



# LENT & EASTER 2025 DEVOTIONAL CARDS



# ASH WEDNESDAY

## Intention & Action

**Lent Begins: MARCH 5, 2025**

This Lenten season, what are your intentions? Do you have any hopes for these six weeks?

### PRAYER

God of all beginnings, as I enter into this new season, give me the wisdom and the courage to begin again. If there are things you need me to learn in these next six weeks, make them clear. If there are things you need me to do in these next six weeks, give me the courage. If there is truth I need to uncover, show me how. Let your intentions guide my actions. ~ Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# ASH WEDNESDAY

## Intention & Action

**Week of Ash Wednesday: March 6, 2025**

What keeps you from taking action?

### **PRAYER**

Holy God, you are a God who acts. You create. You see. You listen. You heal. You move. You meet us where we are. I want to do the same. I do not want to sit on the sidelines of my life. I do not want to wait when there is good work to do. Please give me some of your courage. Clear my mind. Show me the next right step. ~ Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# ASH WEDNESDAY

## Intention & Action

Week of Ash Wednesday, March 7, 2025

Create a mantra for yourself this Lenten season. Between now and Easter, what words would you like to repeat?

### Prayer

God be with me here.

God be with me there.

Show me love along the way.

~ Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# ASH WEDNESDAY

## Intention & Action

Week of Ash Wednesday, March 8, 2025

Who in your life lives with intention? How does it impact their days? What do you admire about them?

### Prayer

Teaching God, you have surrounded me with wise, compassionate, intentional people. Help me learn from them. I know that being a Christian cannot happen in a vacuum. We need each other. So do not let me miss the teachers in my midst. ~ Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 1st Week of Lent

## Neighbor and Stranger

MARCH 9, 2025

Who are your neighbors? Do you know their names?

### Prayer

Creating God, you know every hair on my head and every word on my tongue, so surely you know all my neighbors' names. Surely you know their fears and their dreams, their prayers and their hopes. In a lonely, fast-paced world, help me see the people around me. Help me to learn about and love them as you do. ~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 1st Week of Lent Neighbor & Stranger

March 10, 2025

How do you feel when a stranger approaches you? How might you learn from and transform those feelings?

## Prayer

Gracious God, we have been trained to make quick assumptions, to reach for fear in the face of the unknown, to assume that minimal conversation is best when talking to strangers. Was it meant to be that way, or did you have another plan in mind? Remind us that every stranger to us is loved by you. ~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 1st Week of Lent Neighbor & Stranger

March 11, 2025

What are the attributes of a good neighbor?  
Are you a good neighbor?

## Prayer

With-Us-God, I long to be a good neighbor—hospitable, compassionate, and free of assumptions. However, I know that my own humanity gets in the way. Forgive me for the moments when I miss an opportunity to be compassionate. Forgive me, and spark compassion deep in my bones.

~Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 1st Week of Lent Neighbor & Stranger

March 12, 2025

Have you ever received profound hospitality?  
How did it impact you?

## Prayer

Wildly loving God, every once in a while someone does something so kind, so unreasonably gracious, that it uncoils something in me. It unravels a bit of fear or grief, and leaves me with a glimmer of hope. Show me how to love like that. Show me how to cross the road, care for my neighbor, and love beyond dividing lines. Show me how to be unreasonably hospitable and wildly loving. ~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 1st Week of Lent

## Neighbor and Stranger

**MARCH 13, 2025**

When you think of the word “compassion,”  
what comes to mind?

**Prayer**

Gentle God, I have known compassion. It has burned in my bones, walked beside me on long roads, and looked like my friends and family. It has felt like healing. It has surprised me at times, and taught me what love looks like. So when the world feels harsh and cruel, bring me back to that compassion. Bring me back to you.

~Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 1st Week of Lent

## Neighbor and Stranger

MARCH 14, 2025

Who do you find hardest to love? How might you compassionately hold space for them?

### Prayer

Loving God, let me see people like you do. Let me see myself like you do. Give me a heart that swells with grace, eyes that see your image in each person, and arms that open wide. Let me love people like you do. Let me love myself like you do.

~Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 1st Week of Lent

## Neighbor and Stranger

MARCH 15, 2025

What barriers keep you from seeing all people as neighbors? What can bring those barriers down?

