

**Sunday, February 21st, 2021**

**The First Sunday In Lent**

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: Forbidden fruit is such a delight to the eye.

**All: God is our delight.**

One: Forbidden pleasures tug at us each day.

**All: God is our joy.**

One: Temptation is everywhere.

**All: We can live as God intends, through Christ who strengthens us.**

One: Let us sing to the Lord, who saves us from the time of trial.

**All: Sing to the Lord, our delight and our joy.**

Hymn: VU - "In The Garden"

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prayer of Approach (said together)

**Walk with us, O God, as we journey with Christ through the season of Lent. Help us overcome the temptations we face each and every day.**

**Save us from the time of trial and send your angels to minister to us in times of weakness. Raise us to new life, through the gift of your Spirit and the love of your Son. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4: 1-11

Hymn VU# 114 "Forty Days And Forty Nights"

The Lord's Prayer

Good News Time

Prayer of Confession

**Holy One, we do not always face temptation well. We settle for loaves of bread when our souls long for bread that does not perish.**

**We put you to the test, seeking signs of your favour, when we should “be still” and rest in the knowledge that you are God.**

**We place our trust in leaders who make promises they cannot deliver, when we should be putting our faith in you. Forgive us, O God, and help us be found worthy of your calling, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*(A time of quiet reflection on the prayer we have just shared)*

### Assurance of Pardon

One: When we acknowledge our failings before God, God wipes away our shame.

**All: We receive forgiveness and mercy through the gift of God’s grace in Christ. Amen.**

Anthem: Nana Mouskouri – “*All My Trials*”

Sermon: We’re Kind Of Stupid Like That

Hymn **VU# 266** “Amazing Grace”

### The Offering

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.

### Prayers of the People

Hymn **VU# 806** “O God, Our Help In Ages Past”

### The Blessing and Benediction

Go now in peace, never be afraid;  
God will go with you each hour of every day;  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe;  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above!  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.

Words: Don Besig and Nancy Price, Music: Don Besig © 1999

*Postlude: Stay At Home Choir and Voces8 – “Caledonia”*