



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 22, 2026

10:00 am

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

Bold indicates congregational response.

Liturgist for today is Sue Bentley.

PERSONAL MEDITATION TIME

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

We worship the Lord our God alone.

HYMN - "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

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THE TENEBRAE

*The church exists because God speaks into silence.
In a world shaped by lies, half-truths, and fear,
the Gospel names what is real:*

we are loved, we are claimed, we are not alone.

Yet we confess how easily we distort good news—

**turning grace into judgment,
and hope into control.**

When the Gospel is reduced to words without love—

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

(Silence)

Let us pray together.

**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: (Chimes play through once first)

**Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.**

A WORD WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

NEW TESTAMENT – Romans 5:12-19

OFFERING OF MUSIC “Amazing Grace”

Adult Choir

GOSPEL - Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

Linda Dickerson

"For the Sake of the World: The Great Ends of the Church"
The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of 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.

... Therefore, we join our voices with those of every time and place, and with all creation we sing your praise, saying,

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.

... we declare the mystery of faith,

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

Lord's Prayer

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.

Sharing of Bread and Cup