### Prayer

Expansive God, the walls that separate me from my neighbors are so tall, so old, so strong. Help me find the cracks. Help me take these walls down, brick by brick, until I can see my neighbors for who they are—not who I've made them out to be. Give me a heart full of curiosity, hospitality, and compassion. I want to build bridges instead of walls. ~ Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 2nd Week of Lent

## Faith and Works

March 16th

Have you ever received the message that you did not belong? How did that impact you?

### Prayer

Including God, Mary sat at your feet to learn your stories. Some believed she wasn't supposed to be there, but you knew she was welcomed. When the world tries to limit us, when the world tries to tell us who and where we can be, remind us that you bless our presence in the circle. You welcome us exactly as we are. ~ Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 2nd Week of Lent

## Faith and Works

March 17, 2025

Do you see yourself in Mary or Martha, both or neither?

### Prayer

Loving God, I have my own insecurities. I have my own fears and doubts. I have a tendency to throw myself into my work, and an ability to ask enormous questions. I can be defensive and eager, hopeful and anxious. I am a little like Mary, a little like Martha, and a little like you. May those pieces of me, all those tender human pieces, breathe in your love deeply. ~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 2nd Week of Lent

## Faith and Works

March 18, 2025

Have you ever received the message that you must work to earn your self-worth? What does your faith say to that?

### Prayer

Sabbath-taking God, there are days when I rush around like the world depends on me, days where I work until my mind or hands turn to jello. I know that's not what you want for me, but I hustle and bustle all the same. Teach me again that I do not have to earn my worth. Teach me again that it is good to rest. Teach me again that love is not conditional. Teach me again. ~Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 2nd Week of Lent

## Faith and Works

March 19, 2025

What would it look like for you to lean more into faith, or more into works?

### Prayer

God of all, you bless my questions. You bless my gifts. You bless my productive days, my awe-filled days, my just-barely-hanging-on days. You bless it all and call it all good. Cradle my face in your hands and remind me that wherever I am, you are there. Wherever I go, you'll be there, too. You are in the faith, the doubt, the works, and the rest. You are in it all with me. Thanks be to God for a love like that. ~Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 2nd Week of Lent

## Faith and Works

**MARCH 20 2025**

What is in your comfort zone and what are your growing edges: thinking about faith, feeling your faith, or acting on faith?

### **Prayer**

Triune God, some days I confine my faith to my brain, intellectualizing and debating your presence. Some days I wear my faith on my sleeve, a reed in the wind, looking for your Spirit. Some days, I allow my faith to guide my hands and feet, my eyes and my voice. Tip me in the direction I need to move. Balance me, push me, invite me to experience my faith anew—with head, heart, mind, and soul. With hope I pray. ~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 2nd Week of Lent

## Faith and Works

**MARCH 21, 2025**

When or where have you had a close, intimate connection with God?

### Prayer

Present God, I live for the moments when you feel close—when my eyes prick, my throat catches, and my Spirit knows. I want to take my shoes off and revisit those memories again and again, standing barefoot on your holy ground. So find me once more. Carve out more of those sacred touchpoints, and with every last breath, I will say thank you. ~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 2nd Week of Lent

## Faith and Works

MARCH 22, 2025

What are you hungry to learn about lately? Where would you like to grow and go deeper?

### Prayer

Magnificent God, you spent your days teaching. You taught crowds, the disciples, strangers, and friends. I, too, want to learn. I want to learn how the earth heals herself. I want to learn what brings you delight. I want to learn which parts of me are the most authentic. I want to learn how to build people up and bring them together, so teach me. Teach me again, and again, and again. ~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 3rd Week of Lent

## Rest & Growth

**March 23rd**

Do you find yourself more in a season of rest, growth, or both?

**Prayer**

Sabbath-making God, I know that there are days when I need rest, days when I need growth, and days when I need both. Give me the wisdom to listen to my body and spirit enough to know the difference. When my body says rest, let me rest. When my heart says grow, show me how to grow. With hope I pray, amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 3rd Week of Lent

## Rest & Growth

March 24, 2025

What practices help you find rest?

### Prayer

Nourishing God, there are so many practices that fill my cup, that provide me with rest, that nurture my spirit along with my body. Let me walk in the woods. Let me dance in the kitchen. Let me read on the couch and sit in church pews. Let me hold those practices close to mind and weave them throughout my days. What a gift you have given me! I am endlessly grateful.

~ Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 3rd Week of Lent

## Rest & Growth

March 25, 2025

What makes you feel most grounded?

