

Order of Worship for the First Sunday in Lent  
February 26, 2023

Dr. Clifford Anderson, Preacher  
The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson, Designated Term Pastor  
Diane Dawson Dexter, Organist

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship** (Psalm 32:1-2, 10-11)  
Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

**Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**God of the covenant, in the ancient flood you swept away the world's corruption and brought new beginnings of righteousness and life. In the saving water of Baptism, you washed us clean so we have been born again. Throughout these forty days, let your love overflow in our hearts. Cause your gift of new life to flourish in us again. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.**

Hymn 277 "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

**Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, you call us to worship and serve only you. Yet, we let other things command our attention and allegiance. We live in a culture that values competition over collaboration. We serve our own desires without considering the needs of our neighbors. Forgive us, Lord. Send your Spirit to guide us back to you. Help us to respond to the grace you so freely give. Amen.

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Old Testament** Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Will Fiske

**New Testament** Matthew 4:1-11

**Sermon** "At the Pinnacle of the Temple" Dr. Clifford Anderson

**Affirmation of Faith**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Apostles' Creed**

**Gathering the Collection**

**Offertory.** "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

**Doxology** Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise him, all creatures here below.  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication**

**God of heaven and earth and every galaxy, we praise you for your wisdom and love. You have been patient with us when we have gone astray. Help us to extend your kindness beyond our family and church to others in need. We present our gifts and offerings as a sign of our gratitude in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Prayer Requests and the Lord's Prayer** (*trespasses*)

Hymn 338 "Where He Leads Me"

**Benediction**

**Postlude** "Study 23" Stephen Heller

**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7** 15 "The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; 17 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.' ... 3:1 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'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; 3 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.'" 4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; 5 for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 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. 7 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."

**Matthew 4** 1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." 4 But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; 9 and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 10 Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" 11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

*"Whoever you are and wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here."*



## **Fishers Island Union Chapel**

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**Dr. Clifford Anderson**

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