

January - March 2024

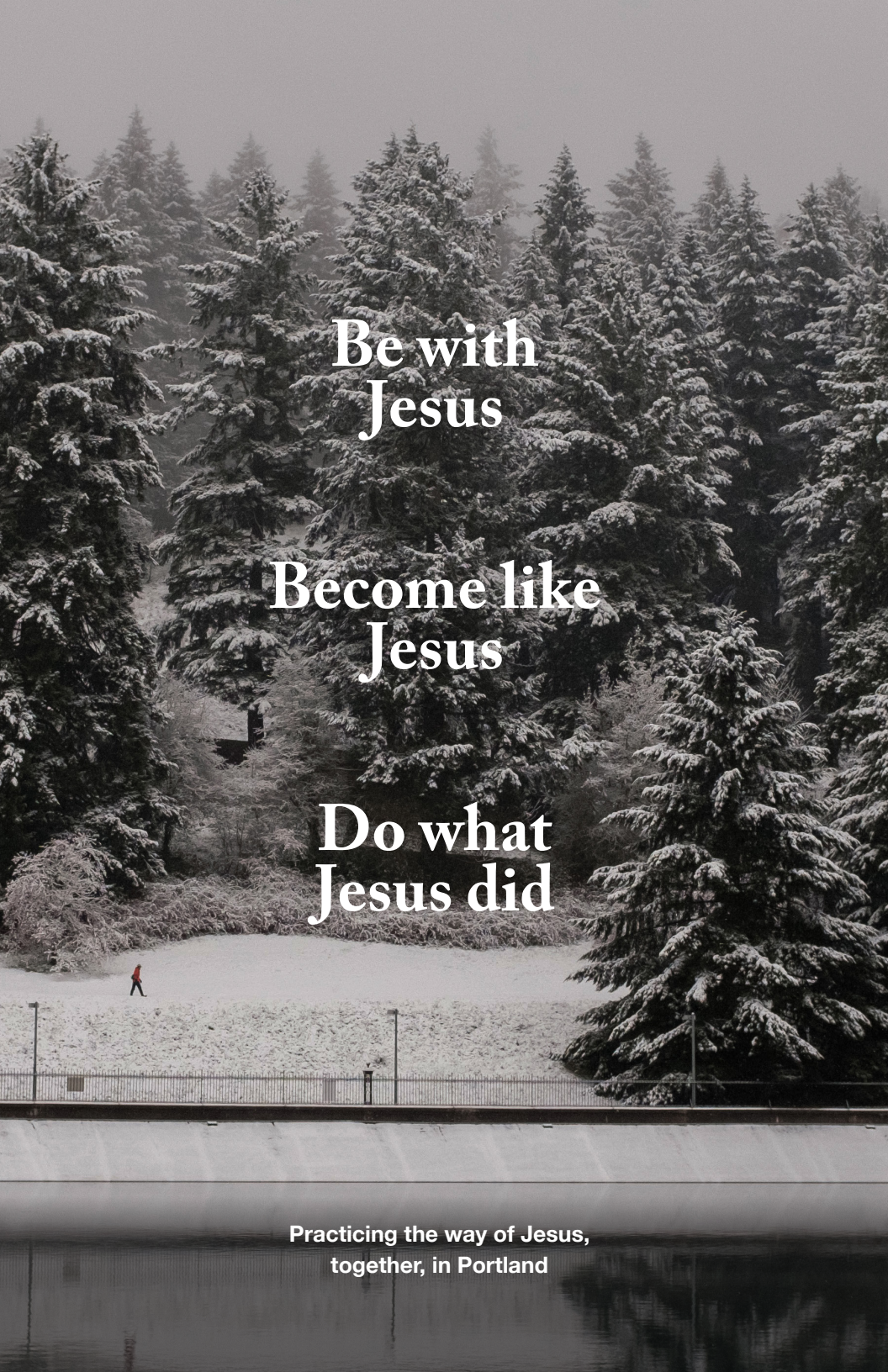


Bridgetown Quarterly

bridgetown.church/quarterly

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Be with
Jesus

Become like
Jesus

Do what
Jesus did

Practicing the way of Jesus,
together, in Portland

About Bridgetown

We believe that to be an apprentice of Jesus of Nazareth is to order your life around three goals: be with Jesus, become like Jesus, and do what Jesus did. Our dream is that as we live this way, our lives, our communities, and our city will be transformed.

