

Gospel of Matthew Lenten Bible Study
Wednesdays Feb 25-Mar 25, 2026
6:00-7:15pm in Lounge/Hybrid
Discipleship in a Divided Age

Lectio Divina passages: read aloud 3x

Feb 25 Read Matthew 1-4, and Days 1-8

Overview of Matthew/Study

Lectio Divina: Matthew 4:1-11 (Jesus' temptation)

1. What in Matthew Chapters 1-4 stood out to you?
2. How does Jesus' temptation give you strength? Where are you tempted to take control instead of trusting God?
3. What might God be inviting you to release this Lent?
4. Where do you see God's story of redemption unfolding today?
5. What do you need in your discipleship journey this year?

March 4 Read Matthew 5-7:5 and Days 9-15

Lectio Divina: Matthew 5:43-48 (Love your enemies)

1. In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Ch 5-7), what inspires you? Challenges you?
2. Think of someone hard to love—what would it mean for you to love them? Pray for them? How might that change you (not them)?
3. How can you add salt and light to the world this week?
4. Which Beatitude is most helpful and hopeful to you?
5. What spiritual practice helps you feel closest to God? How can you engage in that even more this Lent?

March 11 Read Matthew 7:12-10:31 and Days 16-22

Lectio Divina: Matthew 9:14-17 (New wineskins)

1. Which of Jesus' teachings in Matthew 7-10 are most difficult? Inspiring?
2. How are you clinging to an 'old wineskin'—old habits, expectations, ways? How might the church be doing this?
3. Who are the people living on the margins of our society today? How can you reach out?
4. How does Jesus' care help you live courageously?

March 18 Read Matthew 11-13 and Days 23-29*Lectio Divina: Matthew 12:1-14 (Jesus shows mercy)*

1. Where do you hear God in Matthew Chapters 11-13?
2. When are you tempted to defend rules, instead of offering mercy?
3. Who in your community needs you to reach out?
4. How do you keep your heart open to God's surprising grace?
5. What does Matt 11:28 mean to you?
6. How is God asking you to sow seeds of faith, kindness, or courage?

March 25 Read Matthew 14-20 and Days 30-38*Lectio Divina: Matthew 16:13-20 (Who do you say I am?)*

1. Which passages in Matthew 14-20 is the most striking?
2. How do you share your faith with others?
3. How do you hear Jesus' voice in the people and situations around you?
4. What loaves and fishes do you have? How do you join in God's work with those?
5. How does the Canaanite woman give you inspiration and faith (Matt 15)?
6. Where do you feel discouraged, and how does faith help you?

Holy Week Read Matthew 21-28 and Days 39-47*As you read the story of Holy Week, reflect on Jesus' gift for you.*

1. Where is Jesus asking you to surrender?
2. Where is God asking you to lead with humility instead of certainty?
3. Where do you feel pulled toward cynicism, weariness, or hard-heartedness?
4. What part of Holy Week brings you the most strength?
5. Where do you need the power of the cross?
6. How do you live in resurrection hope and power?