Week of Feb. 26 – Mar. 4, 2023

Lent 1A

FOCUS VERSE:

Matt. 4:1-11

¹⁰Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! For it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."'

SERMON NOTES: What stood out in this week's sermon? (Theme, phrase, thought, reference, etc.)	

For Further Thought

Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness where he is tempted by the devil three times. The devil's temptations call to question Jesus's identity, authority, and dependency, and three times Jesus denies the lure of the deceiver. Jesus, the divine son of God, resists and dismisses all temptation, and ultimately prevails from the wilderness with a heavenly host of angels to welcome him. Today, Jesus's story is paralleled with the story of creation. Adam and Eve – precious creations of God – are not as resilient to the lure and temptation of the deceiver. Apart from God, they cannot resist the temptation of sin.

In the Lord's prayer we pray that God "lead us not into temptation but deliver us evil." This petition is not so much a doubt in God's ability to lead us away from temptation but rather a confession that in the wilderness of sin and temptation, we will fall. Apart from God, we fail. As we enter the season of Lent, it is a good time to reflect on the temptations that lead us away from God. What are the deceivers and tempters in your life?

BEYOND SUNDAY:

*Readings intended to help you reflect and digest this week's worship service.

 MONDAY: Psalm 32 (A Psalm of David) What is the most MEMORABLE verse for you, in this passage, at this time? What makes this verse so MEANINGFUL?
TUESDAY: Genesis 4:1-16 (Cain and Abel)
Memorable:
Meaning:
WEDNESDAY: Matthew 18:10-14 (Parable of The Lost Sheep)
Memorable:
Meaning:
*Readings intended to help you prepare for the upcoming Sunday. Next week Jesus meets with a Pharisee named Nicodemus under the cover of darkness. Nicodemus inquires about what it means to be born of the flesh vs. being born of the Spirit.
THURS: 2 Timothy 1:3-7 (Encouragement to Be Faithful) Memorable: Meaning:
FRIDAY: Romans 3:21-31 (Christ Took Our Punishment) Memorable: Meaning:
SATURDAY: Luke 7:1-10 (The Faith of a Roman Officer) Memorable: Meaning:
Meaning:

Read Ahead: March 5, 2023 – Second Sunday in Lent Gen. 12:1-4a; Psalm 32; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

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SERMON NOTES:

What stood out in this week's sermon? (Theme, phrase, thought, reference, etc.) What questions stir up within you? What do you want to explore further?	

For Further Thought

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