

**Calls to Worship
Lent, Year A
Based on the Psalms**

First Sunday in Lent (2/26/23)

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 32, by Rev. Dr. Chris Haughee of Intermountain)

L: Blessed are those who are authentic before God, who come to God with honesty and humility.

C: Our sins are not counted against us. Our hearts are free of deceit.

L: In community we encourage the practice of confession, to speak freely with Jesus—our Savior.

C: God is our hiding place, our safe refuge in the storm.

L: God surrounds us with songs of deliverance, God's loving eye is upon us!

ALL: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, my siblings! Sing with all your heart!

Second Sunday in Lent (3/5/23)

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 121, by Rev. Dr. Chris Haughee of Intermountain)

L: Looking to the mountains, we recall the source of our hope.

C: Our help comes from the Lord. God is Maker of heaven and earth.

L: On the paths we walk the way can be treacherous, the footing unsure.

C: God will not let our foot slip. God watches over us with care.

L: Our concerns can be given to our faithful God. God loves us and will deliver us from harm.

ALL: We rest in the Lord as we might recline under a tree on a summer day. Wherever we go, the Lord watches over us and keeps us safe.

Third Sunday in Lent (3/12/23)

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 95, by Rev. Dr. Chris Haughee of Intermountain)

L: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

C: Let us come before God with thanksgiving, music and song.

L: The Lord is the great God, the great Ruler above all else.

C: In God's hand are the foundations of the earth, and the mountain peaks are God's possession.

L: The sea is the Lord's, for God made it all, forming from it the dry land.

ALL: Come, family of God, to bow down in worship, kneeling in reverence for our Maker; The loving Creator God is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under God's care.

Fourth Sunday in Lent (3/19/23)

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 23, by Rev. Dr. Chris Haughee of Intermountain)

L: The Lord is our shepherd, we lack for no good thing.

C: The Lord provides restful green pastures, and quiet waters of refreshing.

L: The Good Shepherd guides this flock of ours along the right paths and he can trust in God for each step.

C: For even in our darkest moments and in the valleys of depression and fear, we need not fear evil, for God remains near.

L: The Shepherd nudges us back on the path and their staff rescues us from our stumbling.

C: Our comfort comes from God's care and God's protection.

L: Even in the midst of our enemies, God provides a meal of celebration.

C: God's presence is like a fragrant oil poured over us, a cup that overflows with abundance!

ALL: We can be sure of God's love expressed to us each day—the Lord's goodness and mercy. Our eternal destination secure in the Lord's house forever!

Fifth Sunday in Lent (3/26/23)

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 130, by Rev. Dr. Chris Haughee of Intermountain)

L: When we are at our lowest, God, we cry out to you, Lord; we know you hear us.

C: Let your ears, Lord, be attentive to the cry for mercy by your people. We long for justice and grace.

L: If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could dare come before you with our troubles?

C: However, with you there is forgiveness. Now we can, with reverence, serve you.

L: We wait for the Lord, our whole selves longing for redemption. In your trustworthiness we place our hope.

C: The dark night of our longing is nearly over, and we wait expectantly for the dawn.

L: People of God, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love!

ALL: With you, God, you people experience freedom and redemption. You have unshackled us from all that bound us to sin! Praise be to God!

Sixth Sunday in Lent / Palm Sunday (4/2/23)

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, by Rev. Dr. Chris Haughee of Intermountain)

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's love endures forever.

C: We rejoice and say: "Your love, Lord, endures forever."

L: Open wide the entrance to this place of worship so those made righteous may enter.

C: We will give you thanks, God, for you answered us; God alone is our salvation.

L The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

C: The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad.

L: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. From our place of worship we bless you. Walking in the light, with boughs in hand, we join the jubilant parade.

ALL: You are our God, and I will praise you; you are our God, and I will exalt you!

Easter Sunday (4/9/23)

Call to Worship (based on Jeremiah 31:1-6, by Rev. Dr. Chris Haughee of Intermountain)

L: Listen to the Lord's declaration, jubilant people of God: A time is coming where we will be reunited in loving relationships. Nothing will stand between God and God's people!

C: Rest is coming for the battle weary and those tired from the fight, even in the wilderness waiting we are sustained until we come home to God!

L: We can trust in what the Lord has promised from ages past,

C: God has loved us with an everlasting love; we are encircled by the Lord's kindness.

L: What has been destroyed will be rebuilt, and a new song is given to God's people. We will dance with joy for God's deliverance.

C: The fruit of our labors will be ours again, and no one will rob us of our reward.

L: Instead of warnings of destruction, or fear of calamity, every announcement will be a call to worship.

ALL: Every newscast a celebration of God's grace and power. God's victory is secure! Alleluia, Amen.