condemn</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Romans 4:1-5, 13-17</b>	<b>God's promise to Abraham</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1 John 4:7-21</b>	<b>God is love</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1 John 5:1-12</b>	<b>Faith in the Son of God</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 121</b>	<b>God protects us</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 4:5-42</b>	<b>Jesus and the woman at the well</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

God loved the people of the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die. **John 3:16 (CEV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

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

God, thank you for showing us your great love through Jesus. Make our lives signs of your love to those around us. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Lord God, thank you for these gifts before us, signs of your great love. As we are filled with food, fill us also with love for others. Amen.

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

May the Lord watch over your life and keep you from all harm. May he keep you safe in your coming and your going, now and always. (Psalm 121:7-8)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*I Love to Tell the Story*



### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- What makes you feel loved?
- What has God done to show love for us? What does it mean to you that God loves you?
- In the Gospel of John, the word “world” most often means those hostile to God (see 16:33 and 17:14). What does it mean to you that in John 3:16, God loves the world that hates God?

### DEVOTIONS



In John 3, Nicodemus, a Jewish leader, comes to Jesus by night to question him. In John 7:45-52 he defends Jesus before the Pharisees. In John 20:38-42 he joins Joseph of Arimathea, a secret believer, to anoint Jesus' body for burial. How is the story of Nicodemus an example of the path of faith as a follower of Jesus? How does it compare with your own journey of faith? Pray for all those who wonder about Jesus that they may enter the kingdom of God through water and the Spirit. (John 3:5)

### SERVICE



Genesis 12:1 tells how God called Abram to leave his home country and his relatives to live in a new land. In our world today, there are many people who are forced out of their home countries by war and other hardships. Talk about the challenges facing refugees. Make a donation to a trusted organization that assists refugees.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Genesis 12 and John 3 state that God blesses the world, including those who are hostile to God, promising love and salvation. During the Lenten season, take time to pray for those who are hostile to you, your family, your country, or the Christian church. Conclude with the Lord's Prayer. Memorize John 3:16.



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)