



## Lectionary Bible Study Our Savior Lutheran, Vero Beach

Lent 5B – March 21, 2021

Live Bible Studies Hosted on Zoom  
Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM

More Info & Link at

[www.OurSaviorELCA.com/BibleStudy](http://www.OurSaviorELCA.com/BibleStudy)

During the season of Lent we will be invited to look at both the appointed Sunday Old Testament readings (always about a covenant relationship between God and God's chosen people) and the appointed Gospel (where Jesus is establishing a new covenant between God and all God's beloved people).

Jeremiah 31:31-34

*Jeremiah's prophecy looks forward to a new covenant made through Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection. The significance of this passage noted since it is quoted several times in the New Testament (completely in Hebrews 8:8-12; partially in Romans 11:27; Hebrews 10:16-17; by way of allusion in Matthew 26:28, Mark 14:24, and John 6:45).*

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

1. Jeremiah speaks of a day when everyone will know God. What does it mean to you to "know the Lord"?
2. "For I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more." What does it mean to "forgive and forget"?
3. What is "new" about the new covenant Jeremiah foretelling?

## John 12:20-33

*This passage comes just after Jesus has entered Jerusalem on what we call Palm/Passion Sunday. It is Jesus' final public teaching in the Gospel, and it is delivered to a group of both Jews and Gentiles. The arrival of the "Greeks" who "wish to see Jesus" seems to prompt Jesus' comment that his hour has come.*

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup> "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup> The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup> Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people<sup>[a]</sup> to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

1. What do you make of the presence of "some Greeks" who came to worship and their desire "to see"? Might it have something to do with "the new covenant" prophesied by Jeremiah?
2. What do you think Jesus means by "love their life" and "hate their life in this world"?
3. Ponder Jesus statement "Now my soul is troubled." What do you hear Jesus communicating? What do you make of the voice of heaven (and when have we heard this audible voice before in scripture)?