

Holy Eucharist

The First Sunday in Lent Year A

February 26, 2023

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

Prelude

The Great Litany

The Presider begins

I. Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Have mercy on us.

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,

Have mercy on us.

II. From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,

Savior deliver us.

From sloth, worldliness, and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,

Savior deliver us.

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh and the devil,

Savior deliver us.

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,

Savior deliver us.

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,

Savior deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,

Savior deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,

Savior deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,

Savior deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

Savior deliver us.

The Intercessor then prays

III. Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.

Hear us, O Christ.

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the nations.

Hear us, O Christ.

Enlighten your bishops, priests, deacons, and ministry teams with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

Hear us, O Christ.

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

Hear us, O Christ.

IV. Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your wisdom and strength to Joseph, the President of the United States, and Gretchen, the Governor of this state, that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give to the Congress of the United States, the members of the President's Cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature, and all others in authority, the grace to walk always in the ways of truth.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless and keep all your people,

Hear us, O Christ.

V. Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved (especially _____) and the oppressed.

Hear us, O Christ.

Keep in safety those who travel (especially _____) and all who are in peril.

Hear us, O Christ.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit (especially _____) and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

Hear us, O Christ.

Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

Hear us, O Christ.

Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

Hear us, O Christ.

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

Hear us, O Christ.

Hear us as we remember those who have died (especially _____) and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

Hear us, O Christ.

The presider then says

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

Holy God: The Trisagion

to be sung 3 times

Hymnal S-102

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,". The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. The score ends with a double bar line.

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

First Reading

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

A reading from the book of Genesis.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but 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.”

^{3:1}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?’” ²The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but 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.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So 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. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.



Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated.

Psalm 32

to be prayed responsively

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
²**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, ***
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; ***
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
⁶**I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” ***
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
⁸**You are my hiding-place;**
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
⁹“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
¹⁰**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.”

¹¹Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

¹²**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet 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.

¹⁵But 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. ¹⁶And 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.

¹⁷If, 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.

¹⁸Therefore 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. ¹⁹For 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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

LEVAS 70

I want Jesus to walk with me

1. I want Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); I want
2. In my tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my
3. In my sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my

1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); All a -
 2. tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); When the
 3. sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); When my

1. long my _____ pil - grim jour - ney, _____ Lord, I want
 2. shades of _____ life _____ are fall - ing, _____ Lord, I want
 3. heart with - in _____ is ach - ing, _____ Lord, I want

1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 2. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 3. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).

All remain standing as they are able.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus was taken into the wild by the Spirit for the Test. The Devil was ready to give it. Jesus prepared for the Test by fasting forty days and forty nights. That left him, of course, in a state of extreme hunger, which the Devil took advantage of in the first test: "If you are God's Son, speak the word that will turn these stones into loaves of bread."

Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: "It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth."

For the second test the Devil took him to the Holy City. He sat him on top of the Temple and said, "Since you are God's Son, jump." The Devil goaded him by quoting Psalm 91: "He has placed you in the care of angels. They will catch you so that you won't as much as stub your toe on a stone."

Jesus countered with another citation from Deuteronomy: "Don't you dare test the Lord your God."

For the third test, the Devil took him to the peak of a huge mountain. He gestured expansively, pointing out all the earth's kingdoms, how glorious they all were. Then he said, "They're yours—lock, stock, and barrel. Just go down on your knees and worship me, and they're yours."



Jesus's refusal was curt; "Beat it, Satan!" He backed his rebuke with a third quotation from Deuteronomy: "Worship the Lord your God, and only him. Serve him with absolute singleheartedness."

The Test was over. The Devil left. And in his place, angels! Angels came and took care of Jesus.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

All sit.

Sermon

All stand as they are able.

Nicene Creed

Presider Let us affirm the faith of the Church using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

All remain standing as they are able.

Peace

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

The Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The People then are seated.

Announcements

Holy Communion

Presider Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Presider.

The people stand as they are able when the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Offertory Hymn

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The people remain standing as they are able

Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds

Praise and thanks are yours, Lord God, because you remain faithful through our unfaith and constant amid our failure.