### Prayer

Holy God, if a tree needs roots, and mountains need a base, then surely I need things that ground me too. So whether I am weary or ready to grow, return me to that strong foundation. Return me to the words of scripture, to the love in my heart, to the people who know me best, to your voice in the wind. Tether me to hope and the gentle pull of your call. Ground me in your love. With gratitude I pray, amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 3rd Week of Lent

## Rest & Growth

March 26, 2025

What things do you need to feel nourished and ready for growth?

### Prayer

Creating God, you do not wish for us to stay stagnant. Instead, like a stream, you invite us to continue moving closer to you. In seasons of movement and growth, equip me for the work. Provide me with people who support me and with dreams that inspire me. Provide me with a path laid before me, and show me the next right step. I will keep your name on my lips as I jump into the stream. With gratitude in my ever-growing heart, I pray. Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 3rd Week of Lent

## Rest & Growth

March 27, 2025

Do you believe rest is productive?

### Prayer

Guiding God, the world tries to tell me that productivity is the only thing that matters. You say otherwise. Remind me that rest is part of growth. Remind me that rest is sacred. Remind me that rest is holy work that connects me to you. When I doubt or forget this good news, send a whisper in the wind. I will be listening. Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 3rd Week of Lent

## Rest & Growth

March 28 2025

When was the last time you experienced growing pains?

### Prayer

Loving God, does growth ever come without growing pains? We stretch and shift, listen and learn, try and fail, walk and fall. This holy growing work is not easy. Be with me in the growing pains. Remind me that you delight in every wobbly, teetering step that carries me from where I am to where I am meant to be. With hope I pray, amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 3rd Week of Lent

## Rest & Growth

**March 29, 2025**

What are your growing edges?

### **Prayer**

Loving God, it's not always easy to recognize where I need to grow. I get comfortable and settle into the way things are.

Show me where my growing edges are. Give me a nudge.

Point me in the right direction. Help me uncover opportunities for growth so that I can keep moving and reaching for you in this life. With hope and eager anticipation I pray, amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 4th Week of Lent

## Lost & Found

March 30th

Have you ever been lost? How did it feel?

### Prayer

Persistent God, you know I'm not always good at staying put. I wander off, following distractions, or I storm off in a huff and end up getting lost. Then excitement turns to fear, anger melts into remorse, and certainty slips into confusion.

But no matter how lost I may be, you're always there. No matter which direction I go, every step leads right back to you. Remind me of that truth. With gratitude I pray, amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 4th Week of Lent

## Lost & Found

March 31, 2025

Have you ever been found? How did it feel?

### Prayer

Seeking and searching God, being found feels like hearing the words, "I love you." It feels like the small grip of a baby's hand wrapped around your finger. It feels like opening the door and hearing, "You're home!" It feels like music that makes you want to dance and food that tastes like memories. It feels like someone saying, "Can I pray for you?" or simply reaching for your hand. I have been lost, but I have also been found. On the days in between, remind me what the latter feels like. With hope I pray, amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 4th Week of Lent

## Lost & Found

**April 1, 2025**

Have you ever rejoiced in finding something or someone you lost?

### **Prayer**

Gracious God, I know what it's like to welcome a loved one home. I know what it's like to reconnect with an old friend. I know what it's like when a lost opportunity leads to a new start. I know what it's like to find love after a broken heart, joy after grief, and hope after disappointment. And in every one of those moments, every cell in my body whispers, Thank you, God. Thank you, God. Thank you. Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 4th Week of Lent

## Lost & Found

April 2, 2025

Who has been a guiding presence for you in times when you felt lost?

### Prayer

Loving God, today I thank you for my North Stars, for the hope in my chest, for the people who have held out a hand and guided me home. We all get lost, and we all need direction from time to time. So for the guideposts in my life—the people, the memories, the scriptures, the convictions—I give you thanks. You are leaving breadcrumbs on my wandering path. I am looking up, and praising your name.

Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 4th Week of Lent

## Lost & Found

**April 3, 2025**

Have you ever wandered away from safety and security? What did you find?

### **Prayer**

Untamed God, I wouldn't dare call you safe, but you are good. You call me to step out of the boat, to follow you through the valley, to leave my comfort zone and follow you all the way to the cross. Because it's in the valley that goodness is growing, wild and untamed. Give me the courage to follow you there. Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 4th Week of Lent

## Lost & Found

April 4, 2025

In this season, are you feeling lost, or found, or a bit of both?

