

First Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2006; Worship at 10:00 A.M.

For a Quiet Moment of Reflection...

“Although he was the light to enlighten all nations, Jesus was destined in his own day and in every age to be a sign disparaged, a sign opposed, a sign of contradiction. This had been true of all the prophets of Israel before him. It was true for John the Baptist and would be true for the lives of his future followers.” – John Paul II, Agenda for the Third Millennium (20-21).

Prelude

Church Bell

Introit

Call to Worship

Leader: Under the bow of the rain, in long ago Noah’s time,

**All: We began anew, the fresh taste of parting rain
in the air.**

Leader: In the desert, our forebears found their way,

All: To the promise of a new land for the heart.

Leader: From the streets of a dusty Palestinian village,

All: The mission of our lives has been forever changed.

Leader: To the Way of the Cross, we now begin again,

**All: Knowing that injustice in our world still crucifies,
today. And so we walk with Jesus, cross and all, to carry
the Good News that we live beyond any death into an
abundnace of life and peace, beyond all understanding.**

* **Hymn #72** *When Jesus Came to Jordan*

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of mercy,
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride,
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,
and great when we are small.
We have failed in love,
neglected justice,
and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus and those you send to heal us. Amen.

Silent Confession

Choral Response

Declaration of Forgiveness

* **Hymn # 593**

*Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me;
Melt me; Mold me; Fill me; Use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.*

Sharing the Peace
Announcements
Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

1st Reading Genesis 9: 8-17

Anthem *O, Saviour Sweet* by J. S. Bach

Gospel Reading Mark 1: 9 - 15

Sermon *From the Shadows into the Rainbows!*

* **Hymn # 85** *What Wondrous Love is This*

Celebration of Communion All are invited.

Offering our Gifts and Tithes

* **Hymn # 591** *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen*

* Prayer of Dedication

Offering our Joys and Concerns for Prayer The Prayer of Jesus

* **Hymn # 460** *Holy God We Praise Thy Name*
* **Benediction**
* **Choral Amen**

Postlude

**All that are able please stand*

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Participants

Ministers	All the People
Interim Pastor	Ray Bagnuolo
Organist and Choir Director	Michael Shapiro
Lay Reader	
Ushers	
Deacon of the Month	
Coffee Hour Deacons	

If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book in the Narthex and join us for coffee hour to learn more about the life of this church. Speakers are installed in the choir room in the Parish House so parents of infants and toddlers may hear the service.