



THE  
**Good Book**  
*Lent*



## 2019 Reading Guide

### **The Gospel of Matthew**

Lent is the season in the church year when we are invited, as individuals and a community, to pay particular attention to how we nurture our relationship with God, our neighbors, the world, and ourselves. Lent is a penitential season that encourages self-reflection, discipline, and penitence in order to prepare for the passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

During Lent you are encouraged to set aside things that distract you from living a purposeful life with Christ and add practices that open your soul to God's presence. In the Book of Common Prayer we are invited to, "observe a holy lent through self-examination and repentance; through prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditation on God's holy Word."

To help you meditate on God's holy Word, Christ Church Charlotte has prepared this guide to help you read through the entire Gospel of Matthew during Lent. Sundays during Lent are considered feast days; therefore, you are invited to meditate on the included prayer. To learn about other Lent offerings and opportunities at Christ Church, visit [www.christchurchcharlotte.org/lent](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org/lent)



**Christ Church Charlotte**  
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Introduction:** The Gospel of Matthew is the first book of the New Testament and depicts how Jesus sends the disciples to preach the good news to the whole world. This gospel highlights the Jewish origins and identity of Jesus and his first followers more than any other Gospel. Matthew's gospel also finds Jesus arguing about traditions and interpretations more so than the other gospels. This first book of the New Testament traces Jesus' works as a healer, miracle-worker, reconciler, and servant. The arc of the book starts with the divine nature of Jesus traced from birth all the way to his death as a fulfillment of the messianic prophecies.

# The Gospel of Matthew

## Ash Wednesday

<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	March 6	<b>Chapter 1:1-25</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	March 7	<b>Chapter 2:1-23</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday	March 8	<b>Chapter 3:1-17</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday	March 9	<b>Chapter 4:1-25</b>

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen* BCP 217

## The First Sunday in Lent

<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday	March 10	Worship & Pray
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	March 11	<b>Chapter 5:1-20</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	March 12	<b>Chapter 5:21-48</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	March 13	<b>Chapter 6:1-34</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	March 14	<b>Chapter 7:1-29</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday	March 15	<b>Chapter 8:1-34</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday	March 16	<b>Chapter 9:1-38</b>

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan; Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 218

## The Second Sunday in Lent

<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday	March 17	Worship & Pray
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	March 18	<b>Chapter 10:1-25</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	March 19	<b>Chapter 10:26-42</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	March 20	<b>Chapter 11:1-30</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	March 21	<b>Chapter 12:1-32</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday	March 22	<b>Chapter 12:33-50</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday	March 23	<b>Chapter 13:1-30</b>

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 218

### The Third Sunday in Lent

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	March 24
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	March 25
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	March 26
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	March 27
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	March 28
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	March 29
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	March 30

Worship & Pray

**Chapter 13:31-58**

**Chapter 14:1-36**

**Chapter 15:1-20**

**Chapter 15:21-39**

**Chapter 16:1-28**

**Chapter 17:1-27**

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer Pg. 218

### The Fourth Sunday in Lent

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	March 31
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	April 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	April 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	April 3
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	April 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	April 5
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	April 6

Worship & Pray

**Chapter 18:1-35**

**Chapter 19:1-30**

**Chapter 20:1-34**

**Chapter 21:1-22**

**Chapter 21:23-46**

**Chapter 22:1-22**

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer Pg. 219

### The Fifth Sunday in Lent

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday	April 7
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monday	April 8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuesday	April 9
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	April 10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	April 11
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday	April 12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday	April 13

Worship & Pray

**Chapter 22:23-46**

**Chapter 23:1-39**

**Chapter 24:1-28**

**Chapter 24:29-51**

**Chapter 25:1-30**

**Chapter 25:31-46**

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer Pg. 219

**Holy Week** (Next page)

## Holy Week

- Palm Sunday      April 14      Worship & Pray  
Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 219
- Monday      April 15      **Chapter 26:1-30**  
Almighty God, whose dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 220
- Tuesday      April 16      **Chapter 26:31-56**  
O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 220
- Wednesday      April 17      **Chapter 26:57-75**  
Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 220
- Maundy Thursday      April 18      **Chapter 27:1-31**  
Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 221
- Good Friday      April 19      **Chapter 27:32-66**  
Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 221
- Holy Saturday      April 20      **Chapter 28:1-20**  
O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 221
- Easter Sunday      April 21      **Rejoice!**  
Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*  
Book of Common Prayer Pg. 222