

# Week of Lament

February 17 (Ash Wednesday) to February 21

## Weekly Prayer

God, we find ourselves in a time of great sorrow. Give us the gift of tears that moves us beyond sadness into compassion. Inspire and empower us not only to cry about others but also to weep with them. Teach us to lament, so that we do more than regret our circumstances; we resolve to cooperate with you to change them. Make us instruments of your peace. Amen.

Source: [ResistHarm.com](http://ResistHarm.com)

### Feb 17

Reading: *Lamentations 1:1-5 (Of the Church)*

Reflection: *What are your thoughts about how others (those outside the church) view Christianity, the Church, and Jesus (primarily in America)?*

### Feb 18

Reading: *Psalms 6:1-6 (Of the Church)*

Reflection: *Looking through the list for repentance, what draws you to sadness?*

### Feb 19

Reading: *Proverbs 8:13*

Reflection: *How have we, as a Church, allowed these things to seep into the body and justified them? What has been the result?*

### Feb 20

Reading: *Lamentations 3:39-42*

Reflection: *As we examine our ways, how has the church been complicit or compromised in list of sins?*

### Feb 21

Reading: *Acts 2:38-40*

Reflection: *What do you feel God saying to you about your individual and the Church's communal need for repentance in these areas?*

List for repentance:

- **Allowing Leaders unchecked and unaccountable power/authority (WK 1)**
- **Complicity in Racial injustices (WK 2)**
- **Misplaced Allegiance (Idolatry) (WK 3)**
- **Christian Nationalism (WK 4)**
- **Enemy Making (WK 5)**

Resources: [Desiring God Article](#) & [Franciscan Spirit Media Article](#)