

# 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

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## WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

♪ Organ Prelude · James Aylward

*Interlude ... Dom Gregory Murray (1905-1992)*

**Call to Worship (responsively) · Lou Pennebaker**

Leader: Jesus went to the desert to pray and fast.

**People: Jesus went into the city to heal.**

Leader: Jesus walked to Samaria to extend love.

**People: Jesus went to the water's edge to teach.**

Leader: Jesus went to marginal places to reach the lost,

**People: but Jesus also went to the mountain to teach his followers.**

\* ♪ Hymn of Praise · Blessed Jesus, At Your Word  
No. 454

**Prayer of Confession (in unison)**

**We did not listen, when the Teacher spoke, God of sinners. Rich in pride and arrogance, our spirits have no need for a kingdom; taught to not let anyone see us cry, we refuse your comforting arms; seeing the greedy and self-indulgent have their way, we yearn to inherit their hardened hearts; noticing the hungry standing by the side of the road, we make sure we get more than our share of the world's resources; taking note of how the merciful are pushed aside, we develop calluses on our souls. Forgive us, Saint Maker, that we follow the wrong examples and listen to false teachings. It is the peacemakers who live into your hope; it is those whose hearts are shaped by yours, who are able to see you in the poor and broken; it is those who give themselves to serve others who are your saints, following the example of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior, our Shepherd, guiding us to the wellsprings of life.**

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## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\*  **Gloria Patri**

No. 579

\* **Passing of The Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## Greetings and Announcements

### WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

#### Scripture Reading · Shari Plunkett

Micah 6:1-8 (pg. 1447)

#### Scripture Sung · Chancel Choir

*The Gift of Love (Paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 13)* ... Hal H. Hopson

Richard Dinwiddie, director; Sharon Dinwiddie, accompanist

(CCLI #20405356)

#### Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-12 (pg. 1501)

#### Ministry of the Word · The Rev. Renée Rico


**"Who is Blessed?"**

*1<sup>st</sup> In the Series "Centering on Jesus"*

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## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

- \*  **Hymn** · Spirit of the Living God (sing twice)  
No. 322


### **Spiritual Practice – The First Week**

*Suggested practice: Holding others in Love – see insert (a contemplative way of praying for others)*

### **Acknowledgement and Blessing of Offerings**

- \*  **Hymn of Response** · Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow  
No. 592

### **Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

- \*  **Closing Hymn** · God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending  
No. 422

- \* **Benediction**

- \*  **Congregational Response** · Go Now in Peace

### **Organ Postlude** · James Aylward

*Salvation Has Come to Earth ... J.S. Bach (1685-1750)*