



# WEPC Lectionary Project: Union with Christ

West End Presbyterian Church is using the Scripture readings recommended by the Revised Common Lectionary as a framework for our corporate worship and our personal and family devotion. This project is part of WEPC's 25th Anniversary Year and will run from December 2018 through November 2019. The Lectionary gives us access to the whole counsel of Scripture and these texts are a means for us to grow in our understanding of our union with Christ.

To learn more and subscribe to a daily email of Daily Scripture Readings, visit www.wepc.org/lectionary.

#### **Sunday, March 17, 2019**

The Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 The LORD Made a Covenant with Abram

Psalm 27 He Will Hide Me

Philippians 3:17-4:1 Stand Firm Thus

Luke 13:31-35 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem

#### Monday, March 18, 2019

Psalm 105:1-42 He Remembers His Covenant Forever

Exodus 33:1-6 The Unbelief of Abraham's Descendants

Romans 4:1-12 Abraham Justified by Faith

### Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Psalm 105:1-42 He Remembers His Covenant Forever

Numbers 14:10b-24 Moses Intercedes for the People

I Corinthians 10:1-13 God is Faithful

### Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Psalm 105:1-42 He Remembers His Covenant Forever

II Chronicles 20:1-22 Our Eyes Are On You

Luke 13:22-31 The Narrow Door

## Thursday, March 21, 2019

Psalm 63:1-8 My Soul Clings to You

Daniel 3:19-30 In the Midst of the Fire

Revelation 2:8-11 Be Faithful unto Death

### Friday, March 22, 2019

Psalm 63:1-8 My Soul Clings to You

Daniel 12:1-4 There Shall Be a Time

Revelation 3:1-6 I Will Come

### Saturday, March 23, 2019

Psalm 63:1-8 My Soul Clings to You

<u>Isaiah 5:1-7</u> Why Did It Yield Wild Grapes?

Luke 6:43-45 Each Tree Is Known By Its Fruit

## A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of March 17, 2019

### Wings

This week, Steve Shelby preached on Luke 13:31-35

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup> And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. <sup>33</sup> Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup> O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup> Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

- Why would the Pharisees seem to be seeking to help Jesus (31)? They are not.
- What does "and the third day I finish my course" mean (32)? Even if Herod wants to do this, Jesus is on his way and nothing will stop Him.
- What about those prophets (34)? How many did God send and how many were effective?
- For you see, repentance is risky business. It means that I have to admit that I am not the person I think I am. It means that I have to admit that I am under another authority one outside of me. It means that I have to admit that I have to admit that I have to admit that what someone else says about me is true. All of those things are very hard for all of us to do. Whether you lived in Jesus' day, or today.

Because our world tells us that perhaps the worst thing you can do is accept someone else's opinion about who you are. You create your own truth, we are told. Who you are is right for you. Others do not have the right to impose their morals, or their beliefs, upon you. Your decisions are right for you. And accepting someone else's opinion about who you are is tantamount to treason! It is a betrayal of yourself and of everything mankind has striven so hard and so long to achieve!

And so if someone tells says you are a sinner, or that what you're doing is wrong, don't believe it! That might be their truth, but it doesn't have to be yours. If someone tells you you're not good enough, don't believe it! That might be their opinion, but it doesn't have to be yours. If someone tries to tell you anything, be skeptical. Don't allow them to impose their thoughts and teachings upon you. Who you are is who you want to be. Nothing more. Nothing less.

• The image of the hen (34)

"It's hard to think of a more tender picture of the love of God for us than that. The image of the Good Shepherd is better known, but how vivid the image of a mother hen with her helpless and vulnerable chicks under her wings while hungry breasts in search of a quick and easy meal prowl about, birds of prey soar overhead, and all sorts of other dangers unknown to the chicks lurk around every corner. The only line of defense between these and the chicks is her wings. And she would give herself for the life of her chicks." (James Douthwaite)

- What makes you and I unwilling?
- What is the pathway to the shelter of the wings?
- Where do I find that shelter?