AWAKE & ARISE

Lenten Daily Prayer Guide 2025

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." -Ephesians 5:14

Are you awake yet?

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." -Ephesians 5:14

Lent, much like Advent, has a startling beginning. On Ash Wednesday, in the middle of the week, as spring is just on the horizon, we are told "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." You are mortal; you will die. If you weren't awake yet, you are now. But we aren't woken up just to dwell on the sobering fact of our mortality. Simply being awake is not enough. There must be an action. As Paul says in Ephesians, "Awake... and arise" (Eph. 5:14). The Season of Lent is, traditionally, one oriented around action. Even the natural world around us is beginning to awaken and rise to new life in the spring time (the word "lent" literally means "spring").

Our focus in this year's Lent Daily Worship Guide is on action. Not simply action for actions sake, but rather, intentional, formational practices that move our newly awoken hearts that we might more fully reflect the glory of God as we soak up the light of Christ, shining not just on us but in us and through us.

The following guide includes a brief morning and evening liturgy of prayer, scripture, and song for each week in Lent. The liturgy is followed by a closer look at and practical application of one or two of All Saints Ten Spiritual Formation Practices.

We learned about these practices in our Epiphany sermon series; and now is the time to put them into practice. If you're new to these practices, consider adopting one or two for the season. We assigned each one to a week in order to give you a broad overview of where to begin and how they flow one into the other, but these are life-long practices for the Christian.

Finally, we hope you'll join us in worship in Lent. As you can see, worship isn't listed as one of the ten practices because it is the fount from which flows the rest of our spiritual life. You'll also notice that Sundays aren't included in the weekly liturgy in the guide – because Sundays are a day of celebration, of feasting as we rejoice together that through the death and resurrection of Christ, our lenten labor is not in vain.

Spiritual Formation Practices

- Word & Prayer
- Smaller Groups
- Study
- 1-on-1 Relationships
- Sabbath
- Retreat
- Tithing & Sacrificial Giving
- Fasting & Moderation
- Hospitality
- Service

More about the practices:



WORSHIP

9:00 AM 10:15 AM 11:30 AM WEDNESDAYS
12:00 PM
Eucharist Service
in the Chapel

AFFIRM

THE APOSTLES' CREED (text on page 28)

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth...."

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

 Wednesday:
 Ps. 32, 143
 Jonah 3:1-4:11
 Heb. 12:1-14

 Thursday:
 Ps. 37:1-18
 Deut. 7:6-11
 Titus 1:1-16

 Friday:
 Ps. 31
 Deut. 7:12-16
 Titus 2:1-15

 Saturday:
 Ps. 30, 32
 Deut. 7:17-26
 Titus 3:1-15

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice. How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions today?)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

SING

GOD, BE IN MY HEAD (music on page 23)

CONFESS

(text on page 28)

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep..."

SING

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART OR KYRIE ELEISON (music on pages 23-24)

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Wednesday:Ps. 102, 130Luke 18:9-14Thursday:Ps. 37:19-42John 1:29-34Friday:Ps. 35John 1:35-42Saturday:Ps. 42-43John 1:43-51

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven....

(Personal prayers for yourself, others, and the world.)

EVENING COLLECT

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper* light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The word "vesper" comes from the Latin word for evening. Vesper light was the last light of day and the time when the first stars would appear.

WORD & PRAYER

IN PRACTICE

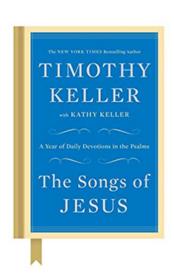
For many of us, prayer feels confusing and burdensome. We wonder whether we are "getting it right." Jesus' disciples felt the same way. "Teach us to pray!" they begged him. In order to understand prayer, we have to understand how it is related to Scripture. As Eugene Peterson says, "Prayer is never the first word. It is always the second word. God has the first word." Prayer always follows Scripture, just as we open worship with the words of a Psalm before we pray. God's words first; our words second. God speaks; and we answer. We listen to God in Scripture; and then we pray.

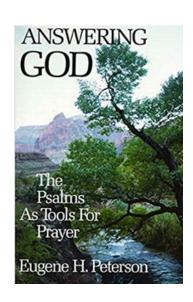
This can actually be quite relieving, because for the first time in our lives, the pressure is off. We do not have to "come up with" prayer on our own. We do not have to pull out our journal and wait for prayer to "happen": to spring up from our mind, our thoughts, our hearts... and then be frustrated when we don't feel like we have anything good to say or write. If we have the Bible, we already have everything we need to pray. We simply pray the Scriptures, pray after the Scriptures, pray from the Scriptures. We don't grow prayer on our own. Prayer springs up from scripture as naturally as plants from good and watered soil.

