

Years I spent in vanity and pride, caring not my Lord was crucified, knowing not it was for me He died on Calvary. By God's Word at last my sin I've learned; then I trembled at the law I'd spurned--till my guilty soul imploring turned to Calvary. Mercy there was great, and grace was free; pardon there was multiplied for me. There my burdened soul found liberty, at Calvary. (Worship in Song, # 391)

- 7 Acts 5:1-11; Proverbs 25:14; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Ecclesiastes 5:6; Ps15
- 8 Acts 5:12-42; Psalm 40; Romans 8:31-39
- 9 Acts 6:1-8:3; Mark 8:34-38; Revelation 6:9-11; 14:13
- 10 1 Kings 16:23-33; John 4:1-42; Acts 8:4-25; Matthew 10:7-8
- 11 Isaiah 53; John 1:24-34; Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 32
- 12 Acts 9:1-31; Galatians 1; 2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Corinthians 5:17
- 13 Acts 9:32-43; John 1:43-51; 5:19-27; 14:8-14; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

"Take up thy cross and follow Me," I heard the Master say. "I gave My life to ransom thee; Surrender your all today." It may be through the shadows dim, or o'er the stormy sea. I take my cross and follow Him, wherever He leads I'll go. My heart, my life, my all I bring to Christ, who loves me so. He is my Master, Lord, and King; wherever He leads I'll go. (Worship in Song, #248)

- 14 Acts 10:11-18; Romans 14 -15:13; Colossians 3:12-14
- 15 Acts 11:19-30; Romans 15:14-33; 1 Peter 5:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7
- 16 Hebrews 1:14; Genesis 19:1-26; 32:1-2; Psalm 91:9-12; Acts 12:1-19a
- 17 Acts 12:19b-24; 1 Samuel 25:1-39a; Job 34; Psalm 2; Daniel 7:20-28
- 18 Acts 12:25-13:52; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; 2 Corinthians 2:14-17
- 19 Acts 14; Matthew 10:5-42; Acts 9:15-16
- 20 Acts 15:1-35; Romans 12:18; 14; 1 Corinthians 10:31-33

Fight the good fight with all thy might. Christ is thy strength and Christ thy Right. Lay hold on life and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally. Run the straight race through God's good grace. Lift up thine eyes and seek His face; life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path and Christ the prize. Faint not from fear, His arms are near; He changeth not and thou art dear. Only believe and thou shall see that Christ is All in All to thee. (The Hymnbook, No. 359)

- 21 Acts 15:36- 16:5; Romans 12:16; 1 Peter 3:8; Colossians 3:12-17; Eph 4:1-3
- 22 Acts 16:6-15; Galatians 3:26-29; Revelation 3:20; Romans 1:14-17
- 23 Acts 16:16-40; Mark 1:21-28; Psalm 42:8-11; 32:7; 1 Peter 2:19-25
- 24 Acts 17:1-15; Deuteronomy 29:29; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17
- 25 Acts 17:16-34; 2 Kings 17:1-15; Isaiah 42:8; 1 John 5:19-21
- 26 Acts 18; Titus 3:1-11; Romans 12:9-21
- 27 Acts 19; Romans 1:18-32; Ephesians 2

Who is on the Lord's side? Who will serve the King? Who will be His helpers other lives to bring? Who will leave the world's side? Who will face the foe? Who is on the Lord's side? Who for Him will go? By Thy call of mercy, by thy grace divine, We are on the Lord's side. Saviour, we are Thine. (Worship in Song, No.318)

- 28 Acts 20; Ephesians 6:10-20; Romans 15:13; 2 Peter 2:1-10; Revelation 2
- 29 Acts 21:1-26; Jeremiah 13:1-11; John 15:18-16:4; Philippians 1:21-30
- 30 Acts 21:27-22:29; Psalm 109; 2 Timothy 2:8-13



First Cup Readings

March - April 2013



Let the morning bring me word
of your unfailing love,
for I have put my trust in you.
Show me the way I should go,
for to you I lift up my soul.
-Psalm 143:8

Dear Family in Christ,

First Cup is designed to assist you in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. The name is to remind you that as you reach for your first cup of morning coffee or tea, reach also for your Bible and prayer list. The prayers at the beginning of each week are taken from hymns, sometimes found in obscure hymnals in my library. They are intended to be read as your beginning prayer, to focus your mind on the daily readings that follow. May this spiritual discipline strengthen you as you face each day.

