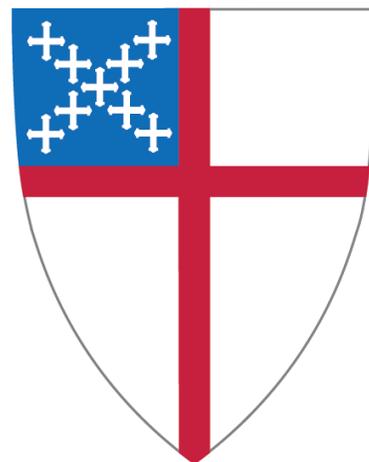


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the

**The First Sunday
in Lent**

Year A, RCL

February 22, 2026



(The Old Testament Reading)

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

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

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

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

(People: *Thanks be to God.)*



(Psalm)

Psalm 32

Let's say it responsively by half verse.

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *

and whose sin is put away!

Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *

and in whose spirit there is no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *

because of my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *

my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *

and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." *

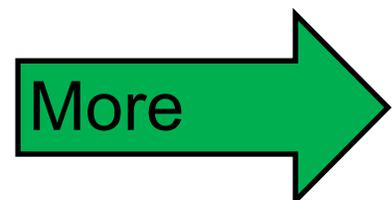
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to
you in time of trouble; ***

when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from
trouble; ***

you surround me with shouts of deliverance.



"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *

I will guide you with my eye.

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."

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *

but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *

shout for joy, all who are true of heart.



(The Epistle Reading)

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

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

But 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. And 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. If, 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.

Therefore 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.



For 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.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

(People: Thanks be to God.)



Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit, or kneel as able for the prayers.

NO Prayers of the People This Week

Celebrant: In the power
of the Holy Spirit who aids
us in our weakness and
teaches us to pray, let us

offer to God our intercessions, thanksgivings, and the deep
yearnings of our hearts. Silence

Intercessor: **That the church may be continually
uplifted by the vision of the king in all his
beauty, be rescued from all fear, and in
confidence face the future: Lord, in your
mercy,**

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: **That your people may hear the prophets'**

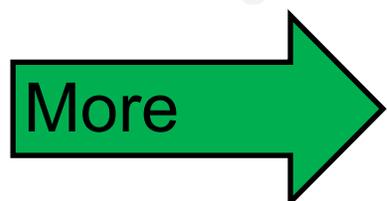
testimony, see you clearly in the records of those who were eyewitnesses of your majesty, and do your will, preparing for your glorious coming on the Last Day: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: That the nations of the earth may more and more perfect the rule of law and administer justice after the example of Moses, the lawgiver and judge of your people: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: That the church may heed the call of God in Christ Jesus to descend from the heights of vision and to serve those



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, sir.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.”

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