WHERE TO START...

More resources at allsaintsaustin.org/word-and-prayer







Get emails with scripture readings and prayers delivered to your inbox twice a day.



Start with a year of devotions from Tim Keller based on the Psalms.

Guidelines from Eugene Peterson for using the Psalms as a dynamic guide to prayer.

WEEK ONE

REFLECTION



Lent is inescapably about repenting. Repentance is a change in direction, a Spirit-empowered turning around. Repentance, then, is the first step we make toward God. But to turn toward God we must turn away from something else. That something else is our sins.

Lent, then, is about turning away from our sins and toward the living God. A season dedicated to repentance and renewal should not lead us to despair; it should cause us to praise God for his grace. Central to Lent is the idea that we need this kind of renewal consistently throughout our lives. We do not receive God's grace only when we turn to him at the beginning of our spiritual journey. God's grace meets us again and again...

When Peter preached that first sermon at Pentecost, the Scripture says his hearers were "cut to the heart" and asked, "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). Peter told them they must repent. The proclamation of the gospel and the realization that it tells the story of God's work through his Son's life, death, and resurrection creates a crisis. When we enter the presence of God, no one has to convince us of our sinfulness. We learn about our inadequacy by the contrast between ourselves and God's holiness...

The good news is that at the moment we see the gap between ourselves and our Lord, we also encounter the blood that draws us in and assures us we are forgiven. Jesus' own presence is both grace and judgement...

We hope that as Christians we mature and grow and become more and more like Christ. But the church in its wisdom assumes we will fail... The church presumes that life is long and zeal fades, not just for some of us but for all. So it has included within its life a season in which all of us can recapture our love for God and his kingdom and cast off those things that so easily entangle us.

-Esau McCaulley

AFFIRM

THE APOSTLES' CREED (text on page 28)

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth...."

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 41, 52	Deut. 8:11-20	Heb. 2:11-18
Tuesday:	Ps. 45	Deut. 9:4-12	Heb. 3:1-11
Wednesday:	Ps. 119:49-72	Deut. 9:13-21	Heb. 3:12-19
Thursday:	Ps. 50	Deut. 9:23-10:5	Heb. 4:1-10
Friday:	Ps. 40, 54	Deut. 10:12-22	Heb. 4:11-16
Saturday:	Ps. 55	Deut. 11:18-28	Heb. 5:1-10

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice. How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions today?)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

SING

THERE IS A REDEEMER (music on page 26)

CONFESS

(text on page 28)

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep..."

SING

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART OR KYRIE ELEISON* (music on pages 23-24)

*The phrase "Kyrie Eleison" simply means "Lord, have mercy," derived from the Greek for "Have mercy on me, Ο Lord" (ἐλέησόν με κύριε).

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 44	John 2:1-12
Tuesday:	Ps. 47-48	John 2:13-22
Wednesday:	Ps. 49	John 2:23-3:15
Thursday:	Ps. 19, 46	John 3:16-21
Friday:	Ps. 51	John 3:22-36
Saturday:	Ps. 138-139	John 4:1-26

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven....

(Personal prayers for yourself, others, and the world.)

EVENING COLLECT

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SMALLER GROUPS & STUDY

IN PRACTICE

SMALLER GROUPS

In today's world, true, deep, and life-giving connection is rare. Despite being constantly "connected" through technology, many of us hunger for genuine community. At All Saints, we seek to create spaces where meaningful relationships can flourish—whether through Formation Groups, Bible Studies, Classes, or Support Groups. The Christian journey isn't walked alone but in community with other Christians. It's through these relationships that we mature as followers of Christ, sharing life together, growing through God's word, and serving alongside one another. In these smaller groups, the nourishing waters of Scripture and the bonds of fellowship help sustain and grow us, equipping us to live and love as Christ's Body in the world.

STUDY

The practice of study deepens our understanding of God and His Word, shaping how we live out our faith. Study is more than memorizing facts—it's meditating on and pondering the truths of Scripture, allowing them to take root in our hearts. This often happens in community, where God speaks through the insights of others, but it also requires solitude, creating space to reflect and hear God's voice. At All Saints, we offer opportunities to study both individually and with others, recognizing that Christian theology offers wisdom and guidance for our journey of faith.

WHERE TO START...

Join a Smaller Group! This can take the form of a Formation Group, a
Ministry Bible Study, or a Class. It can be intimidating to enter into a
smaller group of people whom you may or may not know, but we want
to make it as simple as possible for you. Scan the QR Code for a list of
our active Formation Groups across the city:



Join one of our <u>Men's</u>, <u>Women's</u>, or <u>Spanish</u> Bible Studies, <u>Youth Groups</u> for middle and high school students, or <u>Sunday Classes</u>. You can also explore resources in the <u>All Saints Bookstore</u> or <u>download sermon</u> guides to dig deeper into God's Word throughout the week.



WEEK TWO

REFLECTION

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. 3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. 4 One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. 5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. 6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the LORD. 7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! 8 You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek." 9 Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation! 10 For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in. 11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. 12 Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. 13 I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! 14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

-Psalm 27



Look for him and wait for him. Those are the two key Lenten messages that come out of this Psalm. 'Come on,' the Psalmist says to his own heart, 'seek his face!' Isn't this strange? Isn't God always available? Why do we have to work hard at looking for him?

God is gracious, and longs to be found by people of all sorts and at all times. But God does not put himself about as a mere item of curiosity, a show for the spiritual tourists, so that anyone can pop in and glance at him, shrug their shoulders and walk away. You have to want to go looking for him, so that when you find him and know you're in his presence it's a thing of awe and joy and wonder, a demanding and challenging but also warming and healing presence that gives you the strength you need.

And looking for him takes time. You have to wait as well as look.

We are familiar with the story of the eager European explorer setting off into the African bush, followed by Africans carrying his baggage. After two or three days the followers refuse to go any further for a while. They aren't tired, they explain. They are waiting for their souls to catch up.

WEEK TWO

REFLECTION

Well, I think God is a bit like that. We want results now. A recent advertisement for a new mobile phone shouts that 'Impatience is a Virtue!' It isn't. It's a vice. A damaging one to human relationships, and still more damaging to our relationship with God.

Looking for God and waiting for God are important not least because we are surrounded by enemies. That may sound almost paranoid. We want to ask the Psalmist: 'Who are these "enemies"? What's the problem? Why don't you thank God for your friends instead of worrying about people being out to get you?'

Part of the answer is that David, the original Psalmist, spent much of his life surrounded by all sorts of enemies – Philistines, Saul and his followers, other foreign nations and then, darkly, enemies within his own family. But David's experience acts as a signpost to the fact that anyone who wants to seek God and to wait for him will face struggles of various kinds. Sometimes other people will resent what you're doing, or criticize you. Even in our supposedly 'free society' some people so hate the Christian message that they make it impossible for Christians to hold down particular jobs.

Then there are the other enemies: the accusing and wheedling and mocking voices within our own heads and hearts. These often become just that bit louder when, in Lent and at similar times, we set ourselves to seek God and to wait for him.

This is the Psalm you need when those voices start to become threatening, and you need to remind yourself where your real stronghold lies.

Lord, be my light and my salvation, today, this week, and for ever.

-N.T. Wright, Lent for Everyone

AFFIRM

THE APOSTLES' CREED (text on page 28)

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth...."

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 56-57	Jer. 1:11-19	Rom. 1:1-15
Tuesday:	Ps. Ps. 61-62	Jer. 2:1-13	Rom. 1:16-25
Wednesday:	Ps. 72	Jer. 3:6-18	Rom. 1:28-2:11
Thursday:	Ps. 71	Jer. 4:19-28	Rom. 2:12-24
Friday:	Ps. 69	Jer. 5:1-9	Rom. 2:25-3:18
Saturday:	Ps. 75-76	Jer. 5:20-31	Rom. 3:19-31

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice. How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions today?)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

SING

BE THOU MY VISION (music on page 25)

CONFESS

(text on page 28)

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep..."

SING

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART OR KYRIE ELEISON (music on pages 23–24)

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 64-65	Luke 20:1-8
Tuesday:	Ps. 10-11	Luke 20:9-18
Wednesday:	Ps. 12-14	Luke 20:19-26
Thursday:	Ps. 18:21-50	Luke 20:27-40
Friday:	Ps. 22	Luke 20:41-21:4
Saturday:	Ps. 110	Luke 21:5-19

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven....

(Personal prayers for yourself, others, and the world.)

EVENING COLLECT

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1-ON-1 RELATIONSHIPS

IN PRACTICE

Scripture is full of examples of one-on-one relationships in which the spiritual life of the participants was nourished and built up by the wisdom, knowledge, and experience of another Christian. Ruth and Naomi, Elijah and Elisha, Paul and Timothy - these are just some of the ones we can name. But the entire culture of the Ancient Near East was one of apprenticeship, mentorship, and discipleship, sitting at the feet of another who is further along your path to receive guidance or instruction.

