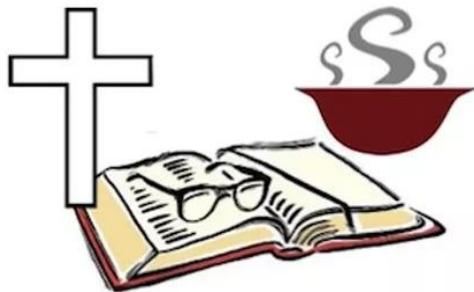


# Granite Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 17, 2021



Virtual Lent  
Soup & Scripture



# OPENING PRAYER



# 2021 LENT SOUP & SCRIPTURE STUDY

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Five Wednesdays in Lent:

FEBRUARY 24	Week One:	MEDITATING
MARCH 3	Week Two:	PRAYING
MARCH 10	Week Three:	LOVING
<b>MARCH 17</b>	<b>Week Four:</b>	<b>THANKING</b>
MARCH 24	Week Five:	LIVING

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The inspiration for the five subjects is from the Lenten devotional [Living Into Lent](#) by Donald K. McKim (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2020); however, the content of the five study sessions does not come from McKim's book.

# THANKING

Scripture  
& Reflections

“Better Than Life Itself”

“Praising God”

“Affirming New Life and Peace”

“Living Good News”

“Grace and Gratitude”

“The Divine Presence Holds Us”

“Living for God’s Glory”

# “Better Than Life Itself”

## Psalm 63 ◦ Comfort and Assurance in God’s Presence

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A Psalm of David, when he was in the Wilderness of Judah.

O God, you are my God, I seek you,

my soul thirsts for you;

my flesh faints for you,

as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,

beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life,

my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live;

I will lift up my hands and call on your name.



# “Better Than Life Itself”

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## Psalm 63 ◦ Comfort and Assurance in God’s Presence (continued)

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips  
when I think of you on my bed,  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;  
for you have been my help,  
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand upholds me.



# “Better Than Life Itself”

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## Psalm 63 ◦ Comfort and Assurance in God’s Presence (continued)

But those who seek to destroy my life  
shall go down into the depths of the earth;  
they shall be given over to the power of the sword,  
they shall be prey for jackals.

But the king shall rejoice in God;  
all who swear by him shall exult,  
for the mouths of liars will be stopped.



# “Better Than Life Itself”

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“‘Thy goodness is better than life’... means that it is better than the one thing you still have when you have lost everything, better than your life.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

# “Affirming New Life and Peace”

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“To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.”

Romans 8: 6

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“Lent then is a time of affirming that our life according to the flesh is dead, and that new life and peace are available even now through the Spirit of Christ.”

Amy Plantinga Pauw

# “Living Good News”

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“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2: 38

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“The task of Christians is to proclaim this good news by word of mouth, and to substantiate in their lives the glorious truth that Christ is Victor: that death has been vanquished; that abundant life is to be had; that sins can be forgiven.”

Alan P. F. Sell

# “Grace and Gratitude”

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“And when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’”

I Corinthians 11: 24

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“Grace and gratitude belong together like heaven and earth. Grace evokes gratitude like the voice of an echo. Gratitude follows grace like thunder, lightning ... The two belong together, so that only gratitude can correspond to grace, and this correspondence cannot fail.”

Karl Barth

# “The Divine Presence Holds Us”

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“Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.”

Psalm 91: 14

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“When everything you have counted on for protection has failed, the Divine Presence does not fail. The hands are still there – not promising to rescue, not promising to intervene – promising only to hold you no matter how far you fail.”

Barbara Brown Taylor

# “Living for God’s Glory”

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“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”

I Corinthians 10: 31

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“And therefore in all our actions we must propound God’s glory as the supreme end of them, according to that of the Apostle [I Cor. 10: 31].”

John Downname



**CLOSING PRAYER**