



Lent 2018

Bible Verse of the Day

Day 1 -- Joel 2:12-13 (NRSV)

¹² Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

Day 2 -- John 3:16 NRSV

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Day 3 -- Psalm 139:13-16 The Message

¹³⁻¹⁶ Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother’s womb.

I thank you, High God—you’re breathtaking!

Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration—what a creation!

You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body;

You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something.

Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth;

all the stages of my life were spread out before you,

The days of my life all prepared before I’d even lived one day.

Day 4 -- 1 John 4:16 (NRSV)

¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Day 5 -- 1 John 4:18 (NRSV)

¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

Day 6 -- Exodus 34:6 (NRSV)

⁶ The Lord passed before him, and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,

Day 7 -- Revelation 3:20 (NRSV)

²⁰ Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.

Day 8 -- Acts 10:43 (NRSV)

⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Day 9 -- Isaiah 43:25 (NRSV)

²⁵ I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

Day 10 -- Ephesians 1:5-6 (NRSV)

⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

Day 11 -- 1 John 3:1 (NRSV)

³ ¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Day 12 -- 1 John 4:19 (NRSV)

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us.

Day 13 -- Romans 5:8 (NRSV)

⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Day 14 -- Isaiah 53:5 (NRSV)

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

Day 15 -- John 13:13-14 (NRSV)

¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

Day 16 -- 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NRSV)

¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Day 17 -- Ezekiel 36:26 (NRSV)

²⁶ A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Day 18 -- Romans 6:4 (NRSV)

⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Day 19 -- Romans 5:18-19 The Message

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ Here it is in a nutshell: Just as one person did it wrong and got us in all this trouble with sin and death, another person did it right and got us out of it. But more than just getting us out of trouble, he got us into life! One man said no to God and put many people in the wrong; one man said yes to God and put many in the right.

Day 20 -- Isaiah 62:3 (NRSV)

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Day 21 -- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 The Message

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.

Day 22 -- 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 The Message

²³⁻²⁴ May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together—spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he'll do it!

Day 23 -- Philippians 1:3-6 The Message

A Love That Will Grow

³⁻⁶ Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.

Day 24 -- Galatians 5:1 (NRSV)

⁵ ¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Day 25 -- 1 Corinthians 10:13 The Message

¹³ No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it.

Day 26 -- Romans 8:1 (NRSV)

Life in the Spirit

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Day 27 -- Psalm 37:4 (NRSV)

⁴ Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Day 28 -- Psalm 16:11 (NRSV)

¹¹ You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Day 29 -- Ephesians 3:20-21 The Message

²⁰⁻²¹ God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

Glory to God in the church!

Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus!

Glory down all the generations!

Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!

Day 30 -- Philippians 4:19 (NRSV)

¹⁹ And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Day 31 -- Galatians 5:22-23 (NRSV)

²² The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control.

Day 32 -- Matthew 11:28 (NRSV)

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Day 33 -- John 10:27-29 (NRSV)

²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand.¹

Day 34 -- Psalm 91:1-4 (NRSV)

¹You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
²will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.”
³For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence;
⁴he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

Day 35 -- Isaiah 43:2 (NRSV)

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Day 36 -- Hebrews 13:5 (NRSV)

⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, “I will never leave you or forsake you.”

Day 37 -- Psalm 34:18 (NRSV)

¹⁸The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.

Day 38 -- Isaiah 40:11 (NRSV)

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Day 39 -- Matthew 7:7-11 The Message

⁷⁻¹¹“Don’t bargain with God. Be direct. Ask for what you need. This isn’t a cat-and-mouse, hide-and-seek game we’re in. If your child asks for bread, do you trick him with sawdust? If he asks for fish, do you scare him with a live snake on his plate? As bad as you are, you wouldn’t think of such a thing. You’re at least decent to your own children. So don’t you think the God who conceived you in love will be even better?”

Day 40 -- John 14:2-4 The Message

The Road

14 ¹⁻⁴“Don’t let this throw you. You trust God, don’t you? Trust me. There is plenty of room for you in my Father’s home. If that weren’t so, would I have told you that I’m on my way to get a room ready for you? And if I’m on my way to get your room ready, I’ll come back and get you so you can live where I live. And you already know the road I’m taking.”