

Lenten Prayer
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Week 3



Hymn: [Your Grace is Enough](#) – Chris Tomlin

Verse 1. Great is Your faithfulness, oh God. You wrestle with the sinner's heart. You lead us by still waters into mercy and nothing can keep us apart.

So, remember Your people. Remember Your children. Remember Your promise, Oh God.

Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough for me.

Verse 2. Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob. You use the weak to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of Your salvation and all Your people sing along.

So, remember Your people Remember Your children Remember Your promise Oh God.

Your grace is enough Your grace is enough Your grace is enough for me [x2]

So, remember Your people. Remember Your children. Remember Your promise Oh God.

Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough for me. Your grace is enough, heaven reaching down to us.

Your grace is enough for me. God, I see your grace is enough. I'm covered in your love. Your grace is enough for me, for me.

Opening Prayer:

Almighty God and Father, we have wandered down many paths, seeking happiness or glory; we have trusted in lesser gods, looking for safe haven from the dangers that threaten. But the deep hungers are not satisfied; the fears and anxieties still haunt us. Take our weariness and our fears,

and grow new courage in us. Take our resignation to the way things are and pull us into your passionate love.

Forgive us for our fearfulness, as we rely more upon our own human illusions of control and satisfaction, even though we know that these illusions separate us from you. Forgive us for not trusting in your grace, in your abundance, in the covenant promises that you have renewed with every generation. Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy of the Good News we have received, offering our lives in service of your kingdom, where the last are first, and the first are last, and there is grace enough for all.

Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life, our callousness toward suffering, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law.

Help us keep your word at the center of our lives; a light to guide our way in whatever darkness we encounter, or whatever temptations we face. Teach us what it means to follow Your commandments, and to walk in Your ways. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command. Amen

Reading: Micah 7:18-20

Who is a God like you, who removes guilt and pardons sin for the remnant of his inheritance; who does not persist in anger forever, but instead delights in mercy, and will again have compassion on us, treading underfoot our iniquities?

You will cast into the depths of the sea all our sins; you will show faithfulness to Jacob, and loyalty to Abraham, as you have sworn to our ancestors from days of old.

Reflection: From a sermon by Saint Gregory of Nazianzen, bishop

Who has given you dominion over animals, those that are tame and those that provide you with food? Who has made you lord and master of everything on earth? In short, who has endowed you with all that makes man superior to all other living creatures?

Is it not God who asks you now in your turn to show yourself generous above all other creatures and for the sake of all other creatures? Because we have received from him so many wonderful gifts, will we not be ashamed to refuse him this one thing only, our generosity? Though he is God and Lord he is not afraid to be known as our Father. Shall we for our part repudiate those who are our kith and kin?

Antiphon: Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Together let us pray Psalm 138

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth; in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise; I will worship at your holy temple and give thanks to your name.

Because of your kindness and your truth; for you have made great above all things your name and your promise. When I called, you answered me; you built up strength within me.

Your right hand saves me. The LORD will complete what he has done for me; your kindness, O LORD, endures forever; forsake not the work of your hands.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Glory be...

Intercessory Prayer:

Almighty God and Father, as we rejoice in the bounty of your world, we remember those who do not have enough, the thousands who are daily dying of hunger. Teach us to value people more than things. Above all, help us to set our hearts on your kingdom of love and justice, and to seek to do your will here on earth.

Instill in us, again, your hope in place of our despair, your peace where our hatred threatens, your joy amidst our depression, your love overwhelming our apathy.

Give us strength and courage to get our priorities straight: help us to seek your kingdom first, to live faithfully and joyfully in the world, and to be friends with the people you call us to serve.

You alone know our needs. Satisfy us with your unchanging love. In your presence may we find comfort in sorrow, guidance in perplexity, strength to meet temptation, grace to overcome the fascination of disobedience, and courage to face up to the hostility of this rebellious world.

May we honor your name not by paying it lip service, but by following you, loving in your name, speaking in your name, caring in your name.

During this Lenten journey, look deep within our hearts and our lives, and clear away all that holds us back. May our minds, spirits and bodies be a temple that is open to your presence and may our words and our actions be transparent to your love and truth; and may we be purified in our life and mission, so that all that we do in and reveal your love to others.

May your grace surround us like a mantle upon our heads, a shawl upon our shoulders, a hand to hold our hand. And may your grace bring peace and safety to us and all people. Amen.

Blessing: And may the blessing of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit descend upon us and with us remain forever and ever.