At All Saints, we want to help you cultivate some of these life-giving relationships, whether you are facing a particular challenge or simply want another Christian voice speaking truth into your life. There are four forms of one-on-one relationships, depending on your need or desire - Ministerial Counseling, Spiritual Mentorship (Discipleship), Spiritual Direction, and Licensed Professional Counseling. These relationships are by no means exclusive from one another and it is often recommended to maintain them concurrently. For example, it is very common and appropriate for someone in a relationship of Spiritual Direction to also be in Licensed Professional Counseling.

WHERE TO START...

There are four types of 1-on-1 relationships All Saints facilitates:

- Ministerial Counseling
- Spiritual Mentorship/Discipleship
- Spiritual Direction
- Licensed Professional Counseling

To find out more about these options or to get started, scan the QR code here or contact Courtney Johnson (cjohnson@allsaintsaustin.org).



REFLECTION



"...What I had mistaken for humility had, all these years, prevented me from understanding what is in fact the humblest, the most childlike, the most creaturely of pleasures - nay, the specific pleasure of the inferior: the pleasure of a beast before men, a child before its father, a pupil before his teacher, a creature before its Creator. I am not forgetting how horribly this most innocent desire is parodied in our human ambitions, or how very quickly, in my own experience, the lawful pleasure of praise from those whom it was my duty to please turns into the deadly poison of self-admiration. But I thought I could detect a moment - a very, very short moment - before this happened, during which the satisfaction of having pleased those whom I rightly loved and rightly feared was pure. And that is enough to raise our thoughts to what may happen when the redeemed soul, beyond all hope and nearly beyond belief, learns at last that she has pleased Him whom she was created to please. There will be no room for vanity then. She will be free from the miserable illusion that it is her doing. With no taint of what we should now call selfapproval she will most innocently rejoice in the thing that God has made her to be, and the moment which heals her old inferiority complex forever will also drown her pride deeper than Prospero's book. Perfect humility dispenses with modesty. If God is satisfied with the work, the work may be satisfied with itself; 'it is not for her to bandy compliments with her Sovereign."

-C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory

AFFIRM

THE APOSTLES' CREED (text on page 28)

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth...."

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 80	Jer. 7:1-15	Rom. 4:1-12
Tuesday:	Ps. 78:1-39	Jer. 7:21-34	Rom. 4:13-25
Wednesday:	Ps. 119:97-120	Jer. 8:18-9:6	Rom. 5:1-11
Thursday:	Ps. 42-43	Jer. 10:11-24	Rom. 5:12-21
Friday:	Ps. 88	Jer. 11:1-8, 14-20	Rom. 6:1-11
Saturday:	Ps. 87, 90	Jer. 13:1-11	Rom. 12-23

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice. How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions today?)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

SING

GOD, BE IN MY HEAD (music on page 23)

CONFESS

(text on page 28)

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep..."

SING

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART OR KYRIE ELEISON (music on pages 23–24)

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 77	John 7:14-36
Tuesday:	Ps. 78:40-72	John 7:37-52
Wednesday:	Ps. 81-82	John 8:12-20
Thursday:	Ps. 85-86	John 8:21-32
Friday:	Ps. 91-92	John 8:33-47
Saturday:	Ps. 136	John 8:47-59

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven....

(Personal prayers for yourself, others, and the world.)

EVENING COLLECT

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Appointed scripture readings come from the daily lectionary found in the Book of Common Prayer (1979). A lectionary is simply a Bible reading plan, and one that a large portion of the worldwide Church uses. If you follow the daily lectionary readings, you are reading the same portions of scripture as many Christians the world over.

SABBATH & RETREAT

IN PRACTICE

Our practices are purposefully ordered with Sabbath and Retreat as the hinge point. You'll notice in Jesus' ministry that teaching and healing and miracles are punctuated with times of solitude, when he "rises early to go up on a mountain to pray." Sabbath and Retreat have at their root the pure enjoyment of the presence of God, a taste of the eternal rest promised to the people of God. They are an active pause in which God reminds us of his presence in every aspect of our life so that we might once again be sent out in his power. We engage in the practice of Sabbath for both solace in God's rest and strength for the journey ahead.

If you think of the ten practices as a breath of air, the first four are inhaling - God's Word, community, the direction and wisdom of others. The final four are exhaling - giving of wealth, giving of excess, opening your home, and your time for others. At the turning point of each breath there is a pause, and sabbath is this pause in between the inspiring and expiring of the Christian life.

