



First Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2026

Preaching
Phil Yoder

Worship Leader
Kendra Nickel

Pianist/Organist
Laura Hartzler

Gathering

Music Calls Us to Worship *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word* Ahle
Chancel Choir

Welcome, Announcements, Centering

Prelude *This Train is Bound for Glory* Spiritual
Cherubs & Joyful Noise; Laura Hartzler, director

Invocation

*Opening Hymn *What Is This Place* VT 22

*Responsive Reading

One: Welcome Lent. Welcome dissonance.

Many: Welcome mystery. Welcome grief.

One: Welcome glory and uncertainty.

Many: Welcome doubt. Welcome belief.

One: Welcome questions without answers.

Many: Welcome fullness from above.

One: Welcome death and resurrection.

All: Welcome Jesus' fiercest love.

Telling God's Story

Special Music *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me* Tammy Waldrop
Adult Bells

Hymn *I Am the Bread of Life* VT 480

Conversation with Children Kathy Dickson & Carrie Mast
Seeds VT 777

Confession Poem

One: Jesus, you don't always show up when we expect or in the way we expect.

Many: We feel for Martha and Mary.

One: In our grief we too may say,

Many: "Lord, if you had been here . . ."

One: In our bitter confusion we may say,

Many: "God healed others. Couldn't God have . . ."

One: We hoped you would prevent this pain. We hoped you would fix this hurt.

Many: Instead, you weep with us. Instead, you go to the tomb and sit with us in the horrid emptiness of loss.

All: Though you will surprise us again— and this time with life— for now, your love is shown in tears.

Community Prayer Carrie Mast
Chancel Choir *Abana (Arabic Lord's Prayer)* Constantine/Scheer
LuAnn Stuckey, director; Anne Marie Spelman, piano

Scripture John 11:1-44 Lawrence Matthews

Message *Unresolved Resurrection*

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response *Listen in the Silence* VT 541

Offering

Invitation

Offertory *Prelude No. 6 in A* Robert Vandall

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

*Hymn of Sending *Rain Down* VT 703

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

- VT: *Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)* 🎵 : *Favorite Hymn*

Parents of young children: God put the wiggle in children, so no need to suppress those wiggles. Sitting closer to the front makes it easier for your little ones to engage. Also, children learn their behavior by mimicking you. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Feel free to leave the sanctuary with your child, but you're welcome to come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."