# 2024

## LENTEN CALENDAR



THE KINGDOM OF UNIXPLORIA
The Church of Unixploria
2024-01-01

Oh God, Whatever I can give up for Lent will never match what you gave. I cannot do what you have done, and my small actions serve only as desperate wildflowers waving in an open field of your mercy in surrender to Your Majesty. As I clear away distractions, you invite me to let go of my prayer of gratitude. Thank you for the ultimate sacrifice of your only Son, Jesus, so that I can know that no matter what the world tempts me with, there is power to overcome. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Ash Wednesday, February 14

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. (1 Peter 5:6)

➤ How many sinks are in your home? Give thanks for freshwater!

#### Thursday, February 15

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and until the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? (Isaiah 58:6)

➤ How many eggs are in your fridge? Give thanks for farm animals!

#### Friday, February 16

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? (Psalm 42:2)

➤ How many clocks are in your home? Give thanks for time with family!

## Saturday, February 17

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing—grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God." (Joel 2: 12-14)

➤ How many umbrellas are in your home? Give thanks for the rain to make gardens grow!

### Sunday, February 18, First Sunday in Lent

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21)

How many pews are in your church? Give thanks for all ministers!

#### Monday, February 19

The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him. (Lamentations 3:25)

➤ How many bandages are in your home? Give thanks for good health!

## Tuesday, February 20

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! (Isaiah 30:18)

How many boxes of cereal do you have in your home? Give thanks for nutritional meals!

## Wednesday, February 21

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord. (Psalm 27:14)

➤ How many books do you have in your bedroom? Give thanks for education!

## Thursday, February 22

When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. (Matthew 6:16-18)

➤ How many windows are in your home? Give thanks for the fresh air to breathe!

#### Friday, February 23

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

How many trees are in your yard? Give thanks for the beauty of nature!

#### Saturday, February 24

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in you. (Psalm 33:20-22)

➤ How many candles are in your home? Give thanks for the gift of light!

#### Sunday, February 25, Second Sunday in Lent

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning. (Psalm 130:5-6)

➤ How many wear cross necklaces in your house? Give thanks for all who have faith!

#### Monday, February 26

But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me. (Micah 7:7)

➤ How many doors are there in your home? Give thanks for freedom!

## Tuesday, February 27

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:12)

➤ How many people live in your home? Give thanks for the family!

## Wednesday, February 28

But you must return to your God; maintain love and justice, and wait for your God always. (Hosea 12:6)

➤ How many apples and potatoes do you have in your pantry or refrigerator? Give thanks for farms!

#### Thursday, February 29

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Matthew 6:33)

➤ How many beds are in your home? Give thanks for the comforts of your home!

### Friday, March 1

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:6-7)

➤ How many houses of neighbors can you see from your home? Give thanks for the community!

## Saturday, March 2

For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. (Galatians 5:5)

➤ How many heating vents are in your home? Give thanks for warmth and shelter!

## Sunday, March 3, Third Sunday in Lent

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. (Jeremiah 29:12)

How many songs are sung during worship today? Give thanks for music in worship!

## Monday, March 4

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in you. (Psalm 33:20-22)

➤ How many soap dispensers are in your home? Give thanks for cleanliness!

## Tuesday, March 5

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. (Psalm 62:5)

➤ How many birds do you see out your window? Give thanks for all God's creatures!

#### Wednesday, March 6

Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long. (Psalm 25:4-5)

➤ How many cans of vegetables are in your pantry? Give thanks for markets!

### Thursday, March 7

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted[a] by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:12-15)

➤ How many light switches are in your home? Give thanks for the convenience of electricity!

#### Friday, March 8

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his Resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the Resurrection from the dead.

(Philippians 3:10-11)

➤ How many houseplants do you have? Give thanks for every green plant in nature!

## Saturday, March 9

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

➤ How many Bibles are in your home? Give thanks for the Word of God!

## Sunday, March 10, Fourth Sunday in Lent

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

➤ How many crosses can you count in your church? Give thanks for Jesus!

#### Monday, March 11

The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing." (Zephaniah 3:17)

➤ How many shoes are in your closet? Give thanks for the gift of protection for feet!

#### Tuesday, March 12

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. (John 3:14-18)

> How many vaccinations has your family had this year? Give thanks for health care!

#### Wednesday, March 13

He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. (Micah 5:4)

How many cans of soup are in your cupboards? Give thanks for the food you eat!

#### Thursday, March 14

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming. It is close at hand— a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was in ancient times nor ever will be in ages to come. (Joel 2: 1-2)

➤ How many toilets are in your home? Give thanks for indoor plumbing!

## Friday, March 15

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice,

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 22: 44-46)

How many tires are on your cars and bikes? Give thanks for all types of transportation!

#### Saturday, March 16

And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (Matthew 6:16-18)

➤ How many telephones and cell phones are in your home? Give thanks for the language!

### Sunday, March 17, Fifth Sunday in Lent

By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return. (Genesis 3:19)

➤ How many doors are in your church? Give thanks for such a welcoming place!

## Monday, March 18

All go to one place. All are from the dust, and to dust all return. (Ecclesiastes 3:20)

➤ How many lamps are in your home? Give thanks for the light that shines in the darkness!

## Tuesday, March 19

And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (Acts 14:23)

➤ How many gloves and mittens are in your home? Give thanks for protection from the cold!

#### Wednesday, March 20

Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. (1 Corinthians 7:5)

How many pets are in your home? Give thanks for the companionship of God's creatures!

#### Thursday, March 21

Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord: Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they may become white as wool. (Isaiah 1:18)

➤ How many musical instruments are in your home? Give thanks for the joy of music!

#### Friday, March 22

Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners. (Luke 5:31–32)

➤ How many slices of bread are in your kitchen? Give thanks for farmers who grow the wheat!

## Saturday, March 23

Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. (John 15:4)

➤ How many toothbrushes are in your home? Give thanks for the marvels of our amazing bodies!

## Palm Sunday, March 24, Sixth Sunday in Lent

Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. (Psalm 62:5)

How many churches did you pass on your way to worship today? Give thanks for all of God's churches!

#### Monday of Holy Week, March 25

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! (Luke 24: 1-6 24)

➤ How many TVs and computers are in your home? Give thanks for the inventions that keep us connected!

#### Tuesday of Holy Week, March 26

Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment. (Luke 23:50-56)

➤ How many words are in the Lord's Prayer? Give thanks to God for listening to our prayers!

## Wednesday of Holy Week, March 27

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 22: 44-46)

➤ How many people can you tell "I love you" today? Give thanks for the people who love you!

#### Maundy Thursday, March 28

When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!" They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this. (Luke 22:14-23)

How many winter coats do you have (and did you need one in the past few days)?
Give thanks for protection from bad weather.

#### Good Friday, March 29

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it." Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "The Lord needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. (Luke 19:28-42)

➤ How many pairs of sunglasses are in your home and car? Give thanks for the gift of sunshine!

## Holy Saturday, March 30

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. (Zechariah 9:9)

➤ Look out your window at bedtime tonight. Is the moon visible? Give thanks for our universe!

## Easter Sunday, March 31, Seventh Sunday in Lent

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! (Philippians 4:4-9)

➤ How many "Alleluias" did you hear in worship today? Give thanks for the Resurrection!