New here?

Are you new? We're so glad you're here! Learn more about how you can get connected to the life of Bridgetown Church.

bridgetown.church/welcome

Alpha

Do you have questions about about life, spirituality, or faith? This 9-week series explores a variety of themes around faith and each session is designed to cultivate conversation where everyone is welcome.

Dates: Begins January 24

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Bridgetown Church
2120 NE Tillamook St, Portland

bridgetown.church/alpha

Welcome to Bridgetown

Welcome to Bridgetown is a one-hour class offered every fourth Sunday for those who are new to Bridgetown Church and looking to learn more. This class introduces mission, vision, and values of Bridgetown Church, as well as learn more about what next steps look like.

Dates: Every fourth Sunday

Time: 1:15 - 2:15 PM

Location: Bridgetown Church
2120 NE Tillamook St, Portland

Time: 6:45 - 7:45 PM

Location: Bridgetown Church
909 SW 11th Ave, Portland



Upcoming events

bridgetown.church/events

JANUARY

- 1 **24-7 Prayer Room Begins**
Eastside, Prayer Room
- 10 **Prayer Training: Prophecy**
6:30 PM | Downtown
- Youth Kickoff Night**
6:30 PM | Ellis
- 14 **Basics Begins**
2 PM | Eastside
7 PM | Downtown
- 14 **The Feast**
4 PM | Downtown
- 24 **Alpha Begins**
6:30 PM | Eastside
- 26 - 27 **Holy Spirit Conference**
Oregon Convention Center
- 28 **Welcome to Bridgetown**
1:15 PM | Eastside
6:45 PM | Downtown

FEBRUARY

- 11 **The Feast**
4 PM | Downtown
- 14 **Ash Wednesday Gathering**
6:30 PM | Eastside
- 21 **Practicing the Way: Sabbath Course Begins**
6:30 PM | Eastside
- 21 **Welcome to Bridgetown**
1:15 PM | Eastside
6:45 PM | Downtown

MARCH

- 10 **The Feast**
4 PM | Downtown
- 24 **Welcome to Bridgetown**
1:15 PM | Eastside
- 29 **Good Friday Gatherings**
5:30 & 7 PM | Eastside
- 31 **Easter Sunday**

Bridgetown Church Eastside
2120 NE Tillamook St, Portland

Bridgetown Church Downtown
909 SW 11th Ave, Portland

Unforced Rhythms of Grace

Nine Practices for a Rule of Life

Our endeavor is to practice the Way of Jesus together in Portland. Over the next twelve weeks we will be diving deeply into the core practices that we believe can help us on the journey.

Bread 2024 is now available in the bookstore

As a church, we are making every effort to be with Jesus, to become like him, and to do what he did. We believe daily Scripture reading is an essential practice for followers of Jesus, learning from Jesus and putting his word into practice.

Bread is a daily reading and journaling guide for our church to help us do just that. We hope that you will pick up a copy and read along with us in 2024!

BREAD FOR KIDS

Helping our kids engage with Scripture requires time and intention. This year, we've created a companion guide to go along with our larger Bread journal that serves as a weekly scripture guide for kids to follow along with.

Each week, kids will be encouraged to read a passage of Scripture and respond with journaling and drawing.



Holy Spirit Conference 2024

January 26 - 27

Join us for the sixth annual Holy Spirit Conference. This will be an amazing weekend filled with worship, teaching, and room to respond to the Holy Spirit. Register to attend, in-person and online.

Learn more and register at:
holyspiritco.me



Special Guests



Simon Ponsonby

Author, speaker, & pastor of theology at St. Aldates church based in Oxford, UK.