WHERE TO START...

The word "Sabbath" for most of us calls to mind Sundays. But Sabbath is a daily practice as well as a weekly practice. The starting point of practicing Sabbath is going to sleep each night. Sleeping is not only resting from the day, but a faith act of utter dependence on God who "neither slumbers nor sleeps." We trust Him to provide the very air we breath, and we let go of what still needs to be done in the day.

After daily Sabbath, we turn to our weekly Sabbath - a day that is set apart as different, in which we delight in the presence of God and in simply being together with others who are made in his image.

Retreats offer an extended and intentional time for renewal — a deeper version of daily and weekly practices of rest, reading, and prayer. They provide space to listen, learn, pray, be silent, and experience God's grace, whether alone or with others. All Saints typically hosts retreats for women, men, youth, and young adults throughout the year, but they can also be meaningful when done individually or with a small group of friends.

Listen to a sermon on Sabbath from our recent Epiphany series:



More resources on Sabbath and Retreat:



WEEK FOUR

REFLECTION



O Divine Redeemer,
Great was thy goodness
in undertaking my redemption,
in consenting to be made sin for me,
in conquering all my foes;
Great was thy strength

oreat was tny strength in enduring the extremities of divine wrath, in taking away the load of my iniquities;

Great was thy love in manifesting thyself alive, in showing thy sacred wounds, that every fear might vanish, and every doubt be removed;

and every doubt be removed;
Great was thy mercy
in ascending to heaven
in being crowned and enthroned
there to intercede for me,
there to succour me in temptation,
there to open the eternal book,
there to receive me finally to thyself;

Great was thy wisdom
in devising this means of salvation;
Bathe my soul in rich consolations
of thy resurrection life;
Great was thy grace

in commanding me to come hand in hand with thee to the Father, to be knit to him eternally,

to discover in him my rest, to find in him my peace, to behold his glory,

to honour him who is alone worthy; in giving me the Spirit as teacher, guide, power,

that I may live repenting of sin, conquer Satan, find victory in life.

When thou art absent all sorrows are here, When thou art present all blessings are mine.

-The Valley of Vision, Victory

AFFIRM

THE APOSTLES' CREED (text on page 28)

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth...."

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 89:1-18	Jer. 16:10-21	Rom. 7:1-12
Tuesday:	Ps. 97, 99	Jer. 17:19-27	Rom. 7:13-25
Wednesday:	Ps. 101, 109	Jer. 18:1-11	Rom. 8:1-11
Thursday:	Ps. 69	Jer. 22:13-23	Rom. 8:12-27
Friday:	Ps. 102	Jer. 23:1-8	Rom. 8:28-39
Saturday:	Ps. 108	Jer. 23:9-15	Rom. 9:1-18

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice. How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions today?)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

SING

BE THOU MY VISION (music on page 25)

CONFESS

(text found on page 28)

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep..."

SING

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART OR KYRIE ELEISON (music on pages 23-24)

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 89:19-52	John 6:1-15
Tuesday:	Ps. 94	John 6:16-27
Wednesday:	Ps. 119:121-144	John 6:27-40
Thursday:	Ps. 73	John 6:41-51
Friday:	Ps. 107:1-32	John 6:52-59
Saturday:	Ps. 33	John 6:60-71

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven....

(Personal prayers for yourself, others, and the world.)

EVENING COLLECT

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TITHING & SACRIFICIAL GIVING, FASTING & MODERATION

IN PRACTICE

As we said last week, if we think of the ten practices as a breath of air, the final four practices are the exhalation into the world of all we received in the first four. You cannot inhale without exhaling or, quite simply, you'll die.

In tithing we give away what we have, emptying ourselves in order to be filled by God. The paradox of Christianity is that we are more blessed, satisfied, and fulfilled when we give, rather than when we receive. It was true of our Savior and it's true of us. The goal of sacrificial giving is to more fully display the generosity of Jesus to us in our giving to others.

Fasting, in much the same way, takes away something from our life in order that we might experience hunger or lack. In this experience we are reminded that in God there is no lack.

The self-sacrifice and self-denial required in both these practices is extremely difficult. It also runs counter to a culture in which more is better and self-sufficiency is prized.

WHERE TO START...

Tithing & Sacrificial Giving: If you have not made tithing to the General Fund a MAKE A 2025 PLEDGE regular practice, we invite you to begin there. All Saints relies 100% on the faithfulness of its members, through their tithes and offerings, to continue the mission to which God has called us. If you're interested in additional ways you can give sacrificially above and beyond your General Fund tithe, during this season or long-term, consider donating to another All Saints fund or to one of our missions partners.

