

MARCH 8, 2026  
THIRD SUNDAY  
IN LENT



*Faith is formed through personal, trusted relationships.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 4:5-42	Jesus and the woman at the well
Monday	Exodus 17:1-7	The Lord gives water from a rock
Tuesday	Romans 5:1-11	Right with God
Wednesday	John 3:16-21	God loves the world
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 2:5-12	Paul's relational ministry
Friday	Romans 12:9-21	Caring relationships
Saturday	Psalms 95	Call to worship
Sunday	John 9:1-41	The man born blind

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"* John 4:29 (NRSV)

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

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

Gracious God, thank you for reaching out to me and to all your people with steadfast love and faithfulness, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, just as you fed the people in the wilderness, we thank you for feeding us today. In the name of Jesus our Savior, amen.

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

May you have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*The Spirit Sends Us  
Forth to Serve*

### WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some ways you have shared your faith and values with others?
- Who has introduced you to—or taught you about—Jesus? How did this happen?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* John 4:5-42.

Jesus meets with a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, the same place where Jacob met Rachel more than a thousand years before. It is now the place where Jesus shows what it means that "God so loved the world" (John 3:16) by caring for a non-Jewish woman, someone who was alone and likely shunned by her own people. The woman is so impressed by Jesus and their conversation that she goes to her townspeople and says, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" (v. 29). The Samaritan woman does three things that are essential traits of evangelism: 1) she invites, "Come and see"; 2) she tells her own story of her encounter with Jesus, "I just met a man who . . ."; and 3) she wonders if this is the awaited Messiah, "He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" Her question in the original Greek suggests she really doesn't think so. Even so, the people come to believe that Jesus is the Savior. It is another biblical example that shows that faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships.

*Discuss:* How do you have conversations with others about Jesus?

*Pray:* Merciful God, just as Jesus stopped to talk to the woman at the well, help me to stop, listen, and talk to others and be an example of your love for them. Amen.

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you reach out and show care to a stranger in your community?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

During the third week in Lent, light three of the six purple candles on your Lenten Candle Cross. The acronym **ACTS** (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) is being introduced as a way to pray. This week represents "T", for Thanksgiving, meaning to express thanks and gratitude to God.

*Pray:* Dear God, I am thankful for all that you have given me. I thank you for . . . , in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.



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)