Adam and Eve could see only scarcity, but you continue to offer us abundance.

Though sin came into the world and poisoned your good creation, you nonetheless called the children of Abraham to be your companions, and in Jesus you faced the cost of our sin and received its poison in your own body, transforming death into life.

And so we give you humble thanks for your forgiveness and our new life, with angels and archangels and the company of heaven, singing your unending praise:

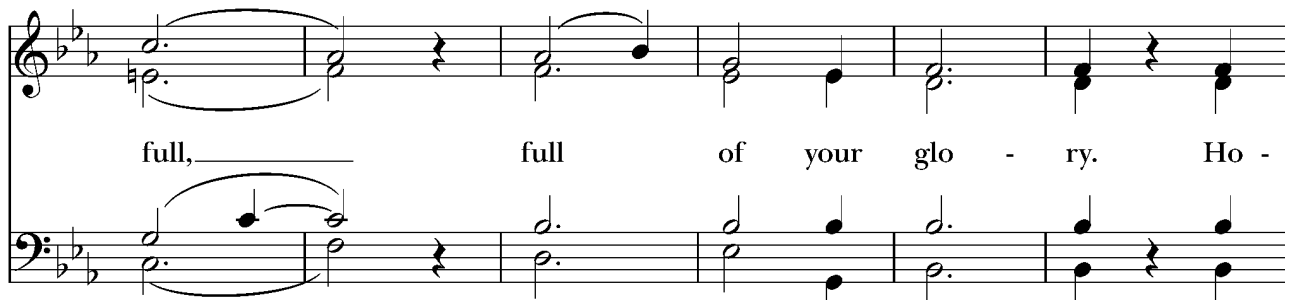
Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy*

S-130

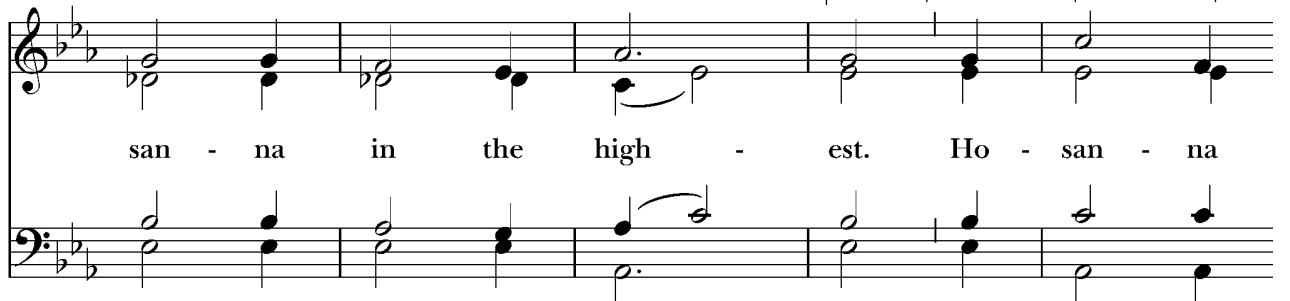
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are



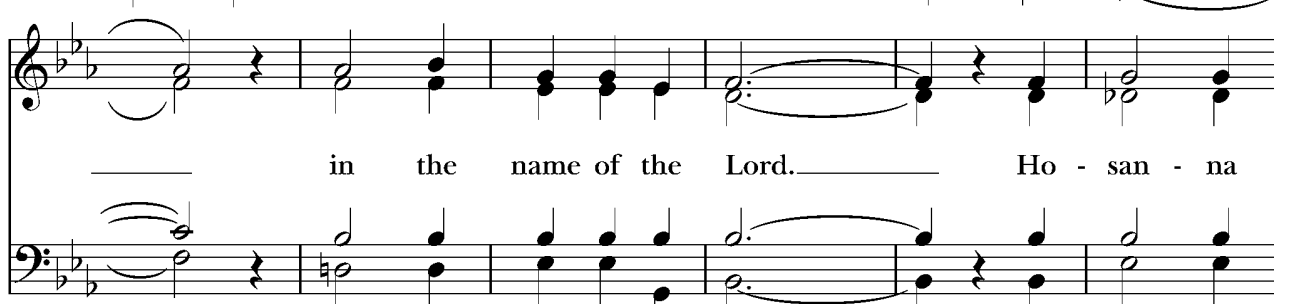
full, full of your glo-ry. Ho-




san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na



in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na



in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Presider continues

Righteous God, in Jesus you were tempted to make stones into bread— but instead in him you make us living stones and you make bread become his body.