Jordan Seng

Author & pastor of Bluewater Mission, a creative, justice-oriented church in Honolulu, Hawaii.



Rich & Lydia Dicas

Worship leaders & song writers at KXC Church in London, UK.

The Bridgetown Discipleship Pathway

The Discipleship Pathway centers around taking deeper steps in both your relationship with Jesus and with others. It's all about discovering more of who God is and who he has made you to be.

There's no one-size-fits-all approach when it comes to following Jesus. This pathway is simply a way of finding yourself within this house we call Bridgetown Church and an invitation to move deeper into our family. Move at your pace, in the way that matches your journey, and in the timing that fits your limits.

Gatherings 

Sundays

Lectures

Conferences

**Worship
Nights**

The Feast

Courses 

**Welcome to
Bridgetown**

Alpha

**Practicing
the Way**

Basics

Community 

**Bridgetown
Communities**



**The starting point
for all significant
works of God is prayer.**

Through our partnership with 24-7 Prayer, we will join with 52 communities across the nation to form a chain of unbroken night and day prayer, covering every hour of 2024. Bridgetown will be going first before passing the baton to the next community.

As we contend for the needs of our family, friends, city, and world, we believe God hears our hearts and responds. Learn more about our 24-7 Prayer Room and sign up for an hour at:

bridgetown.church/prayerroom



Prayer at Bridgetown

At Bridgetown, we believe that prayer isn't just a means to an end. Prayer is an end in itself. It is a way of living, in connection with our Father in Heaven. And prayer is the perhaps the one place where we can be with Jesus, become like Jesus, and do what Jesus did, all at the same time.

There are several ways to participate in prayer at Bridgetown, individually and with others:

Daily Prayer Rhythm

Worship Nights

Tuesday Morning Prayer

Weekly at 8 AM | Eastside

Prayer Training

January 10 | 6:30 PM | Downtown

24-7 Prayer Room

Learn more about prayer:

bridgetown.church/prayer

THE DAILY PRAYER RHYTHM

In the Hebrew and early Christian tradition there has historically been a daily prayer rhythm to pause and pray - morning, midday, and evening. We see this in the life of Jesus and with the apostles in the early church. We want to recover this historic practice.

Morning

Praying The Lord's Prayer

Midday

Praying for the lost

Evening

Praying in gratitude

Partner with us by praying this rhythm each day wherever you are.

Daily Prayer Rhythm guides:

bridgetown.church/dpr

With Open Eyes

**I've been learning to worship
with open eyes.**

For many years, I thought of the worship gathering as a space for individuals to come together and experience a personal time of connection with God. Singing with eyes closed, turned inward is the way worship is often modeled.

While there is nothing wrong with this posture, I've been encouraged by other leaders to try and see more during worship. And as I've done so, I've been struck by just how different it is to worship with my eyes open; to look and to see, not just how the Spirit is moving me but how he is moving among us.

When my eyes are open, I can see Matt praying for a friend. I see Drew crying as he is moved by the Spirit. I can see Sarah teaching her daughter how to lift her hands in worship. I see Suvi singing her praise even when life isn't easy. And I am uplifted by the faith of my friends. I can see faith rising in the room and on the days when I am low, I find that I am able to be held and led by others.

When we lift our voices in praise in a gathering, we are not alone. What do you see when you open your eyes in worship?

Nate Smith
Worship Leader

Worship Night & Prophetic Prayer Training

January 10 | 6:30 PM
Downtown

Join us for a night of praise and prophetic prayer ministry training.

SERVE WITH WORSHIP

Are you musical? Consider serving with worship at Bridgetown:

- 1** Worship for Sunday Gatherings
- 2** Worship Choir (quarterly)
- 3** Auxiliary instruments (cello, violin, flute, percussion, etc.)

bridgetown.church/music

Ask Anything

Do you have questions about about life, spirituality, or faith? Alpha is a space to process your questions, free from judgement or pressure. This 9-week series explores a variety of themes around faith and each session is designed to cultivate conversation where everyone is welcome.

