

Prelude Fill My Cup, Lord arr. Jimmy Baas

Welcome Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you**.

Call to Worship (From Sanctified Art)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: "Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart."

People: Roll up your sleeves.
Leader: Let down your guard.
People: Come in from the storm.
Leader: Make yourself at home.

People: Pull up to the table.

Leader: Release the tension in your jaw.

People: Take a deep breath.

Leader: Return to God with all your heart.

People: May it be so.

Invocation Rev. Spears-Newsome

Gathering Hymn (#500)

Just As I Am

Scripture Reading Psalm 51:1-17 Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Isaiah 58:1-12 Rev. Spears-Newsome

Time of Reflection Rev. Efird

Please see Reflective Assessment Tool inside.

Rev. Efird

The Many

Only Grace

Imposition of Ashes

Things are broken here.
Things are shared
Things are carried here
Hearts bow in prayer

It is grace, only grace
That brings us here, holds us together here.
It is grace, only grace
That brings us here, holds us all together here.
All together here.

Things are dying here
Things are torn
Things are growing here
And burdens borne.

Amazing grace, hear the sound. Here is where hope is found.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Rev. Efird

Hymn (#168)

I Take the Cross of Jesus Christ

Benediction

Rev. Efird



A REFLECTIVE ASSESSMENT TOOL for Expansive Living by Rev. Sarah A. Speed

Wellness Wheel

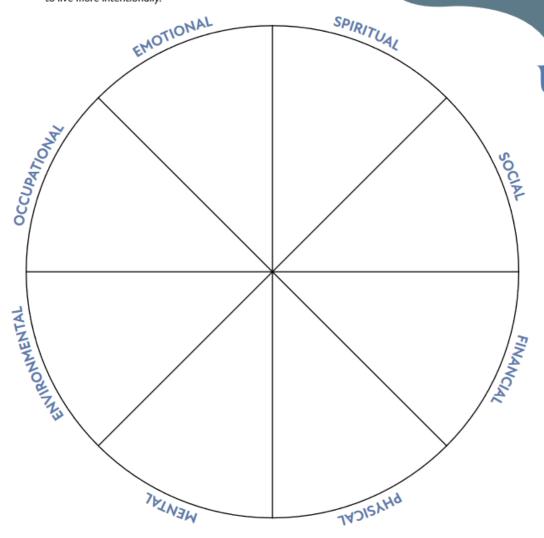
Wellness wheels have been used as a meaningful reflective tool for years. By inviting ourselves to reflect on individual components of our life, we see a more holistic image of ourselves, which allows us to live more intentionally.

About this Resource

Lent is a season that invites us deeper into intentional living. This tool is designed to help you do just that. Use this worksheet to help you reflect on where you are in your life and how you hope to grow throughout this Lenten season.

What is an Expansive Life?

ex-pan-sive
The formal definition of expansive is extensive or wide-ranging, spacious and all-embracing. From a spiritual standpoint, we add to that definition. Expansive living is a life that reflects the fullness that comes from right relationships with God, yourself, and others. This will look different for everyone, but might be marked by awe and gratitude, a sense of self-worth rooted in God's love, meaning and purpose in one's life, loving relationships, and joy that comes from using your God-given gifts.



Takeaway Reflections

- 1. What did you learn about yourself in this process?
- 2. What are you bringing with you into this Lenten season?
- 3. What areas of your wellness wheel feel expansive and beautiful, and what areas do you want to focus on in the future?

Within each section of the wheel, respond to the following prompts:

- EMOTIONAL: What emotions do you feel day to day? Which are prominent?
- SPIRITUAL: Where are you in your faith journey? Do you have practices nurturing your faith? How are you living from your values?
- · SOCIAL: What are the positive and healthy relationships in your life? Where would you like to grow? Where do you need to draw boundaries?
- · FINANCIAL: What is your current financial state, and what emotions or desires does that bring up?
- PHYSICAL: How are you taking care of your body? What does your body need?
- MENTAL: Are you mentally stimulated? Learning new things? Honing new skills? Curating the information you take in from social media or the news?
- ENVIRONMENTAL: Does your home and/or work environment allow you to thrive? Does where you live feel like home?
- OCCUPATIONAL: How does your current work use your gifts? How satisfied are you with your vocation? What is your calling?

Expansive Life	You've filled out the wellness wheel. You have a picture of what your life looks like currently. Now, imagine how your life might become more expansive. What does a "full to the brim" life filled with meaning, purpose, faith, awe, beauty, and relationships look like for you? How would you describe a life that full of goodness? In order to live an expansive life, what needs to change? What do you need to take on? What do you need to let go of? Draw or write your reflections below.
Next Steps	Name three small things you want to focus on this Lent to help you draw closer to God and the wildly beautiful life God invites you to lead:

Closing Prayer

God of new life,

We know that you want more for us than the rat race of work-sleep-eat-repeat.

In our fiercely independent and competitive world, living a life any other way feels almost impossible.

Remind us that you ate meals around tables.

Remind us that you demonstrated radical generosity.

Remind us that you took quiet time on the mountainside by yourself.

Remind us that you opened doors and said, "Come on in!"

Remind us that you created friendships that transformed.

This is the life you modeled, and it's the life we long to lead.

Holy God, help us tap into this deeper and more expansive way of living.

Help us use this season of Lent as an intentional one.

Starting today, help us build a life not measured by to-do lists, but measured by love.

With hope we pray, amen.