



A Weekly Worship Preview Sunday, March 1 The First Sunday in Lent

Lent is a season of preparation leading up to Easter. It is the forty days plus the six Sundays before Easter. For centuries, it has been observed as a special time of self-examination and penitence. Throughout Lent, the worship services of the church take on a simpler tone, appropriate to the season. The word “Alleluia” is not used in the words of the readings or hymns.

This practice, and others, help us to mark this season of renewal as a special time in the church year. This season can be a meaningful time of reconciliation with God.

Worship Series Theme: **Encounters with the Holy**

During Lent (March 1-April 12) we will explore how different people encountered Jesus and consider how their experiences can transform us.

This Week:

“Encountering Jesus in the Wilderness”

[Matthew 4:1-11](#) (click to read)

As you prepare for worship, consider these questions:

What holds sway in your life?

What has power over you?

What gets your ultimate attention?

Special Music:

- The Sanctuary Choir sings [“O Love” by Elaine Hagenberg](#) (click to listen)
The anthem was given in honor of the Music Ministry by Jim and Susan Bradshaw.
- The Children’s Choir sings “My God Is There.”
- Tara Suswal, cello, will accompany the anthem and play “Blessed Redeemer” with Beverly Harris for the offertory.
- Listen to [“Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord,”](#) our theme song for this series.