

# First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021

Welcome

Call to Worship

As darkness gives way to light  
and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,  
**We come today to be reminded of God's love for us.**  
Like the green shoots of renewed life,  
stirring beneath the soil,  
**We welcome an awakening of God's word in our lives.**  
In this time of reflection and repentance,  
**We affirm and claim our identity, as children of God.**  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Song for Reflection

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

Blue 660

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Genesis 9:8-17

Responsive Reading - Psalm 25

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.  
**O my God, in you I trust;**  
do not let me be put to shame;  
**do not let my enemies exult over me.**  
Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;  
**let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
**teach me your paths.**  
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,  
**for you are the God of my salvation;**  
**for you I wait all day long.**

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,  
**for they have been from of old.**  
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;  
**according to your steadfast love remember me,**  
**for your goodness' sake, O Lord!**

Good and upright is the Lord;  
**therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**  
He leads the humble in what is right,  
**and teaches the humble his way.**  
All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
**for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

Gospel Reading  
Mark 1:9-15

Message

Song for Reflection

*The Glory of these Forty Days*

Blue 657

Prayers

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

Words of Institution

Song for Reflection

*Lord's Prayer*

Communion Music

Blessing / Benediction

Song for Reflection

*Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

Green 343

Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*You are a beloved child of God,  
deserving of love and respect,  
and God is using you to care for the world.*