Dates: Begins January 24

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Eastside

bridgetown.church/alpha



Justice & Mercy at Bridgetown

Discovering God's heart of justice as we practice
the Way of Jesus, together in Portland.

Let justice roll on
like a river,
righteousness
like a never-failing
stream

Amos 5v24

Action

bridgetown.church/action

Jesus calls his followers into lives of radical humility and service to others. Learn more about Jesus' heart for justice and listen for where Jesus may call you to action so we as a church might be doers of the word and not hearers only.

The Feast

bridgetown.church/the Feast

The kingdom of heaven is described as a wedding feast, where all are invited to eat at the table together as brothers and sisters. We are hosting a meal for our neighbors downtown, to feed guests both spiritually and physically. There are multiple ways to get involved, from inviting guests, serving dinner, to sharing a meal with guests.

January 14

February 11

March 10

Justice Partners

bridgetown.church/proximity

Learn about the Justice Partners doing great work in our city and how you can join in.

Racial Justice Committee

bridgetown.church/rjc

The RJC is helping us shape our approach to racial equity, justice, and reconciliation in every facet of our church family.

Worship & Prayer Nights

We will be hosting a series of Justice-oriented prayer and worship nights at the Bridgetown Justice & Mercy Center, 1648 SE Ellis St, Portland.

