

# FIRST CUP READINGS APRIL, 2021

Dear Family in Christ,

*First Cup* is designed to assist you in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. The name is to remind you that as you reach for your first cup of morning coffee or tea, reach also for your Bible and prayer list. The prayers at the beginning of each week are taken from hymns, sometimes found in obscure hymnals in my library. They are intended to be read as your beginning prayer, to focus your mind on the daily readings that follow. May this spiritual discipline strengthen you as you face each day.

Blessings and love in Christ, Sandy Sturch



Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Mark 14:1-16
- 2 Mark 14:17-42; John 13
- 3 Mark 14:43-15:47
- 4 Matthew 16:21-28; 27:62-66; 28:11-15

*I know that my Redeemer lives! What joy the blest assurance gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my everlasting Head! He lives to bless me with His love; He lives, to plead for me above; He lives, my hungry soul to feed; He lives, to help in time of need. He lives, all glory to His name; He lives, my Savior, still the same; What joy, the blest assurance gives; I know that my Redeemer lives! (The Methodist Hymnal, #445)*

- 5 Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-35; John 20:1-23
- 6 John 20:24-31
- 7 John 21
- 8 Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:1-11; John 14
- 9 Psalm 109:1-8; Acts 1:12-26
- 10 Acts 2
- 11 Acts 3; Deuteronomy 19:15, 18-19; Romans 1:16

*Holy Spirit, breathe on me until my heart is clean. Let sunshine fill its inmost part, with not a cloud between. Holy Spirit, breathe on me; my stubborn will subdue. Teach me in words of living flame what Christ would have me do. Holy Spirit, breathe on me; fill me with power divine. Kindle a flame of love and zeal within this heart of mine. Breathe on me, breathe on me, Holy Spirit, breathe on me. Take Thou my heart; cleanse every part. Holy Spirit, breathe on me. (Worship in Song, #272)*

- 12 Acts 4:1-5:11; Leviticus 19:11; John 8:44-45; Colossians 3:5-10
- 13 Acts 5:12-6:7; I Corinthians 12
- 14 Acts 6:8-8:3; Galatians 1:13, 23
- 15 Acts 8:4-40; Isaiah 56:4-8
- 16 Acts 9:1-31; Galatians 1:11-24
- 17 Acts 9:32-11:30; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
- 18 Acts 12:1-14, 28; 9:15-16; 2 Timothy 3; Job 36:15

*And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood! Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me to Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, should die for me? He left His Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace! Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free! For, O my God, it found out me. Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God should die for me? (Worship in Song, #221)*

- 19 Acts 15:1-35; Romans 1:1-6; 3:21-31
- 20 Acts 15:36-16:40; 2 Corinthians 11; Hebrews 10:32-39; 13:3; Revelation 2:10
- 21 Acts 17; 1 Thessalonians 2-3
- 22 Acts 18; Romans 16:3-5a; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 1 Peter 1:22
- 23 Acts 19; Exodus 34:10-17; Leviticus 19:4; Psalm 135
- 24 Acts 20; 2 Timothy 2:1-13; 4:1-5
- 25 Acts 21-23:11; Matthew 5:10-12; Psalm 119:153-160

*"Almost persuaded" now to believe; "Almost persuaded" Christ to receive; Seems now some soul to say, "Go, Spirit, go Thy way. Some more convenient day on Thee I'll call." "Almost persuaded," come, come today. "Almost persuaded," turn not away. Jesus invites you here; Angels are lin-g'ling near; Prayers rise from hearts so dear. O wanderer come! "Almost persuaded," harvest is past! "Almost persuaded," doom comes at last! "Almost" cannot avail; "Almost" is but to fail! Sad, sad, that bitter wail, "Almost," but lost! (Worship in Song, #233)*

- 26 Acts 23:12-24:27; Psalm 91
- 27 Acts 25-26; Psalm 7
- 28 Acts 27-28:10; Psalm 69
- 29 Acts 28:11-31; 2 Corinthians 11:21b-12:10; Romans 5:1-5; 2 Timothy 1:8-2:13
- 30 Colossians 1:1-14; John 3:16-21; 8:12; 12:44-46; Ephesians 5:8-20; Psalm 112