



**DAILY BREAD
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS
LENT 3—YEAR C**

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father
and of the Son +
and of the Holy Spirit.

G: Amen

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 91

A: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

L: O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger

G: or discipline me in your wrath.

L: For your arrows have pierced me,

G: and your hand has come down upon me.

L: My guilt has overwhelmed me

G: like a burden too heavy to bear.

L: All my longings lie open before you,
O LORD;

G: my sighing is not hidden from you.

L: I wait for you, O LORD;

G: you will answer, O LORD my God.

L: Come quickly to help me,

G: O LORD my Savior.

**A: Glory be to God the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now and will be forever. Amen!**

A: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READING & MEDITATION *see next page*

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**A: 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

VERSE OF THE DAY

A: Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14, 15)

BENEDICTION

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

A: Amen

READING AND MEDITATION:

Third Sunday of Lent: At its heart, our Lenten journey must be one of Spirit-wrought repentance. Here is the Lenten invitation: turn from sin fully confident of the Lord's deliverance.

As you study this week, seek to find the *connecting theme* in all the lessons by using Luther's Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:

1. *What is God saying to me in this lesson?*
2. *For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?*
3. *What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?*
4. *For what does this lesson lead me to pray?*

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 13:1-9

Traipsing along our journey in the uncertainty of self-righteous self-reliance will only lead to ruin and destruction. Christ calls each of us to closely examine our lives for the fruit of repentance. The gardener is patient and long suffering, but knows well, that a tree without fruit will be cut down. However, bending to the gardener's hand in true repentance will lead to a fruitful life here and eternal life hereafter.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: EXODUS 3:1-8B, 10-15

Flames of fire that did not consume. Ground too holy for sandals, but not for sinful flesh. God appearing in power, but calling himself the LORD, the God of free and faithful love. Such are the contradictions of Law and Gospel. Today, Christ calls on us to be fruitful followers, and in this lesson he gives us the motivation to do it: our God is the great I AM, the God of the living, the God of deliverance for his people and forgiveness for his children.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-13

The Lord had delivered his people in spectacular fashion. Israel had every reason to trust wholeheartedly in his promises, relying on their rock, the Christ. Yet so many served their own bodies, even seeking the favor of other false gods. Let Israel's example serve as warning. Turn from temptation, leave sin behind, trust in the Lord's faithfulness to forgive, bear abundant fruit, and follow the Way out of this world to eternal life.

My takeaways:

SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST LESSON: NUMBERS 16:23-40

Moses served the Lord and his people as prophet, spokesman for the Word. Korah and his followers, many of whom were Levites, claimed to know better. The demands were just too great, the expectations too high for Moses to truly be speaking for the Lord. As would be done for Elijah centuries later, the Almighty gave proof of Moses' authority as a warning to Israel. Yet in the midst of rebellion and divine judgment is the mercy of God. As the holy censors are affixed to the altar the people are reminded of the perfect High Priest's sacrifice yet to come. With the shedding of his blood, there is forgiveness.

My takeaways:

What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?