Blessings and love in Christ,
Sandy Starch & Claire Averyt

The Great Physician now is near, the sympathizing Jesus; He speaks the drooping heart to cheer, Oh! hear the voice of Jesus. His name dispels my guilt and fear, no other name but Jesus. Oh! how my soul delights to hear the precious name of Jesus! Sweetest note in seraph song, sweetest name on mortal tongue, sweetest carol ever song; Jesus, blessed Jesus! (William Hunter, Songs of Devotion, 1859)

MARCH

1 Mark 1:1-13; Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 1 Peter 5:8; Ro 16:20
2 Mark 1:14-20; Luke 4:43; 17:20-21; Luke 5:1-11; John 1:35-51; Matthew 10:37-39

What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pains we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer! Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our Refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful, Who will all our sorrows share? In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there. (The Hymnbook, # 385)

3 Mark 1:21-45; Luke 4:14-44; John 20:29-31; 1 Peter 1:3-16
4 Mark 2:1-17; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Ps 91
5 Mark 2:18-3:6; Exodus 20:8-10; Jeremiah 17:19-27; Matthew 5:17-20
6 Mark 3:7-34; Matthew 12:22-37; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 3:26-29
7 Mark 4:1-35; John 15:1-17
8 Psalm 18; Isaiah 43:18-19
9 Mark 4:35-41; 2 Samuel 22; Psalm 65

Shackled by a heavy burden, beneath a load of guilt and shame; then the hand of Jesus touched me, and now I am no longer the same. Oh! Since I met this Blessed Savior, and since He cleansed and made me whole, Oh! I'll never cease to praise Him; I'll shout it while eternity rolls. Oh! He touched me! Oh! He touched me! And oh, what joy that floods my soul. Something happened and now I know, He touched me and He has made me whole. (Bill Gaither, 1964)

10 Mark 5:1-20; Matthew 4:23-24; 8:16-17; Acts 19:11-20; Revelation 20:1-10
11 Mark 5:21-43; Psalm 103
12 Mark 6:1-29; Luke 9:7-9; 14:25-33; Acts 21:10-14
13 Mark 6:30-56; Ephesians 3:20-21; Psalm 37
14 Mark 7:1-23; Jeremiah 17:9; Micah 6; James 1:21-27
15 Mark 7:24-8:10; Colossians 1:15-23; Ephesians 1:2-23
16 Mark 8:11-38; John 10

Fear not, little flock, from the cross to the throne, from death unto life He went for His own; All power in earth, all power above, Is given to him for the flock of His love. Fear not, little flock, He goeth ahead, your Shepherd selected the path you must tread; The waters of Mareh He'll sweeten for thee, He drank all the bitter in Gethsemane. Only believe, only believe, all things are possible, only believe. Only believe, only believe, all things are possible, only believe! (Paul Rader, 1921)

17 Mark 9:1-13; Malachi 4:5-6; Matthew 11:7-15; 17:1-13
18 Mark 9:14-29; James 5:13-20; Philippians 4:6-7; Ephesians 6:18
19 Mark 9:30-41; Matthew 5:27-30; 18:1-9
20 Mark 9:42-50; 1 Corinthians 5; 1 Peter 1:13-25
21 Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 10:1-16; 1 Corinthians 7; 1 John 1:9-10
22 Mark 10:17-31; 2 Chronicles 1:1-12; Proverbs 11:24-28; 1 Timothy 6:17
23 Mark 10:32-45; Philippians 2:1-18; John 13:1-17

'Twas on that night when doomed to know the eager rage of every foe, That night in which He was betrayed, the Savior of the world took bread; "My broken body thus I give for you, for all. Take, eat and live. And oft the sacred rite renew that brings my saving love to view." Then in His hands He took the cup He raised, and God anew He thanked and praised, while kindness in His bosom glowed, and from His lips salvation flowed. "With love to man, this cup is fraught; Let all partake the sacred draught; Through latest ages let it pour, In memory of my dying hour." (The Hymnbook, # 448)

24 Mark 10:46-52; Hebrews 11:6; Matthew 7:7-12; Luke 19:1-10; Psalm 27
25 Mark 11:1-19; Jeremiah 7; Romans 12:12; Colossians 4:2
26 Mark 11:20-33; Luke 17:1-4; Matthew 5:21-24; Matthew 18:21-35
27 Mark 12; Proverbs 25:14; Matthew 6:1-4; Psalm 37:25-26; 112; Proverbs 11:25
28 Mark 13; Luke 12:13-48
29 Mark 14:1-42; John 17; Mark 14:43-72
30 Mark 15; John 19:38-42 (see John 3:1-21 regarding Nicodemus)

I serve a risen Savior. He's in the world today. I know that He is living whatever men might say. I see His hand of mercy; I hear His voice of cheer; And just the time I need Him He's always near. Rejoice, rejoice o Christian; lift up your voice and sing eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King! The Help of all who seek Him; the Hope of all who find; none other is so loving, so good and kind. He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart! (Hymns in American Protestant Theology)

31 Mark 16; John 20:19-21:25

APRIL

1 Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1
2 Joel 2:28-32; Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 7:37-39; Acts 2; Romans 8:5-17
3 Acts 3; Romans 1:16-32; Revelation 3:14-22
4 Acts 4:1-22; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 18:19-20; Mark 9:35-41; Jn 14:1-14
5 Psalm 2; Acts 4:23-31; Romans 8:26-28; Ps 4; 17:6-7; Ephesians 6:18-20
6 Acts 4:32-37; 2:44-45; Deuteronomy 15:1-18; Proverbs 3:27-28; Psalm 145