

Journey towards the Cross

March 18, 2026

Topic:
God always calls us back to Him

Bible portion:
Amos 5:14-15

Focus:
Prophets: The call to
return to God.



A daily devotional for lent season

40-Day Gospel Reading Plan

Bible Readings for Today

Luke 17-18



Have you Read your
Bible today?

Memory Verse for the day

“How difficult it is for
those who have wealth
to enter the kingdom
of God!”

Luke 18:24 (ESV)

Quote

“Resolution one: I
will live for God.”

- Jonathan Edwards

Introduction

The book of Book of Amos offers a glimpse into God's “*eternal drama*.” The prophet Amos, often called the “*burden carrier*,” was a shepherd and a gatherer of sycamore fruit. From a place of solitude and silence, he raises a powerful voice, calling people to return to God in righteousness and justice.

Book of Amos 5:14–15 “*Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. Hate evil, love good; establish justice in the gate.*”

This is a plea for holy living—a call deeply rooted in the Christian tradition. A powerful performance inspires us, and the prophetic call of Amos invites us to explore the mystery of God's call to return to Him. This divine drama awakens in us a desire for change and creativity, opening new spiritual possibilities. Amos' call to

righteousness, justice, and holiness continues to challenge us today.

Scene I: The prophet points to God's activity in history—an activity that nurtures faith and encourages participation in His work. It illuminates what it means to live in God's presence and to work with Him. “*Know thyself*.” To be a good Christian is to be a responsible communicant member of a witnessing and worshipping community—the Church—whose purpose is to be holy. God's invitation remains clear: “*Return to me, and I will return to you.*” Amos leads us through history toward the final fulfillment of hope and restoration.

Scene II: During Lent, we are invited to pause in a fast-moving and chaotic world. Lent gives us time to reflect, pray, and listen to God's voice. Through worship, Scripture reading, and the sacraments, the

Church becomes a place where we learn to see issues of justice and peace in the light of the Gospel.

The spiritual disciplines of prayer, charity, and fasting may sometimes bring feelings of struggle or dissatisfaction. Yet they also create space for deeper reflection and a closer relationship with God. Prayer becomes more personal, and our conscience is enlightened. We are invited to return to God and journey toward the Cross through the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



Lenten discipline may also bring a sense of guilt or powerlessness because of our sin. At times it may weaken our relationship with God and with ourselves. Yet it also deepens our desire to work out our salvation and listen to the quiet whispers: *“Turn over a new leaf,”* and *“Mend your ways.”*

Through spiritual renewal, we overcome guilt and powerlessness. We must not be caught up in the hyperactivity of the world. Amos presents a simple moral challenge:

- Are you not the salt of the earth? Has the salt lost its flavor?
- Are you not the yeast that leavens? Has the yeast lost its power?
- Are you the light on the lamp stand that has gone out?

There is new life in Jesus Christ—a quality of life



that experiences the forgiveness of sin. Lent becomes a time of renewal that touches the inner core of our being.

“Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.”

Amos 5:24

Prayer

Merciful Father, help us seek good, love justice, and walk in righteousness as You call us to return to You. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, renew our hearts and lead us from repentance to the joy of new life. Amen.

- Rev. Jeffrey C. Bardey



Prayer Point
Pray for the spiritual growth of our local Church.