- Donations to the All Saints Building Fund go towards helping us build a space that will accommodate the growing number of people the Lord is bringing through our doors.
- The Benevolence Fund is managed by our diaconate and helps cover expenses for those going through particular times of need.



MORE ABOUT GIVING



Fasting: If you've never fasted as a spiritual practice before, consider how you might need to modify your fast (half a day, skipping certain meals, etc.). It is also advised that you consult your doctor prior to fasting to make sure fasting will not be harmful for you physically. It is also recommended to involve other Christians in your fast. Consider fasting with your family or with a friend group. In the Season of Lent, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are traditional fast days for Christians. It is also common practice to fast every Wednesday or every Friday throughout the season. The book *Fasting* by Scot McKnight is a good resource for beginning this practice.

REFLECTION

66-

In the Orthodox teaching, sin is not only the transgression of a rule leading to punishment; it is always a mutilation of life given to us by God. It is for this reason that the story of the original sin is presented to us as an act of eating. For food is means of life; it is that which keeps us alive. But here lies the whole question: what does it mean to be alive and what does "life" mean? For us today this term has a primarily biological meaning: life is precisely that which entirely depends on food, and more generally, on the physical world. But for the Holy Scripture and for Christian Tradition, this life "by bread alone" is identified with death because it is mortal life, because death is a principle always at work in it. God, we are told, "created no death." He is the Giver of Life. How then did life become mortal? Why is death and death alone the only absolute condition of that which exists? The Church answers: because man rejected life as it was offered and given to him by God and preferred a life depending not on God alone but on "bread alone." Not only did he disobey God for which he was punished; he changed the very relationship between himself and the world. To be sure, the world was given to him by God as "food" - as means of life; yet life was meant to be communion with God; it had not only its end but its full content in Him. "In Him was Life and the Life was the light of man." The world and food were thus created as means of communion with God, and only if accepted for God's sake were to give life. In itself food has no life and cannot give life. Only God has Life and is Life. In food itself God - and not calories - was the principle of life. Thus to eat, to be alive, to know God and be in communion with Him were one and the same thing. The unfathomable tragedy of Adam is that he ate for its own sake. More than that, he ate "apart" from God in order to be independent of Him. And if he did it, it is because he believed that food had life in itself and that he, by partaking of that food, could be like God, i.e., have life in himself. To put it very simply: he believed in food, whereas the only object of belief, of faith, of dependence is God and God alone.

-Alexander Schmemann

AFFIRM

THE APOSTLES' CREED (text on page 28)

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth...."

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 31	Jer. 24:1-10	Rom. 9:19-33
Tuesday:	Ps. 121-123	Jer. 25:8-17	Rom. 10:1-13
Wednesday:	Ps. 119:145-176	Jer. 25:30-38	Rom. 10:14-21
Thursday:	Ps. 131-132	Jer. 26:1-16	Rom. 11:1-12
Friday:	Ps. 22	Jer. 29:4-13	Rom. 11:13-24
Saturday:	Ps. 144	Jer. 31:27-34	Rom. 11:25-36

PRAY

THE LORD 'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice. How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions today?)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

SING

WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE IN ME (music on page 26)

CONFESS

(text on page 28)

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep..."

SING

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART OR KYRIE ELEISON (music on pages 23-24)

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 35	John 9:1-17
Tuesday:	Ps. 124-126	John 9:18-41
Wednesday:	Ps. 128-130	John 10:1-18
Thursday:	Ps. 140, 142	John 10:19-42
Friday:	Ps. 141, 143	John 11:1-27
Saturday:	Ps. 42-43	John 12:37-50

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers for yourself, others, and the world.)

EVENING COLLECT

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOSPITALITY

IN PRACTICE

Hospitality is really another form of sacrificial giving – opening up your home and your life, usually giving your time (and often your fridge supply!) to others.

As members of the Body of Christ, we are marked by the same self-giving love that God lavishes on us. Hospitality is not simply a giving back of the same love and generosity shown to us, it is a characteristic of those who find their identity in Christ. The posture of hospitality is outward-facing and welcoming.

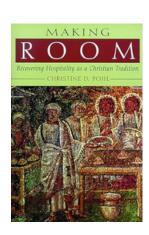
Hospitality is not just about having friends over for meals, although that is certainly a good and right part of it. It is also practiced in small ways like initiating a conversation with a visitor at church, or actively listening to a friend, a neighbor, or a family member. Hospitality is practiced any time you invite another person to share in your life, whether that's sharing a meal, sharing space, or just sharing time.