Send down your Holy Spirit, ✚ that we may be transformed into your body for the life of your world, and this bread and this cup ✚ may become for us our strength and stay, the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;

who, at supper with his disciples, took bread,
gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Presider and People

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

Justifying God, in your patience you see the hunger of your children: send upon us your Word that in your living bread we may never be hungry again.

In your mercy you know your peoples craving for drama and miracle: raise up among us witnesses to the triumphs of your grace, that we may see you face to face.

In your glory, you hear your fragile world's cries for justice: shape in us the habits of faithfulness, the disciplines of holiness, and the practices of peace, that we may find your justice as we walk with your Son on the way of the cross, until that day when you surprise us in the joy of resurrection, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, full of grace and truth. **AMEN.**

The Presider then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Presider

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **therefore let us keep the feast.**

Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God

Hymnal S-164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us." The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us." The musical notation is consistent with the first system.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

The third system of music concludes the phrase. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:". The musical notation is consistent with the previous systems.



The Presider then says

Lord our God, give us the grace to remember that we are all one body, because we all share in Christ's love and life. For all of us who cannot gather at this altar today, may we remember that we are fully beloved, that God dwells in each of our hearts.

For those of us who are present at this altar, may we remember that we are connected far beyond this time and place with all those who pray.

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

When all have received, the Presider then says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Dismissal and Blessing

A priest blesses the people, saying

Look with compassion, O Lord, on your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will.

And the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

The glory of these forty days

Hymnal 143



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
 4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full
 *5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
 2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en
 5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
 5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Dismissal

Minister My brothers and my sisters, let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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This week in prayer

Please remember these persons and congregations in your prayers this week:

Our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises (TEC); Elizabeth, Donald and Craig (ELCA)
and for all priests, deacons, Ministry Teams, and those in formation

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

February 26 The Scottish Episcopal Church

Diocese of Michigan Cycle of Prayer:

February 26 Christ Church, Dearborn; Holy Spirit, Carreras, and St Martha's, Santana, DR

St Barnabas Cycle of Prayer: Katherine, Anabelle, Georgia, Grace

and our continuing prayers for: Carlos, George, Robert, Selenah

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Faith in Action provides leadership in collecting donations of food to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. *The most recent most-needed items* are: baked beans, coffee, hamburger (or other) helper, spaghetti sauce, cereal, 64-oz fruit juices, crackers, and laundry soap. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let [Nancy](#) know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*, with “St Barnabas” on the memo line. **The Food In-Gathering is March 19, 2023.** Please contribute as generously as you can.

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Upcoming Commemorations

- Feb. 26 Emily Malbone Morgan, Lay Leader and Contemplative, 1937
- 27 George Herbert, Priest and Poet, 1633
- 28 Anna Julia Haywood Cooper, Educator, 1964
- March 1 David of Wales, Bishop, c. 544
- 2 Chad of Lichfield, Bishop, 672
- 3 John and Charles Wesley, Priests, 1791, 1788
- 4 Paul Cuffee: Witness to the Faith among the Shinnecock, 1812

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Lent is, as Advent is to Christmas, our time of intentional preparation to receive with freshness and renewed vitality, the mystery of the resurrection of Christ. It is during this forty-day period (not including the Sundays) that we contemplate the suffering of Jesus Christ, the suffering that makes the resurrection not only possible, but powerful.

Lent can be enriched for us by taking some time to quiet our hearts and pray. **Compline for Lent** will be offered at 7:00 pm on the five Wednesdays of the season: March 1,8,15,22,29 via [Zoom](#). **If you would like** to serve one of these short services as the People's Respondent, please let [Amma Marion](#) know.

