

HYMN OF THE GIFTS: 'I the Lord of Sea and Sky' (324)

COMMUNION HYMNS:

'Do Not be Afraid for I Have Redeemed You' (132)

'Lord Jesus Think on Me' (409)

'Wait for the Lord' (790)

POST COMMUNION

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FINAL HYMN: 'O Jesus I Have Promised' (493)



Jesus spent 40 days in the desert preparing for his work. During Lent we spend 40 days getting ready to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection.

Can you find your way into the desert to be with Jesus?

1st Sunday of Lent

9th March 2025

GATHERING HYMN: 'Forty Days and Forty Nights' (173)

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26.1–11

The Lord is giving you the land, and soon you will conquer it, settle down, and plant crops. And when you begin harvesting each of your crops, the very first things you pick must be put in a basket. Take them to the place where the Lord your God chooses to be worshiped, and tell the priest, "Long ago the Lord our God promised our ancestors that he would give us this land. And today, I thank him for keeping his promise and giving me a share of the land."

The priest will take the basket and set it in front of the Lord's altar. Then, standing there in front of the place of worship, you must pray:

My ancestor was homeless, an Aramean who went to live in Egypt. There were only a few in his family then, but they became great and powerful, a nation of many people.

The Egyptians were cruel and had no pity on us.

They mistreated our people and forced us into slavery.

We called out for help to you, the Lord God of our ancestors.

You heard our cries;



you knew we were in trouble and abused.
Then you terrified the Egyptians with your mighty miracles
and rescued us from Egypt.
You brought us here and gave us this land
rich with milk and honey.
Now, Lord, I bring to you the best of the crops that you have given me.

After you say these things, place the basket in front of the Lord's altar
and bow down to worship him.
Then you and your family must celebrate by eating a meal at the place of
worship to thank the Lord your God for giving you such a good harvest.
And remember to invite the Levites and the foreigners who live in your
town.

For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING

Romans 10.8b-13

All who are acceptable because of their faith simply say, "The message is
as near as your mouth or your heart." And this is the same message we
preach about faith. So you will be saved, if you honestly say, "Jesus is
Lord," and if you believe with all your heart that God raised him from
death. God will accept you and save you, if you truly believe this and tell
it to others.

The Scriptures say no one who has faith will be disappointed, no matter if
that person is a Jew or a Gentile. There is only one Lord, and he is
generous to everyone who asks for his help. All who call out to the Lord
will be saved.

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL HYMN— 'Purify my Heart' (557)

We sing verse 2 after the Gospel Reading

GOSPEL

Luke 4.1-13

When Jesus returned from the Jordan River, the power of the Holy Spirit
was with him, and the Spirit led him into the desert. For 40 days Jesus was
tested by the devil, and during that time he went without eating. When it
was all over, he was hungry.

The devil said to Jesus, "If you are God's Son, tell this stone to turn into
bread."

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say, 'No one can live only on food.' "

Then the devil led Jesus up to a high place and quickly showed him all the
nations on earth. The devil said, "I will give all this power and glory to
you. It has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. Just
worship me, and you can have it all."

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say:
'Worship the Lord your God
and serve only him!' "

Finally, the devil took Jesus to Jerusalem and had him stand on top of the
temple. The devil said, "If you are God's Son, jump off. The Scriptures say:
'God will tell his angels
to take care of you.

They will catch you
in their arms,
and you will not even hurt
your feet on the stones.' "

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures also say,
'Don't try to test the Lord your God!' "

After the devil had finished testing Jesus in
every way possible, he left him for a while.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

