

I AM

JESUS' SEVEN STATEMENTS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



A Lenten Devotional from Pulaski Heights UMC 

HILLCREST COMMUNITY LENTEN SERIES

You are invited to join us from 12-1 PM on Fridays during the season of Lent for a community-wide, ecumenical worship service!

Each week, we will gather in a different Hillcrest congregation and hear from the pastors who serve our neighborhood. A light, meatless lunch will follow, offering the opportunity to fellowship and get to know other Christians in Hillcrest. We hope to see you there!

Blessings, Rev. Katye Chambers

MARCH 14 « @HOPE CHURCH

Preacher: Dr. Rex Horne (Hope Church)
Address: 2200 Kavanaugh Blvd.

MARCH 21 « @HOLY SOULS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Preacher: Rev. Ruskin Falls (Pulaski Heights Presbyterian Church)
Address: 1003 N Tyler St.

MARCH 28 « @PULASKI HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Preacher: Rev. Katye Chambers (Pulaski Heights UMC)
Address: 4401 Woodlawn Dr.

APRIL 4 « @PULASKI HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

Preacher: Fr. Daniel Velasco (Holy Souls Catholic Church)
Address: 2200 Kavanaugh Blvd.

APRIL 11 « @PULASKI HEIGHTS UMC

Preacher: Rev. Brenda Holder (Pulaski Heights Baptist Church)
Address: 4823 Woodlawn Dr.

I AM

JESUS' SEVEN STATEMENTS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with Holy Week (the week before Easter). Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring temptation and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is also a time of self-examination and reflection. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples, and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

This year, we at Pulaski Heights UMC will be focusing on who Jesus reveals himself to be through his "I Am" statements. Each week in worship you will hear a different "I Am" statement of Jesus from the gospel of John. In order to fully understand the meaning of these words, though, we really must better understand the life and ministry of Jesus. And so, we are inviting our congregation to read the Gospel of John together during the season of Lent. Enclosed in this booklet is a guide for reading and reflecting on this story of Jesus. Each day you can read a portion of the gospel, and over the course of Lent we will read the entirety of John's gospel together. The verses printed in the booklet are the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVUE). You are invited to read it along with your own Bible and translation and reflect on words, phrases or questions that stand out to you.

May this Lent bring about a deeper understanding of Jesus' life for us and for the world and our calling to follow him as disciples.

- Rev. Kathleen McMurray

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

JOHN 1:1-28

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

PRAYER

MARCH 6

JOHN 1:29-51

²⁹ Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

PRAYER

MARCH 7
JOHN 2:1-25

¹⁸ What sign can you show us for doing this?

PRAYER

MARCH 8
JOHN 3:1-21

¹⁷ Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

PRAYER

MARCH 10
JOHN 3:22-36

³⁵ The Father loves the son and has placed all things in his hands.

PRAYER

MARCH 11
JOHN 4:1-42

²⁹ He cannot be the Messiah, can he?

PRAYER

MARCH 12
JOHN 4:43-54

⁴⁸ Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.

PRAYER

MARCH 13
JOHN 5:1-30

²¹ Just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life,
so also the son gives life to whomever he wishes.

PRAYER

MARCH 14
JOHN 5:31-47

³⁶ The words that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me.

PRAYER

MARCH 15
JOHN 6:1-21

²⁰ It is I; do not be afraid.

PRAYER

MARCH 17
JOHN 6:22-59

⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father,
so whoever eats me will live because of me.

PRAYER

MARCH 18
JOHN 6:60-71

⁶³ The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

PRAYER

MARCH 19
JOHN 7:1-31

²⁵ Is not this the man whom they are trying to kill?

PRAYER

MARCH 20
JOHN 7:32-53

^{37b} Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸ and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'

PRAYER

MARCH 21
JOHN 8:1-30

¹⁵ You judge by human standards; I judge no one.

PRAYER

MARCH 22
JOHN 8:31-59

⁵⁸ Very truly I tell you, before Abraham was, I AM.

PRAYER

MARCH 24
JOHN 9:1-41

⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

PRAYER

MARCH 25
JOHN 10:1-21

¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ^{18a} No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.

PRAYER

MARCH 26
JOHN 10:22-42

²⁵ The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me.

PRAYER

MARCH 27
JOHN 11:1-27

^{25b} Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
^{26a} and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

PRAYER

MARCH 28
JOHN 11:28-57

⁴⁰ Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?

PRAYER

MARCH 29
JOHN 12:1-26

²³ The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

PRAYER



I AM... THE TRUE VINE

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

JOHN 15:1-11

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

SERMON NOTES

MARCH 31
JOHN 12:27-50

³² I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.

PRAYER

APRIL 1
JOHN 13:1-20

¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am.

PRAYER

APRIL 2
JOHN 13:21-38

³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

PRAYER

APRIL 3
JOHN 14:1-14

¹² The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and,
in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

PRAYER

APRIL 4
JOHN 14:15-31

^{26b} The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ^{27a} Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

PRAYER

APRIL 5
JOHN 15:1-17

⁴ I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

PRAYER

APRIL 7
JOHN 15:18-27

¹⁸ If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you.

PRAYER

APRIL 8
JOHN 16:1-15

¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ^{14a} He will glorify me.

PRAYER

APRIL 9
JOHN 16:16-33

³³ I have said this to you so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution, but take courage: I have conquered the world!

PRAYER

APRIL 10
JOHN 17:1-26

²¹ As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

PRAYER

APRIL 11
JOHN 18:1-24

⁵ I am He.

PRAYER

APRIL 12
JOHN 18:25-40

³⁶ My kingdom does not belong to this world.

PRAYER

APRIL 14
JOHN 19:1-27

¹¹ You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above.

PRAYER

APRIL 15
JOHN 19:28-42

³⁰ It is finished.

PRAYER

APRIL 16
JOHN 20:1-18

¹⁷ I am ascending to my Father, and your Father, to my God and your God.

PRAYER

APRIL 17
JOHN 20:19-30

³¹ These are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

PRAYER

APRIL 18
JOHN 21:1-14

^{12b} They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish.

PRAYER

APRIL 19
JOHN 21:15-25

¹⁹ Follow me.

PRAYER



EASTER SUNDAY
BLESSINGS, MEMORIES, NOTES

LENT & EASTER

@ PHUMC

MARCH 5 « ASH WEDNESDAY

Imposition of Ashes | Sanctuary | 7 AM (Drop-in)
Drive thru Ashes | Upper Parking Deck | 8-10 AM
Ash Wednesday Service | Sanctuary | 12 & 6 PM

APRIL 13 « PALM SUNDAY

Classic Worship w/ Palm Procession | Sanctuary | 9 & 11 AM
Modern Worship w/ Palm Procession | Wesley Hall | 9 & 11 AM
Children's Palm Parade | Courtyard | 10:15 AM

APRIL 17 « MAUNDY THURSDAY

Prayer Stations w/ Communion | Wesley Hall | 12 PM
Communion Service | Sanctuary | 7 PM

APRIL 18 « GOOD FRIDAY

Tenebrae | Sanctuary | 12 PM
Tenebrae (with Choir) | Sanctuary | 7 PM

APRIL 19 « EASTER SATURDAY

Easter Egg Hunt | War Memorial Pavillion | 10:30 AM
Easter Saturday Worship | Sanctuary | 5 PM

APRIL 20 « EASTER SUNDAY

Classic Worship | Sanctuary | 8:30, 9:45 & 11 AM
Modern Worship | Wesley Hall | 9:45 & 11 AM

APRIL 21 « EASTER MONDAY

Church offices closed

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