Link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75819784698?pwd=SkaL2Y1nu1Nll61kCjhrhKpJSXb9va.1>
Meeting ID: 758 1978 4698 Passcode: uP9Ace

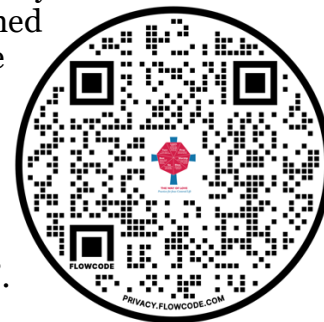
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February 26, 2023 – Lent 1A Week 1: Life Transformed – The Way of Love in Lent

The journey through Lent into Easter is a journey with Jesus. We are baptized into his life, self-giving, and death; then, we rise in hope to life transformed. This Lent, communities are invited to walk with Jesus in his Way of Love and into the experience of transformed life. Together, we will reflect anew on the loving

actions of God as recounted in the Easter Vigil readings. Together, we will walk through the depths of salvation history into the fullness of redemption. Throughout Lent, come along with us as we explore Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent, produced by Hillary Raining and Jenifer Gamber. You can find resources mentioned below at iam.ec/lifetransformed or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Week 1

Sunday, February 26 Today's Practice: Watch the Rev. Dr. Hillary Raining's video at iam.ec/lifetransformed for Week 1. The topic is based on the practice "Turn" and is titled, "Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ".
Read: Romans 6:3-11

Monday, February 27 Today's Prompt: Who has taught you to live a Jesus-filled life? Who have you taught? Read: "So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day." – 2 Corinthians 4:16

Tuesday, February 28 Today's Prompt: Go for a walk today and pray with your feet, each step with intention. Read: "Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'" – Isaiah 2:3a

Wednesday, March 1 Today's Prompt: How can you build pauses into the day to reflect on the work of the Spirit? Read: "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." – John 15:5

Thursday, March 2 Today's Prompt: What is most meaningful to you in worship? Read: Book of Common Prayer, p. 281

Friday, March 3 Today's Prompt: Where can you go and intentionally provide kindness? Read: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." – Matthew 5:4

Saturday, March 4 Today's Prompt: Notice the pattern of your breathing. Pray for awareness of blessings. Read: "Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." - Jer. 6:16

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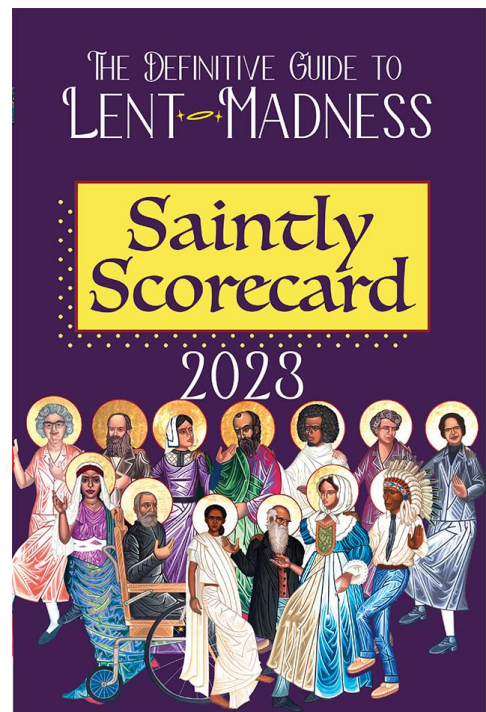


LENT+MADNESS If you're new to this wacky online devotion, you can learn how it all works by [clicking here](#). Unlike professional and collegiate sporting events, there is no admission cost for Lent Madness, but souvenirs and study aids are available in the Lentorium. These include the ever-popular Sainthood Scorecard: The Definitive Guide to Lent Madness 2023 (order as single copies).

“Lent Madness began in 2010 as the brainchild of the Rev. Tim Schenck. In seeking a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church’s Calendar of Saints, Tim came up with this unique Lenten devotion. Combining his love of sports with his passion for the lives of the saints, Lent Madness was born on his blog “Clergy Confidential.”

