

Lent 1: February 21, 2024 Worship Summary | Prayer Guide and Prompts:

- Begin with a prayer of gratitude for being created in the image of God (Imago Dei). Thank God for the unique qualities He has given you that reflect His nature, such as the ability to love, create, and steward His creation.

"Heavenly Father, I thank You for creating me in Your image. Help me to recognize and appreciate the unique qualities You have bestowed upon me that reflect Your nature."

- Pray for a deeper understanding of your identity in Christ and how the concept of Imago Dei influences your daily life and interactions with others.

"Lord, grant me a deeper understanding of what it means to be made in Your image. Teach me to see myself and others through this lens, influencing my actions and relationships."

- Reflect on the story of Peter Schleimel and ask God to reveal any areas in your life where you may have compromised your connection with Him. Pray for the courage to restore and strengthen that connection.

"God, show me if there are ways I have compromised my connection with You. Give me the strength to make changes and restore our relationship."

- Pray for the ability to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in your community. Ask God to guide you in living out your faith in tangible ways that serve others and demonstrate His love.

"Father, guide me in being the hands and feet of Jesus. Help me to live out my faith in ways that serve others and show Your love to the world."

- Ask God to help you understand the metaphor of your shadow growing darker as the light of Christ shines brighter within you. Pray for increased faith and a greater impact on the world as you walk closer with God.

"Lord, as Your light shines brighter in me, let my faith cast a larger shadow. May my life have a profound impact on those around me as I grow in my relationship with You."

- Pray for a shift in perspective from "Why does God need me?" to "Why do I need God?" Ask God to reveal your dependence on Him for identity, purpose, and the ability to love and serve others.

"Heavenly Father, help me to shift my perspective to recognize my need for You in every aspect of my life. Reveal to me the ways I depend on You for my identity, purpose, and capacity to love and serve."

- Pray for the privilege of participating in God's redemptive work in the world. Ask God to use you as a living testament to the transformative power of His love and grace.

"God, I am honored to participate in Your redemptive work. Use me as a living testament to the transformative power of Your love and grace."

- Conclude with a prayer for the church community, that together you may embody the love and grace of God, reflecting His image to the world.

"Lord, unite our church community in reflecting Your image to the world. May we embody Your love and grace together, serving as a beacon of hope and light."