### Prayer

Knowing God, there is a tenderness in asking myself whether this is a lost or found season. There is a vulnerability required in answering that question. So as I sift through the truth in my spirit, I find comfort in knowing that regardless of how I answer, you are always with me. When I am lost, you are searching after me. When I am found, you are at my side. No matter where I roam or where I go, you never stop seeking me. Thank you for a love like that. Amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 4th Week of Lent

## Lost & Found

**April 5, 2025**

Who in your life might be feeling lost? How can you be a guiding presence for them?

### **Prayer**

Good Shepherd, you seek out the lost and bind up the brokenhearted. Let me follow you in that work. Let me learn to see the people society makes invisible. Help me ask, "How are you, really?" Show me how to eat with the outcasts and listen to the children. Give me your persistence to keep showing up, to keep asking, to keep loving with abandon, over and over, until we're all home. Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 5th Week of Lent

## Righteousness & Mercy

**April 6, 2025**

When Jesus dines with Zacchaeus, both the Pharisees and Zacchaeus are shocked by Jesus' mercy. Have you ever been stunned by an act of mercy?

### **Prayer**

Merciful God, it is a good day when I am shocked by mercy. It is a good day when I see someone take the extra moment to hold the door for another, to buy a meal for someone in need, to strike up conversation in a quiet room, to choose connection and grace instead of isolation and judgment. Fill my days with even more of these surprising acts of mercy. I don't want to miss a thing! Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 5th Week of Lent

## Righteousness & Mercy

April 7, 2025

Have you ever struggled with righteous indignation? What kinds of things trigger that feeling for you?

### Prayer

Holy God, you planted in me a strong sense of justice. You gave me eyes to see what's right and what's wrong. But God, you also gave me a heart to show mercy. Unclench my fists, soften my jaw, and soften my heart. Give me the wisdom to know when my desire for justice has soured into fruitless indignation. Let your mercy grow in me. Humbly I pray, amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 5th Week of Lent

## Righteousness & Mercy

**April 8, 2025**

Have you ever witnessed someone receiving mercy that you feel didn't deserve it?

### **Prayer**

Compassionate God, from time to time my own anger or clouded sense of justice can leave me disgruntled with acts of mercy. I want to do the right and fair thing, but right and fair can be slippery in nature. When I feel myself bristling in the face of mercy, remind me to breathe. Remind me that I am not the judge of the universe, and that the nature of your love is always above and beyond. Show me how to climb down from my high horse to love like that. Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 5th Week of Lent

## Righteousness & Mercy

April 9, 2025

When have you felt righteous anger? What do you do with that anger?

Prayer

Jesus of Nazareth, you have felt our emotions. You felt anger in the temple. You felt despair in the garden. You felt grief on the cross. You have felt our emotions, which gives me permission as well to feel anger when it appears. But today I pray, teach me how to use that anger for good. When my anger is a call for justice, show me how to listen and learn from it. When my anger is self-righteous and harmful, teach me to transform it into something merciful and compassionate. You felt these emotions, just like we do. Show me how to use them for good. Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 5th Week of Lent

## Righteousness & Mercy

**April 10, 2025**

Can we find balance between righteousness and mercy? Do we need to?

### **Prayer**

God who is Alpha and Omega, you exist beyond and between all the boxes we create. You are righteous and merciful all at once. Teach me that there's a world far beyond the scales of justice. Teach me that there is more to life than getting it right. Teach me that there is freedom in not knowing. Teach me how to be good, and remind me that I already am. Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 5th Week of Lent

## Righteousness & Mercy

April 11, 2025

What does it look like to show mercy and still hold people accountable?

### Prayer

God of grace, some things are easier said than done. Showing mercy and holding people accountable is one of those things. How do I expect love from my neighbors? How do I show mercy when love falls short, and how do I create change when love runs out? Be with me in these messy middles. Guide my decisions, my thinking, and my words. With gratitude I pray, amen.



CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art



# 5th Week of Lent

## Righteousness & Mercy

**April 12, 2025**

Have you ever received mercy and felt undeserving?

### Prayer

Merciful God, you know I'm my own worst critic. I know my own faults better than anyone else. And still, you shower me with mercy. You call me back to the garden and remind me that from the beginning, you have called me good. You have called me beloved. Most days it's hard to believe I deserve your grace, but God, I am so grateful. I am so, so grateful.

Amen.



Prayer courtesy of Sanctified Art