



First
Sunday
in Lent

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS / LENTEN INVITATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who calls out for a time of repentance,
and gives us the strength to return in grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for a time out from sin and for God's mercy.

Holy God,

We confess that we have been caught up in the momentum of our sin.

We have let temptation confuse us into despair.

Like Nicodemus, we can't understand your ways.

Like the woman gathering water, we don't know our own story.

Like the sisters of Lazarus, we're convinced there's no hope.

Like those who hear of the man given sight, we look for faults elsewhere.

Like those calling out "Crucify him!", we can't tolerate the way of Jesus.

Have mercy on us.

Give us time out to repent of our sin, to return to your care, and to receive your forgiveness, through Christ our Lord. Amen

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
that you would receive life.

By God's divine mercy,
in the name of Christ our Lord,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

SONG

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Romans 5:12-19

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SONG

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

SONG

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Following each petition)

.....merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

..... through Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING and SONG

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God,
grant you time out for renewal and repentance,
time in for service and love,
and bless you with peace.
Amen.

SONG

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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PLEASE RECYCLE