WHERE TO START...

In the Bible, as in most of life, practicing hospitality often starts with meals. Shared meals are a sign of shared life. Invite a friend or neighbor over for a meal. If your time allows, take a meal to someone in need. All Saints sets up Meal Trains for those undergoing major surgeries, those with a new baby, and other life circumstances. Emails are sent out by parish as needs arise. Consider bringing meals to those in need in your parish. If you are expecting a baby or have another life circumstance in which the church can care for you, contact Courtney Johnson (cjohnson@allsaintsaustin.org).

Hospitality is also found in small, everyday actions—initiating a conversation with someone new to you at church, listening attentively to a neighbor, or offering your time to a friend in need.

To further explore the practice of hospitality, we recommend Christine Pohl's book, <u>Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition.</u>



REFLECTION

"Here is the source of every sacrament,
The all-transforming presence of the Lord,
Replenishing our every element
Remaking us in his creative Word.
For here the earth herself gives bread and wine,
The air delights to bear his Spirit's speech,
The fire dances where the candles shine,
The waters cleanse us with His gentle touch.
And here He shows the full extent of love
To us whose love is always incomplete,
In vain we search the heavens high above,
The God of love is kneeling at our feet.
Though we betray Him, though it is the night.
He meets us here and loves us into light."

-Malcolm Guite, "Sonnet for Maundy Thursday"

As through a long-abandoned half-standing house only someone lost could find,

which, with its paneless windows and sagging crossbeams, its hundred crevices in which a hundred creatures hoard and nest,

seems both ghost of the life that happened there and living spirit of this wasted place,

wind seeks and sings every wound in the wood that is open enough to receive it,

shatter me God into my thousand sounds...

-Christian Wiman, "Small Prayer in a Hard Wind"

Holy Week

EVENING

AFFIRM

THE APOSTLES' CREED (text on page 28)

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth...."

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 51	Jer. 12:1-16	Phil. 3:1-14
Tuesday:	Ps. 6, 12	Jer. 15:10-21	Phil. 3:15-21
Wednesday:	Ps. 55	Jer. 17:5-10, 14-17	Phil. 4:1-13
Thursday:	Ps. 102	Jer. 20:7-11	1 Cor. 11:27-32
Friday:	Ps. 22	Gen. 22:1-14	1 Peter 1:10-20
Saturday:	Ps. 88	Job 19:21-27	Heb. 4:1-16

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven...

(Personal prayers - consider sitting quietly during this time and listening for the Lord's voice. How might his Word inform and shape your prayers and actions today?)

The Collect of the Week

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

SING

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS (music on page 27)

CONFESS

(text on page 28)

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep..."

SING

Create in Me a Clean Heart or Kyrie Eleison (music on page 15-16)

READ & MEDITATE

Think deeply and personally about how God speaks to you through these passages:

Monday:	Ps. 69:1-23	John 12:9-19
Tuesday:	Ps. 94	John 12:20-26
Wednesday:	Ps. 74	John 12:27-36
Thursday:	Ps. 142-143	John 17:1-26
Friday:	Ps. 40, 54	John 19:38-42
Saturday:	Ps. 27	Rom. 8:1-11

PRAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER (text on page 28)

Our Father who art in heaven....

(Personal prayers for yourself, others, and the world.)

EVENING COLLECT

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IN PRACTICE

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. - Mark 10:45

As we enter the darkness of Holy Week, culminating in Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we are reminded of the one who came "not to be served but to serve" and displayed servanthood from birth to death to resurrection. His self-emptying incarnation was an act of service, his life lived in the flesh was an act of service, his death on the cross and his resurrection were acts in service to his Father in heaven.

The call in Scripture to servanthood is not one primarily of service to other people but of service to our Father in heaven, embodied and lived out in our service to one another and the world.

Service is the last part of the exhale in the ten practices. We are ready to be refilled. When we have poured out our selves through tithing, sacrificial giving, and fasting, we find there is room to be filled to overflowing with the self-sacrificial love of God.

WHERE TO START...

