



## Lent In A Box Vol. 3 (2024)

# Sermon Resources Overview

### Theme: Altered by the Spirit

Resources Developed by: Dr. Michael Chan and Rev. Dr. Eric Barreto

*Sermon prompts developed for a series based on Acts or Gospel Lectionary texts.  
Both options contain prompts and preaching helps.*

Lent is often a time of self-reflection, spiritual discipline, commitment, and community. Congregations gather to sing the minor harmonies of the way of Jesus on the road toward the cross. This Lent with Church Anew, however, we are going to look at a kaleidoscope of stories from the Book of Acts, with Revised Common Lectionary suggestions that pair directly with the theme. We'll see the ways the Spirit alters our perspective, transforms our communities, and consistently blazes a trail ahead of us. We'll catch up with the work of the Holy Spirit, finding ourselves:

Altered in witness  
Altered through God's Creativity  
Altered on the Edge of Belonging  
Altered Alongside our enemies  
Altered by disruption  
Altered through Stories We Don't Trust  
Victory Altered

Because the Spirit is alive in, with, and under our ordinary lives, always calling us forward into transformation, nudging us into wholeness, and beckoning us forth into an alternative way.

If anyone wants to follow this theme through Holy Week, the feast days could look like this:

*Maundy Thursday: Love Altered | Good Friday: Violence Altered | Easter: Life Altered*

## OPTION 1: Acts Focus

Altered in Witness (Ash Wednesday)  
(Acts 1: 6-11)

Altered Through God's Creativity  
(Acts 2:1-13)

Altered on the Edge of Belonging  
(Acts 8:26-40)

Altered Alongside Our Enemies  
(Acts 9:1-22)

Altered by Disruption  
(Acts 10: 1-16, 34-35, 44-47)

Altered through Stories We Don't Trust  
(Acts 12:6-17)

Victory Altered (Palm Sunday)  
(Luke 19:28-40)

## OPTION 2: Lectionary Focus

Altered in Witness (Ash Wednesday)  
(Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)

Altered in the margins (Feb 18)  
(Mark 1:9-15)

Altered Through Unlikely Voices (Feb 25)  
(Mark 8: 31-38)

Altered from the inside (March 3)  
(John 2:13-22)

Altered through a broadening circle  
(March 10) (John 3:14-21)

Altered with our enemies (March 17)  
(John 12:20-33)

Walking an alternative way (Palm Sunday)  
(Mark 11:1-11)

*Upon purchase and after January 15, 2024, you will receive access to the full Lent in a Box webpage that will provide prayers, liturgical suggestions, song selections, ideas for children, youth, and family, graphics, and marketing material. Questions? Reach out to [support@churchanew.org](mailto:support@churchanew.org)*