



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 2024

11:00 am

*indicates that all who are able are invited to stand.

Bold indicates congregational response.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

THE LENTEN CANDLES* Charles & Frieda Bostian

Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, give us strength and courage to make the changes that are needed in our lives. Open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence, and help us to put our trust in you. Amen.

Song: "Lead Me, Lord"

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

HYMN* *"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"* 166

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession. We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own. We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others. Forgive us, we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. Turn us toward your kingdom drawing near.

(silence)

**Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON/PASSING OF THE PEACE* 221

**What language shall I borrow
to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.**

THE WORD WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

OLD TESTAMENT – Genesis 9:8-17 Frieda Bostian

OFFERING OF MUSIC Adult Choir
“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”

GOSPEL* - Mark 1:9-15

SERMON Dr. Linda Dickerson
“Water, Wilderness, Good News”

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*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.*

. . . Holy, holy, holy God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**. . . Christ has died, Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.**

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer after communion: Gracious God, you have gathered us at this table with all your people in heaven and on earth. We have been nourished by the living bread, Jesus Christ, and we have been refreshed by the power of your Holy Spirit. May we now go out as glad disciples of our Lord, following in his way, into the wilderness if needed, proclaiming his truth, and living his love for the world. Amen.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE*

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**God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.**

FELLOWSHIP TIME – ALL ARE WELCOME!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

*To those who are weary and need rest;
To all who are lonely and need friends;
To all who mourn and need comfort;
To all who pray,
and to all who do not, but ought;
To all who sin and need a Savior,
And to whosoever comes –
The Church opens wide its doors, and says,
In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
"Welcome."*