



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2022



Take your Pulse

What relaxing activity is in store for you as the weekend begins?

What stress are you not able to shake?

Today's Reading

Matthew Chapter 3

With a bit of a time-jump, we are now about 30 years later from the events of Jesus' birth. John is baptizing in the wilderness, preparing others to receive Jesus. His message is one of preparation, one of repentance, one of waiting in fear for what God is about to do. And then John himself is nervous when Jesus approaches him. Jesus comforts John, assures him of all goodness and shows him all of God's grace as Jesus submits to the very baptism John was performing on all the people. Often when we hear we are to prepare for the coming of Jesus, we hear a message of fear, but when Jesus comes we experience the fullness of grace.



Start the Thinking

In what ways do we still hear a message of fear as we prepare for the coming of Jesus? In what ways does the church still show the fullness of God's grace, alleviating those same fears?



Conversing with God

God of grace, we are naturally afraid of the fullness of your power. We are mere mortals, you are divine and supreme over all, and we are not worthy to be in your presence. Yet you embodied our human experience in the fullness of Jesus, showing us grace upon grace. Lead us into all grace, that we may trust your promise that we are worthy to be called your beloved children. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen



Be blessed

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine brightly upon you that you experience all God's grace. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen