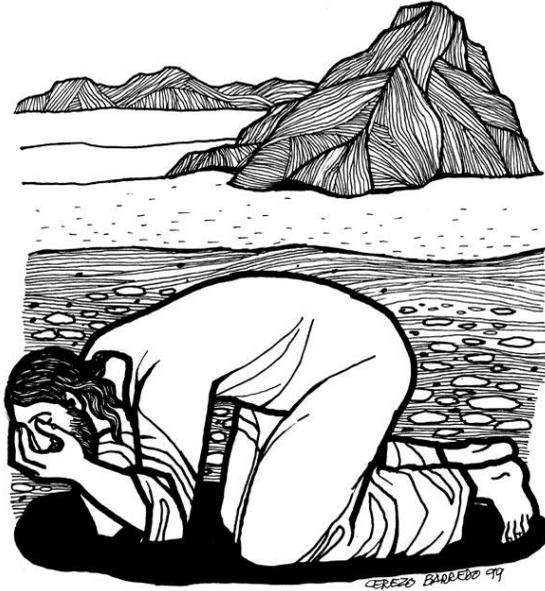


First Sunday in Lent



*“The kingdom of God has come near;
repent and believe in the God news!”*

Mark 1:9-15

Church Of Our Saviour

“Our Mission: to live out the gospel by transforming lives and neighborhoods in partnership, with innovation, and with compassion.”

February 21, 2021

The Rev. Debra Q. Bennett, Rector
Peter Wright, Choir Director
Michael McGroarty, Musician

Church of Our Saviour Episcopal

471 Crosby Street
Akron, Ohio, 44302
330-535-9174

We invite you to experience God's love and ours. We are a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are bound together by our common liturgy, not a rigid set of doctrines. So how we sing and pray and relate to one another is very important to us. Wherever you are on your journey, we have a place for you and invite you to make your place with us. Come share our joys and sorrows as we share in yours. God is alive for everyone here regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or life history. Join singles, couples, partners and families of every description that make up our community of faith. Rejoice with us in our diversity.

Parish Prayer

Good and gracious God, we pray for all who have yet to know of your love and mercy. May the Church of Our Saviour be so inspired by your Holy Spirit that it may serve as a beacon of hope and a witness to the gospel for all people. Grant that we may continually grow in our own knowledge and love of you as we strive to use all that we have and all that we are to follow and imitate your beloved son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Welcome, Guests

If you are joining us online for the first time this morning, we hope you will consider making Church of Our Saviour your church home during this period of suspended in-person worship.

A Penitential Order: Rite II
Liturgy of the Word
First Sunday in Lent

♪♪ Prelude

Ringling of the “Welcome” Bell

The Great Litany

Presider: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Presider: O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Presider: O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Presider: O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Presider: Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us for ever.

People: Spare us, good Lord.

Presider: From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

People: Good Lord, deliver us.

Presider: We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States (or of this nation), and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That It may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to have mercy upon all human kind,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of [_____ and] all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Presider: Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

People: Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Presider: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Presider: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Presider: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: Grant us thy peace.

Presider: O Christ, hear us.

People: O Christ, hear us.



Lord, have___ mer - cy, Christ, have___ mer - cy.

Lord, have___ mer - cy, have mer - cy, O Lord.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

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.

Response: Amen

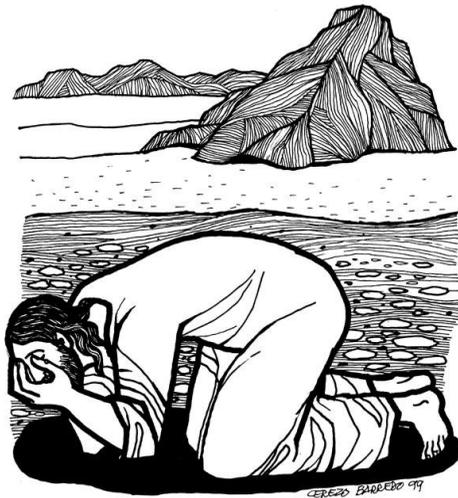
First Reading

Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Lector: The Word of the Lord

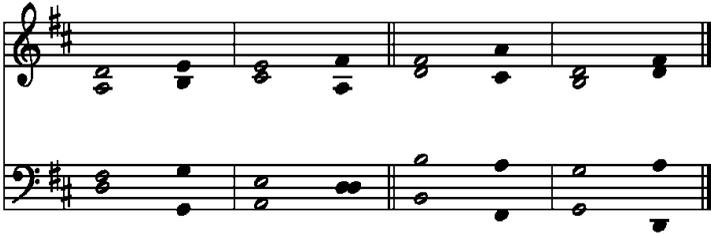
Response: **Thanks be to God**



♪ Psalm 25

the psalm is chanted by all

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

Ad te, Domine, levavi

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal #121 Christ when for us you were baptized

Caithness

1 Christ, when for us you were bap-tized, God's Spi-rit on you came,
2 God called you his be-lov-ed Son, called you his ser-vant true,
3 Straight-way and stead-fast un-til death you then o-beyed his call
4 Bap-tize us with your Spi-rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,
as peace-ful as a dove and yet as ur-gent as a flame.
sent you his king-dom to pro-claim, his ho-ly will to do.
free-ly as Son of Man to serve and
that, like-wise in God's ser-vice we may (Continues on next page)

Holy Gospel – The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark

People's Response before the Gospel Proclamation: **Glory to You, Lord Christ**

Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Response following the Gospel: **Praise to You, Lord Christ**

Sermon

The Rev. Debra Q. Bennett

The Creeds are statements of our basic beliefs about God” (BCP p. 851).

We say these words as a gathered community to affirm our belief in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all creation, as the source of life and holiness. God has blessed humanity with relationships and community which are part of God’s own essence as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We do not say these words as some sort of litmus test but as an invitation to wrestle with the mystery and complexity of God with generations of Christians who have gone before us and with generations who will come after us.

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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



Hymn Before The Peace

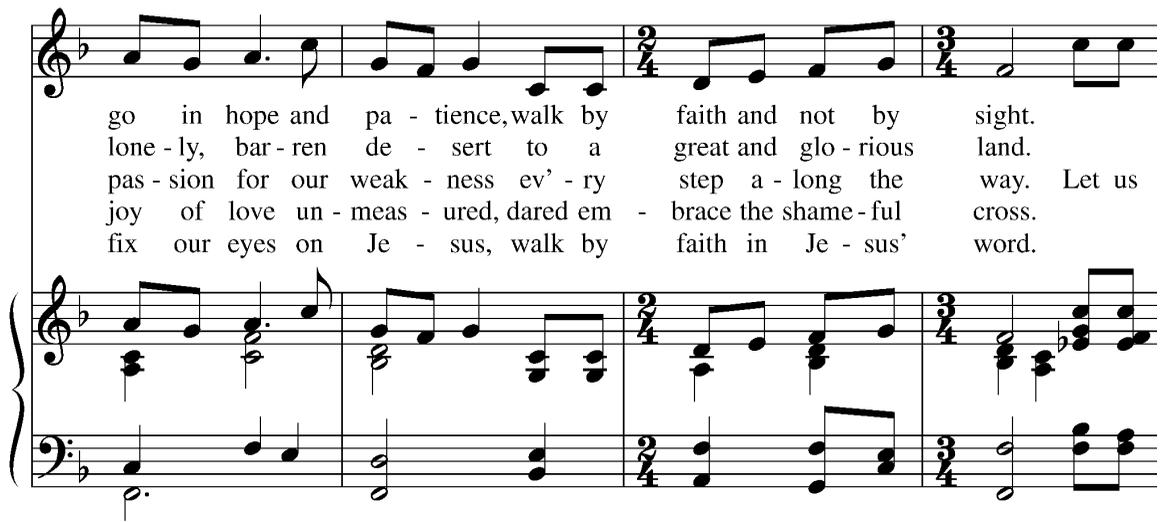
WLP #754 When from bondage we were summoned

Haywood's Home

1. When from bond - age
2. When our God names
3. Through all stag - es
4. We must not lose
5. See the prize our

we are sum - moned out of dark - ness in - to light, we must
us a peo - ple, Je - sus leads us by the hand through a
of the jour - ney Christ is with us, night and day, with com -
sight of Je - sus, who ac - cept - ed pain and loss, who, for
God has prom - ised: end - less life with Christ our Lord. Now we

(Continues on next page)



go in hope and pa-tience, walk by faith and not by sight.
 lone-ly, bar-ren de- sert to a great and glo-rious land.
 pas-sion for our weak-ness ev'-ry step a-long the way. Let us
 joy of love un-meas-ured, dared em-brace the shame-ful cross.
 fix our eyes on Je-sus, walk by faith in Je-sus' word.



throw off all that hin-ders; let us run the race to win! Let us



has-ten to our home-land and, re-joic-ing, en-ter in. in.

The Peace “The Peace of Christ be always with you”
Response: “And also with you”

Commemorative Prayers

The priest offers prayers for birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant events.

Announcements

Please join us Tuesday at 7 p.m. for our Lenten conversation topic I'm still here - Into the Desert followed by Compline/and Lenten meditation at 8 p.m. Login and additional information may be found in our eNewsletter and website.