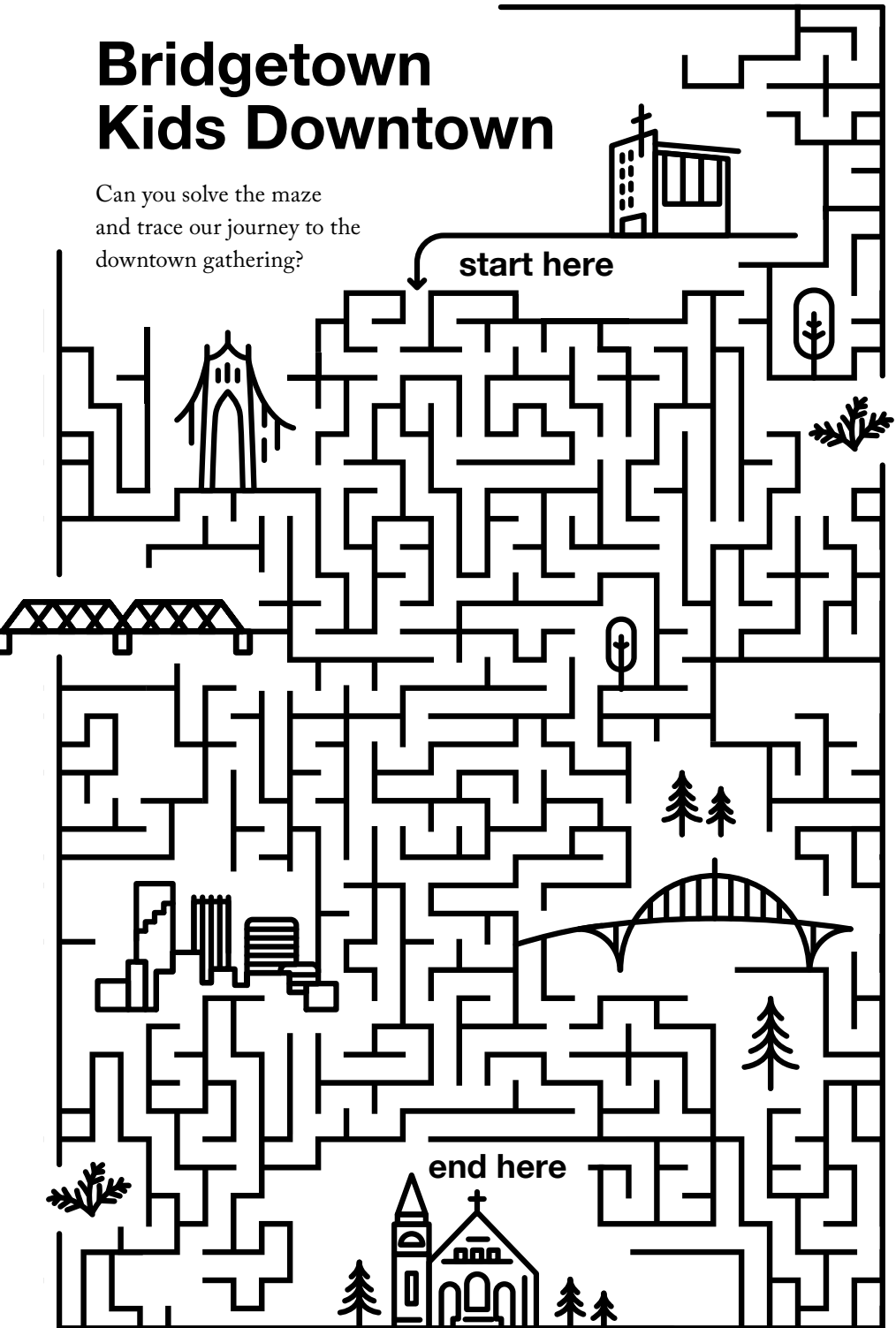
January 18

February 22

March 7

Bridgetown Kids Downtown

Can you solve the maze
and trace our journey to the
downtown gathering?



Bridgetown Kids

Holy Wonder

Kids, you have a unique wonder and curiosity about God and the world he's made. We encourage you to explore, ask questions, and dig deep into who God is! May you follow Jesus with that holy wonder for the rest of your life.

Little Liturgies

Easter

Jesus loves us.
(Touch heart)

Jesus is King!
(Make crown)

Jesus is alive!
(Stretch arms high)

**We can be friends
with Jesus**
(Hug self)

Amen

God and Me

I know about
(Point at head)

God and me!
(Point up then at self)

God cares for me.
(Hug self)

God is with me.
(Point toward self)

God loves me.
(Touch heart)

COMING UP AT BRIDGETOWN KIDS

Fourth Fifth Friday

February 23 | 6 PM

Fourth Fifth Fridays are a time for kids in Grades 4-5 to build community and deepen connections with their leaders and peers.

Family Camp

May 18 | 10 AM - 4 PM

Save the date! A day away for families to connect and play at Trout Creek Bible Camp. Registration coming Soon.

Bridgetown Kids at 5 PM Gatherings

Coming in February

Bridgetown Kids will be returning to 5pm Downtown gathering this winter for ages 0-5. More information to come, so make sure to subscribe to the newsletter at bridgetown.church/kids

Bridgetown Youth

bridgetown.church/youth

At Bridgetown, we want to see middle and high school students discover who they are in Jesus, step into their part of God's story, and understand that their lives have a purpose in the Kingdom of God.

Above all, we want them to know Jesus and experience his profound love for them.



Youth Rhythms

Youth at Bridgetown Church gather around several core rhythms:

DAILY

Daily Prayer Rhythm
Bread Daily Reading

WEEKLY

Middle & High School Youth Gathering
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

MONTHLY

Night Strike
Last Thursdays

Gen Z Prayer & Worship
Last Tuesdays

UPCOMING EVENTS

Prayer Room Night
January 9 | 7 PM

Bridgetown Young Adults

bridgetown.church/youngadults

We want to see young adults, ages 18-29, find their place in the life of Bridgetown Church.

Subscribe to the Young Adult newsletter to stay connected and get info about upcoming trips and events for Young Adults.

UPCOMING EVENTS

All-City Young Adults Worship Night

January 13 | 7 PM

A Jesus Church
10500 SW Nimbus Ave



Introducing Beau Bromley

Beau is originally from Portland, in fact he was an intern at Bridgetown over 10 years ago! Since that time, Beau has been serving the Church in the UK. He returns to us now to serve as the Pastor of Evangelism and Young Adults here at Bridgetown.

Whilst in the UK Beau met his wife, Gemma - and they have 3 kids: Rheyra(5), Indie(3), and Hank(9m). Beau was also ordained in the Church of England.

