



# WHO IS GOD

---

calvary church lent guide 2022

Lent is a season in the Church Calendar, beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 2, 2022) and concluding with the celebration of Jesus's resurrection on Easter Sunday (April 17, 2022), that offers opportunity for us to reorder our spiritual lives.

Lent is a time to return to the basics, to orient ourselves around the spiritual realities of life. It is a season of spiritual pilgrimage, a journey wherein we choose to die with Christ and be buried with Him, so we can be raised in the resurrection of new life.

At Calvary, in this season we emphasize the spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting and giving as Jesus encouraged in Matthew 6. Lent provides a wonderful opportunity to do this together, as a church body.

## **PRAYER**

During Lent, we set aside extra time to pray. Our hope is that by taking this intentional step as a congregation in this season, we will come to Easter having developed or deepened a habit of prayer. For it is through prayer that God transforms our lives, it is an avenue through which His character is made evident in us.

This year, we will focus on one name of God each week. A name given to us in Scripture to display how God relates to us as His children.

- *Week of March 6*  
Yahweh Shammah  
– The One who is here
- *Week of March 13*  
Yahweh Rapha  
– The One who heals
- *Week of March 20*  
Yahweh Shalom  
– The One who is peace
- *Week of March 27*  
Yahweh Jireh  
– The One who provides
- *Week of April 3*  
Adonai El-Roi  
– The One who sees
- *Week of April 10*  
El Shaddai  
– The One who is Lord Almighty
- *Week of April 17*  
Yeshua  
– The One who saves

Each Sunday, we'll spend time in the worship service meditating on the week's name of God and reflecting together on who He is. These meditative prayers will be available online for you to walk through all week long as part of your personal prayer time.

## **FASTING**

Lent is a time for self-examination and contemplation. To facilitate this, Christians often set aside certain foods or non-essential

activities. Fasting is not meant to be deprivation or a means of earning grace. Rather, fasting is meant to provide spiritual focus. By setting aside something that is normally a part of your daily life, you are creating space for God. As you voluntarily deny yourself, you are reminded of Jesus as the source of your true sustenance.

Fasting is not limited to food (though many people may choose a meal or specific food group from which to fast). Abstaining from certain practices can help us loosen the grip that unhealthy appetites and destructive addictions have on our lives. You may consider fasting from buying books, wearing makeup, listening to the radio / podcasts or eating processed foods. To abstain from these things, things that are not in and of themselves bad, helps us resist subtle idolatry and refocus our lives on God.

On Sundays, we set aside our fast as we spend time gathered as a church, feasting in the presence of the Lord.

## **GIVING**

During the season of Lent we are spending extended time in prayer. As part of this practice we seek to know how God would have us deepen our giving. Consider ways that you can express your faith by following Jesus's example

of sacrifice both in His life and ultimately in His death.

As a church we use this season in the church calendar to focus on the Jonathan Fund. This is our church's fund set aside to encourage those who are suffering. Consider giving to this fund or finding other ways to encourage those who are suffering that they may persevere through trial.

**GIVE ONLINE** at [mycalvarygr.org](http://mycalvarygr.org)  
Calvary Church accepts online donations through checking or savings accounts, as well as debit and credit cards.

**GIVE BY TEXT** to 616-294-0700  
The first time you text to give, you will be prompted to visit a secure URL. Once you click the registration link, you will enter your credit or debit card information. At this point your donation will process and you will receive a confirmation text.

**GIVE IN PERSON OR BY MAIL**  
If you would like to designate your offering to the Jonathan Fund, giving envelopes are available in the racks between the seats in the Sanctuary. You can also mail your gift to: PO Box 1600, Grand Rapids MI 49501.

## BAPTISM

In the early centuries of the church, the forty days before Easter came to be recognized as the season of Lent (a Latin word that means “spring”), when new converts were prepared for baptism. This preparation included biblical instruction, prayer, repentance and fasting. In time, the practices of Lent were embraced by the entire church. We continue to mark this season by celebrating baptism during our Easter services. If you are ready to make a public proclamation of your faith in Jesus, to publicly turn your back on sin and take on the new life of Jesus, consider being baptized.

Contact Christie ([cthompson@calvarygr.org](mailto:cthompson@calvarygr.org)) to sign up, or receive more information about baptism at Calvary Church.

# HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY | APRIL 10  
SERVICES: 9:00 & 10:45am  
MUSICAL: 6:00pm



Join us for an evening of worship lead by our choir and orchestra to prepare our hearts and minds as we enter into Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY | APRIL 14  
SEDER MEAL: 6:00pm



Experience the last supper as Jesus did with His disciples in the Upper Room. A better understanding of the seder meal (Jewish Passover) enables Christians to more appreciate the meaning of the Lord's Supper. Attendance is limited. **register at [mycalvarygr.org](http://mycalvarygr.org).**

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 15  
SERVICE: 7:00pm

An evening of reflection that commemorates the night when Christ bore the ultimate burden for us and was crucified in order to give us peace with God.



# EASTER

EASTER SUNDAY | APRIL 17  
SERVICES: 7:15, 9:00 & 10:45am

Together we will celebrate Christ's victory over sin, fear and death and the peace and new life we can find in Him today.

Breakfast: 8:00-10:00am  
Enjoy a light breakfast in the Gathering Place.



**Calvary**  
CHURCH

707 E Beltline Ave NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49525

**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 1600  
Grand Rapids MI 49501

**Ph** (616) 956-9377  
**Fax** (616) 956-9723  
[calvarygr.org](http://calvarygr.org)

CalvaryChurchGR  
 calvarygr