

# First Sunday of Lent

## February 26, 2023

### Service of Prayer and Preaching: LSB 260



#### AS WE GATHER

“X marks the spot” is a reminder that a cross, whether on a treasure map or on a police investigation site outline, has a special meaning. It indicates

what is at the center and is of greatest importance. In the Small Catechism, Dr. Martin Luther directs Christian people to make the sign of the cross to begin their day, as he writes, “In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross” (*LSB*, p. 327). He commends the same sacred action at the close of the day, writing, “In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross” (*LSB*, p. 327). The purpose of making the sign of the cross, whether at home or in conjunction with our worship, is to indicate that all our lives are marked by the redeeming action of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross for us and for our salvation. It is a most blessed sign!

What mercy God  
showed to our race,  
A plan of rescue by  
His grace:  
In sending One from  
woman's seed,  
The One to fill our  
greatest need—  
For on a tree uplifted  
high  
His only Son for sin  
would die,  
Would drink the cup  
of scorn and dread  
To crush the ancient  
serpent's head! *LSB*  
561:3

**Opening Hymn: LSB #418 “O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”**

**Opening Versicles**

**Old Testament Cantic**

*LSB 261*

**Old Testament Reading**

*Genesis 3:1–21*

**Epistle Reading**

*Romans 5:12–19*

**Hymn: LSB #424 “O Christ, You Walked the Road”**

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 4:1–11*

**Responsory**

**Ten Commandments**

## Apostles' Creed

### Hymn of the Day: LSB #656 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

#### Sermon: Rev. David Haberstock

##### ***What does such baptizing with water indicate?***

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

##### ***Where is this written?***

St. Paul writes in Romans, chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:4)

##### ***What is the Office of the Keys?***

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

##### ***Where is this written?***

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:22–23)

#### Offering (*Offerings previously gathered are brought forward*)

#### Prayer

#### Collect of the Day

#### Collect for the Word

#### Morning Prayer

#### Blessing

#### Closing Hymn: LSB #427 "In the Cross of Christ"

#### Acknowledgments

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