

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.



**First Sunday in Lent  
March 5, 2017  
9:00AM**

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## **WE GATHER BEFORE WORSHIP**

**WELCOME:**

*Pastor Stoney Bowen-Weiszmann*

**PRELUDE:**

*Robin Peterson*

## **WE ENTER THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

*Please stand, as you are able*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

Blessed be the + holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Source of all life,

**we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.**

**We fear that we are not good enough.**

**We hear your word of love freely given to us,  
yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.**

**Forgive us. Stir us.**

**Reform us to be a church powered by love,  
willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just,  
and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us  
and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven, + God's love is unconditional,  
and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new,  
in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **GOD WELCOMES US AS WE ARE**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**ENTRANCE HYMN:**

*I Want Jesus to Walk With Me – ELW 325*

**GREETING:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE:** *ELW Page 203* **CANTICLE OF PRAISE:** *ELW Page 204*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray together, **Loving and gracious Lord God, you who love the world so much that you sent Jesus to atone for sin...turn our hearts to you. Teach us to surrender to your word...and learn from it, and have it direct our attitudes and actions. Through the power of your Spirit allow us to see the danger of temptation...and give us the wisdom to resist its insidious ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **WE HEAR GOD'S GOOD NEWS**

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING:**

*Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7*

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

<sup>3:1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:**

*Psalm 32*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of  
trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

**SECOND READING:**

*Romans 5: 12-19*

<sup>12</sup>Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—<sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.

<sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

*ELW Page 205*

**GOSPEL:**

*Matthew 4: 1-11*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of Our Lord, Jesus.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON:**

*Please stand, as you able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God - ELW 504*

## **WE DECLARE OUR FAITH**

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

## **WE SHARE OUR CONCERNS WITH GOD**

**Prayers of the people, for the people, by the people:**

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, lead your church on earth to do your will and strive for your kingdom. **Be with our Jewish brothers and sister who are facing violence and hatred. Teach us your ways and increase our understanding. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

Show us how to care for your creation and to treasure the fruits of your creating. **Guide our actions and increase our commitment. Be with all who have suffered through dangerous storms. Guide those who are making decisions on destroying your creation. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

Give knowledge and wisdom to all leaders throughout your world. **Turn hardened hearts of stone toward your nourishing word and let the powerful become providers of daily bread. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

Rush to the aid of your people in times of distress. Send your peace and healing to those in need. We pray especially for **Vivian, Jewel, Helen, Donna, Brad, Betty, Sherry Lynn, Dorian, and Gene.**  
**Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

Guide those preparing for baptism, sponsors, and this whole assembly toward living into the promises made in baptism. **Lead us to scripture, the holy supper, and toward your will for all creation. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

*Any prayers from the people maybe said silently or aloud.*

Accompany us on our Lenten journeys and inspire us by the witness of the saints who walked faithfully with you. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

**Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PEACE:**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **WE OFFER OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**OFFERING:**

*Create in Me a Clean Heart - ELW 186*

**OFFERING PRAYER:**

Let us pray. **God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.**

## **JESUS GIVES US THE GIFT OF HIMSELF**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING:**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE:**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS:**

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**WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**LORD'S PRAYER:**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom  
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the  
power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,  
and make us one with you.

**LAMB OF GOD:**

*ELW Page 208*

**SONGS DURING COMMUNION:**

*Desert Song  
The Heart Of Worship - Matt Redman*



*Please stand, as you are able.*

**COMMUNION BLESSING:**

You have received the body and blood of the One who resisted all temptation. May the power of his presence keep you safe in time of trial, today, tomorrow, and forever.

**Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE:**

*O Lord, Now Let Your Servant - ELW 313*

*Please join hands with those around you.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS**

*Please be seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**WE GO WITH GOD'S BLESSING**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**BLESSING:**

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:**

*Lead Me, Guide Me - ELW 768*

**SENDING:**

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**