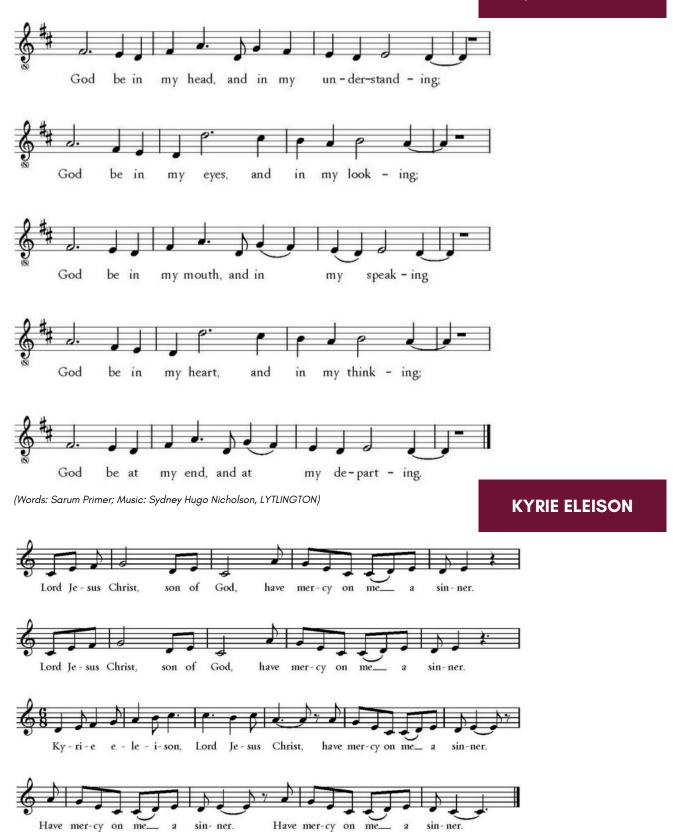
In the Church - One of the best places to start forming a habit is at home. The Church is the household of God and would not function without the many hands and feet of her servants. No matter your age, availability, or skill set there is a place in the church where you are needed. Fill out the form using the QR code to the right or contact Courtney Johnson (cjohnson@allsaintsaustin.org), and we will help you find a place to serve.



In the City - All Saints supports a number of local ministries who, like the Church, would not function without the self-giving servants responsible for the day-to-day operations of these organizations. Find out more about them at allsaintsaustin.org/missions.

In the World – All Saints sends out mission trips throughout the year and we'd love for you to be a part of our next trip. Contact Brooke Crockett (bcrocketteallsaintsaustin.org) to find out more about upcoming trips.

GOD, BE IN MY HEAD



(Words & Music: Isaac Wardell, arr. Isaac Wardell, Mason Neely, & Alex Foote; CCLI License #2476739)

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART



(Words: trans. John Mason Neale; Music: arr. Thomas Helmore, addtl. arr. David Lutes, 2007; CCLI license #2476739)

BE THOU MY VISION



(Words: Joseph Mohr, Music: Franz Gruber, CCLI license #2476739)

WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE IN ME



- I. Let the weak say "I am strong." Let the poor say "I am rich."
- 2. To the riv er I will wade. There my sins are washed a way.
- 3. I will rise from wat-ers deep in the sav-ing arms of God.



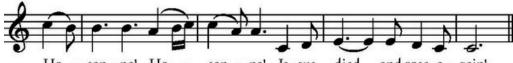
Let the blind say "I can see" what the Lord has done in me.

From the heav-ens mer-cy streams of the Sav-ior's love for me.

I will sing sal-va-tion songs. Je-sus Christ has set me free.



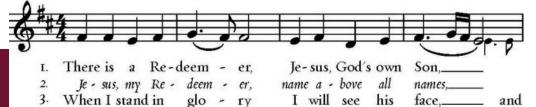
Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! to the Lamb that was slain!

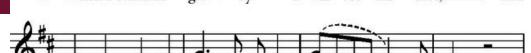


Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Je-sus died_ and rose a - gain!
(2x refrain after verse 3)

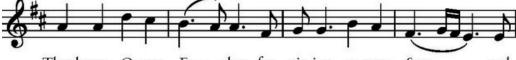
(Words: Phillips Brooks, Music: Lewis H. Redner, CCLI license #2476739)







pre-cious Lamb of God, Mes-si-ah, hope for sin ners slain. there I'll serve my King for-ev-er, that ho - ly place.



Thank you, O my Fa - ther, for giv-ing us your Son; and



leav - ing your Spi-rit 'til the work on_earth is done.

(Words: Phillips Brooks, Music: Lewis H. Redner, CCLI license #2476739)

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS



(Words and music: American folk hymn; CCLI License #2476739)

RESOURCES

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

People: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against your holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare those who confess their faults, restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that, we may, from this time onward, live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen. (from The Book of Common Prayer)

Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.



7:00 AM 8:15 AM 9:30 AM 10:45 AM Sunrise Service
Worship Service
Worship Service
Worship Service

Join us for a special Easter breakfast before and after the Sunrise Service!