They've moved back to Portland this past November to join Bridgetown (again) and are excited to see God move in the city.

Practicing the Way courses

Practicing the Way is a ministry of spiritual formation that was born out of our family here at Bridgetown Church. Now a separate organization, Practicing the Way offers helpful courses for churches around the world to integrate core practices of spiritual formation into daily life.

We've already hosted a number of four-week courses here at Bridgetown and have two additional courses beginning this spring.



Sabbath

Explore what Sabbath is and how it shapes and strengthens our relationships to God, ourselves, and others.

February 21 & 28

March 6 & 13

Prayer

Discover helpful rhythms of prayer that can shape the way you relate with God and increase your capacity for time spent in his presence.

April 17 & 24

May 1 & 8

Register to attend

bridgetown.church/ptw



Share life in Community

More than just two hours on a Sunday, church is about sharing life together. Bridgetown Communities are gathering places around a table to be the people of Jesus in our neighborhoods. This is how we practice the way of Jesus together in Portland.

bridgetown.church/community

Basics

If you are ready to join a Bridgetown Community, the next step for you is to go through Basics. In this course we discuss a vision for how to share life together and place you into a small group of people who live in your part of the city.

bridgetown.church/basics

Dates: January 14 & 21

Time: 2 PM | Eastside
7 PM | Downtown

Location: Bridgetown
Church Eastside & Downtown

Community story

There has been so much happening in Portland these last many years, and if we only pay attention to the news, we might believe that our city is getting consumed by chaos. But at the heart of these stories are real people—people who we are sent to love as Jesus would. And for years now our Bridgetown Communities have been doing just that.

The clearest example that comes to mind is Mather's Community. For over a decade now, a few Communities (including theirs) have been serving meals every month to the residents at Rosenbaum – a Section 8 housing complex in the heart of the city, only four blocks away from Bridgetown's downtown gathering. Our hope is to continue to be a prophetic witness of Jesus' hospitality to our city.

This is just one story of the many ways Communities all across the city are practicing the way of Jesus together in Portland.

But whatever
were gains to me
I now consider
loss for the sake
of Christ. What is
more, I consider
everything a loss
because of the
surpassing worth
of knowing Christ

Jesus my Lord, for
whose sake I have
lost all things. I
consider them
garbage, that I
may gain Christ
and be found in
him, not having
a righteousness
of my own that

comes from the
law, but that
which is through
faith in Christ—
the righteousness
that comes from
God on the basis
of faith.

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings

becoming like him in his death,
and so, somehow, attaining to the
resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3v7-11

Lent

Middle English: Lenten | February 14 - March 31

Meaning long or Spring Season, referring to the lengthening of days in Spring

In Church history, Lent is observed during the 40 days leading up to Easter (not including Sundays) where followers of Jesus fast from certain foods or comforts and reflect on their own mortality. We get the 40 days of Lent from Matthew 4v1-11, where we read about Jesus' 40 day fast in the wilderness.

Ash Wednesday begins the Lenten season, where the imposition of ashes are given — ashes in the shape of a cross on the forehead — to symbolize our humanity, the limitations of our mortal bodies, suffering, mortality, and the inevitability of death. In this, we deeply feel our own lack and our need for a savior.

But we are not without hope! The Lenten season of fasting and self-denial culminates on Holy Saturday, giving way to the Easter season of feasting and celebration on Resurrection Sunday. On Easter, we celebrate Jesus' triumphant defeat over death. The hope of the resurrection is that we are being made new, and that all is being made new by the resurrection power of Jesus.



Ash Wednesday

The beginning of Lent. It is a day to reflect on mortality, where we feel the shortcomings and longings of the brokenness of humanity.

Palm Sunday

The beginning of Holy Week. We remember the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with the waving of palm branches.

Good Friday

A day of remembering the crucifixion of Jesus, where we reflect on Jesus bearing the weight of our sin through suffering and perfect love.

Easter Sunday

The joyful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We rejoice in Jesus' power over death and the hope of all things made new.

