

Psalm 84

Dear God.

I long to be a new a beautiful Temple. My whole being sings for joy to you. Sparrows looking for a home are safe in your house. Swallows build their nests and feed their young beside your altars. Those who live in your temple are so happy they can praise you all day long. Pilgrims travel through deep valleys and climb steep hills to visit your special place. One day spent in the Temple courtyard is better than a thousand spent anywhere else! It is good to put our trust in you.

Dear God, you keep us safe from harm.

based on Psalm 122:1-9

I was full of joy when they said to me, let's go up to God's house. And now at last we're standing inside the gates of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is a great city, the city of peace. The people of Israel come here to give thanks to God.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
Pray for the peace in your homes.
Pray for the peace among yourselves.
Pray for peace in your land.

For love of my brothers and sisters I will say, 'Peace be with you.' For the love of the house of God I will pray for your good.



Spring Term Theme: Community Year Three Topic: Journeys

Psalm 118: 19-20, 26-29

Alleluia

Give thanks to God for God is good.
God's love is great and never ends.
Open the temple gates for me.
I will go in and give thanks to God.
Give thanks to God for God is good.
God's love is great and never ends.
This is God's gate where those who love God enter. Give thanks to God for God is good.

God's love is great and never ends. May God bless everyone who comes to give thanks and praise. Give thanks to God for God is good. God's love is great and never ends. Walk in procession around the altar.

Give thanks to God for God is good. God's love is great and never ends. Alleluia.

Wave your branches high.





based on Matthew 5:1-17

When he saw the crowds Jesus went up the mountain and sat down. His disciples gathered round him and this is what he taught them.

You will be blessed when you have an open and generous heart. When you share what you have with other people God will be very close to you.

You will be blessed when you reach out to those who grieve. When you make friends with those who are sad and lonely, God will be there to comfort you.

You will be blessed when you are gentle. When you treat others with kindness and patience God will give you all you need.

You will be blessed when you work for justice. When you respect and stand up for the rights of others, God will give you life to the full.

You will be blessed when you forgive others and don't hold grudges. You will find God ready to forgive you. You will be blessed when you desire what is good. When you always search for what is good, you will find God in all around you. You will be blessed when you are a peacemaker. When you try not to let a quarrel even begin or are first to say sorry you will be known as children of God. You will be blessed when you are made fun of for doing what God wants. When people laugh at you for living in God's way, know that you are very close to God. Remember what happened to so many of God's messengers. Rejoice and be glad.

Spring Term Theme: Giving Year Three Topic: Giving All

based on Mark 14:26-31

After they finished supper Jesus and his disciples set out for the Mount of Olives. Jesus said, "You will all run away and leave me."

Peter said, "Even if everyone else runs away I will never leave you."

Jesus said, "I'm telling you, three times tonight, before the cock crows twice, you will say you do not know me."

Peter protested, saying, "I will die before I deny you."

And the other disciples said the same.



based on Luke 4: 1-4

Jesus went out into the desert. There was nobody there; nothing but sand and rock. He was allalone for forty days. He ate nothing, so at the end of forty days he was extremely hungry. He heard a voice telling him that he could change stones into bread, if he wanted.

Jesus knew that eating was not the most important thing in life. He remembered God's word: 'No one lives on bread alone'.

Again he was tempted. The voice promised him all the kingdoms of the world. Jesus knew that the only true ruler of the world is God. He remembered God's word: 'I am the Lord your God, you shall serve no one before me'.

A third time the tempting voice came to Jesus. "If you are God's Son you can do anything and God will take care of you. Even if you threw yourself off the highest place, God would protect you." Jesus remembered God's word, 'You must not put God to the test'. The voice of the tempter was silent.





based on Mark 15:21-27

On the way they met a man named Simon, from Cyrene. He was the father of Alexander and Rufus. He was coming into the city from the country and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross.

They took Jesus to a place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull. There they tried to give him wine, mixed with myrrh, but Jesus would not drink it. Then they crucified him and divided his clothes among themselves. They threw dice to decide what each should get.

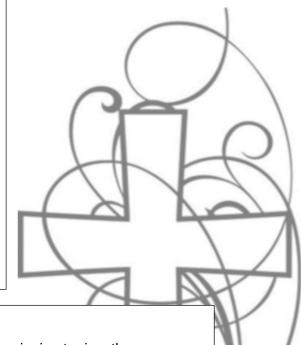
It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The notice above his head said, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.'

Two thieves were crucified at the same time. One was on his right side, and the other on his left.

based on Luke 23:33-35, 38-43

Jesus was nailed to a cross outside the city walls. There were two others put to death with him, one on his right and the other on his left. When Jesus was dying he said, "Father, forgive them. They do not know what they are doing." The soldiers played a game of dice to decide who would have his clothes. There was a notice nailed to the cross of Jesus. It said, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the men on the cross made fun of Jesus saying, If you are a real king, why don't you save us all?" The other man told him to be quiet, because Jesus had done nothing wrong.

Then he said to Jesus, "Please, remember me. Don't ever forget me." Jesus said, "I will remember you today and always."



Luke 24:1-12

Very early on Sunday morning, just as the sun was beginning to rise, the women went to the tom b. They took with them spices that they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. They went in but could not find the body of the Lord Jesus. As they stood there puzzling over this, two men in bright shining clothes appeared at their side. The women were terrified and bowed down to the ground. The two men said to them, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here; he has been raised from the dead."

The women returned from the tomb and told all this to the Eleven and to the other disciples. The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna and Mary the mother of James. They and the other women with them told all these things to the apostles. But the apostles thought that what the women said was nonsense and they did not believe them.



based on Matthew 25:31-40

One day Jesus was talking to his friends. He was telling them a parable about how God will judge everyone at the end of time. The story pictures a king sitting on his royal throne with people from all nations gathered around him. He will divide them into two groups, one on his right, the other on his left.

Then he will say to the people on his right,

"Come, you are blessed by my Father. Come and live in the kingdom, which has been prepared for you since the beginning of the world.

When I was hungry you gave me food to eat.

When I was thirsty you gave me something to drink.

When I was a stranger you took me into your home.

When I was without clothes you shared yours with me.

When I was ill you took care of me.

When I was in prison you came to visit me."

They will say to the king,

"When did we see you hungry and give you food to eat? When did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and take you home with us? When did we see you without clothes and share ours with you? When did we see you ill and take care of you?

When did we see you in prison and come to visit you?"

And the king will reply,

"Whenever you did these things for any one of my brothers and sisters you did them for me."