The format is straightforward: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Sainthood Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch. If you're not sure about terminology, check out our glossary. It's free!

In 2011 came the introduction of four “celebrity bloggers” to champion particular saints through the Faithful Four. In 2012 we partnered with Forward Movement and Executive Director Scott Gunn to create our own website and broaden the number of people involved in the writing process, with Tim and Scott serving as the self-appointed Supreme Executive Committee.



Along the way we've added more celebrity bloggers, a poster-sized bracket, weekly Monday Madness videos, and the Saintly Scorecard, an annual publication containing all 32 first round bios, information about how to participate in Lent Madness as a congregation, and an essential Vocabulary List to decipher all things Lent Madness.

We've also inspired thousands of people along the way by forming an online community of people who are passionate about taking their faith but not themselves too seriously. Articles and spots about Lent Madness have appeared in the Washington Post, NPR, Huffington Post, FOXNews, NBC, USAToday, and even Sports Illustrated.



As Lent Madness continues to grow and evolve, what won't change is the essence of Lent Madness: allowing people to get to know some amazing people who have come before us in the faith and reminding one another that there's no reason for a dreary Lenten discipline. If this helps people connect with the risen Christ during this season of penitence and renewal, and have a bit of fun in the process, then it continues to be worthwhile.

We hope you'll participate fully this Lent and vote with reckless abandon! (Once -- this isn't Chicago.)"

Tim and Scott discussing the relative merits and saintliness of Athanasius vs. Florence Nightingale

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*Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back,
 Guilty of dust and sin.
 But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
 From my first entrance in,
 Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
 If I lacked anything.*

"A guest," I answered, "worthy to be here":
 Love said, "You shall be he."

"I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear, I cannot look on thee."
 Love took my hand, and smiling did reply, "Who made the eyes but I?"

"Truth, Lord; but I have marred them; let my shame
 Go where it doth deserve."

"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"

"My dear, then I will serve."

"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat."
 So I did sit and eat.

"Love (III)" by George Herbert, Priest and Poet, 1633

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Psalm 99 from the *Saint Helena Psalter* NY: Church Publishing, 2004.

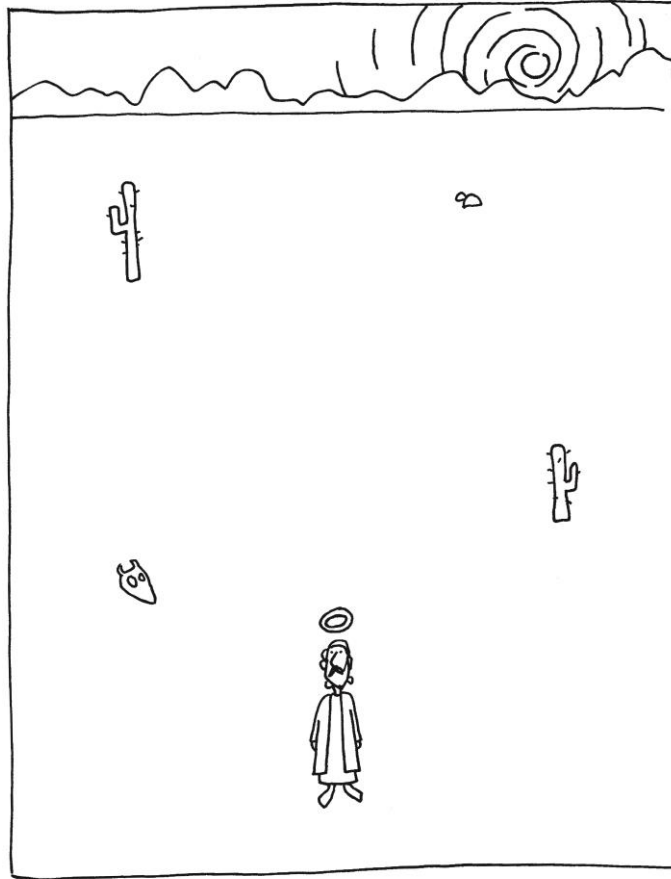
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Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



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