The Lord’s Prayer

People and Celebrant

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.

The Prayer Over the People

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord.
Amen

♪ Closing Hymn

LEVAS II #150 Forty days and forty nights

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Dismissal

Response: **Thanks be to God**

♪ Postlude

Today's Lectors: Jon C. & Deidre S-J.

Birthdays This Week:

February 22—Sara Burky



Please continue to pray for those on the long-term prayer list.

Christopher, David, Pam, Susan, Christine, Joe, Chris, Derwood, Ruth, Judy, Glynn, Patricia, Patty, Tom, Danny, Emily, Rob, Jeff, Mikey, Anthony, Norma, Clarence, Dan, Steve, Leslie, Nancy R., Marilyn M., Bill, Marsha, Roger, William, Mitchell., Bob, Kym, Kelly, Stephanie, Joslyn, Mia, Virginia, Michelle, Chris D., Randy and Helen, Raymond, Katie, Robin, Fred, Susan S., Judy, Richard and Joyce Metz, Shirley W., Sandy, Ramon, Jessica, Tim, Dianne, Kylie, Nakiim, The Merton Family, Nancy, Hannah, Mary, Julie, Amy, David, Karly, Christina, Jeff, Richard D., Tammy, David S., Michael D., Scott, Karen, Aunt Abbie, Eve & Katie, the People of El Salvador, Elvera, Rita, Donna C; Shawn, Betty & the Brady Family; Seti, Jim, Joseph, Deidre, Dot, Beth, Jim E., Larry, Chester, Janice, Ron, Eric, Karla, Tana, Carol, the family of Diana and the Boswell family, Bree, Roxy, Phil, the Babcock family, the people of Cambodia especially those living in Prey Lang Forest, Fred; Natalie, Kerry, Pam and Wendy, Cynthia and Laura

Church of Our Saviour Vestry

Class of 2022 -

Kevin Ingram

Vicki Smith (Warden)

Kay Starr (completing an unexpired term)

Class of 2023-

Colleen Denholm (completing an unexpired term)

Jeannine Jones (Warden)

Asuama Yeboah-Amankwah (Treasurer)

Class of 2024 –

Jim Naughton (Clerk)

Sue Papp

Deidre Stone-Jackson

Schedule of Lenten Events and Worship Services – 2021

Lenten Series – I’m Still Here

The Holy Season of Lent is a time for self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial and reading and meditating on God’s word. These 40 days are meant to bring us closer to God through Christ in order to joyfully celebrate his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. During this Lenten season, we will explore our relationship with God through Christ, each other and our neighbor.

You are invited to journey with us as we delve into what it means to say I’m still here in our present context.

Tuesdays

February 23, 2021	–	7 p.m. – 8 p.m. I’m still here – Into the Desert
Matthew 4:1-10; Mark 1:12		It is written – one does not live by bread alone
A song emerges		8 p.m. – 9 p.m. Compline with Lenten Meditation
March 2, 2021	–	7 p.m. – 8 p.m. I’m still here – Is this the fast that I chose?
Isaiah 58: 7-10		From what are we fasting?
Turn off the TV		8 p.m. – 9 p.m. Compline with Lenten Meditation
March 9, 2021	–	7 p.m. – 8 p.m. I’m still here – Lead me to Calvary
John 12:32		When I am lifted up, I will draw all people to myself
The Color Purple		8 p.m. – 9 p.m. Compline with Lenten Meditation
March 16, 2021	–	7 p.m. – 8 p.m. I’m still here – Here is your son...
John 19:26-27; Micah 6:8		Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly
I am hungry		8 p.m. – 9 p.m. Compline with Lenten Meditation
March 23, 2021	–	7 p.m. – 8 p.m. I’m still here – Stay with us
Luke 24:13-35		Were not our hearts burning within us
It takes a village		8 p.m. – 9 p.m. Compline with Lenten Meditation
March 30, 2021	–	7 p.m. – 8 p.m. I’m still here – Do you love me

- April 2, 2021 – 10 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Virtual Reconciliation of the Penitent*
Noon – Good Friday Liturgy/Stations of the Cross
- April 3, 2021 – 8:00 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter
- April 4, 2021 – 10:30 a.m. Easter Day – Liturgy of the Word & Special Music by the Choir

Reconciliation of a Penitent*

This sacrament will be offered during the Lenten season by appointment.

If you wish to engage in this sacrament, please contact Mo. Debra

*A rite by which a minister of the church absolves and offers forgiveness of sin to a person penitent in the name of Christ and the church. It provides a means by which one who experiences separation from the Christian community because of sin can be reconciled and healed. It is particularly apt during the penitential season of Lent.