

CHILMARK COMMUNITY CHURCH

First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

MEDITATION

*“All that is gold does not glitter; Not all who wander are lost;
The old that is strong does not wither, Deep roots are not reached
by the frost.” J.R.R. Tolkien*

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Quiet

Introit *Lead Me, Lord* #473

*Call to Worship (*please stand as you are able)

One: The season rolls around again.

All: Deep calls to deep.

One: Settle down. Look within.

All: Be quiet. Listen.

One: Are you on the right path? Are you drawing closer to God?
Are you practicing loving kindness?

All: Now is the time to reflect and pray.

One: Now is the season for silence and giving.

All: Thank God for Lent.

One: Thank God we journey not alone.

*Hymn *We Are the Church* #558

Song: *Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking,
sleeping, I am with you; you are my own. In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing—
you are my own.*

Prayer of Invocation and Lord's Prayer (together, seated)

**Holy God, we thank you for this season of Lent, during which
you invite us to come, to examine, to confess, to be renewed
and healed. We enter this season eagerly, anticipating that,
like Jesus in the wilderness, there are things which need to be
lost so that better things may be found. Grant us courage to
set aside easy answers and quick fixes in favor of your word**

that penetrates and transforms us. Enable us to see past the immediate satisfaction of our wants that we may choose instead the eternally fulfilling grace of your presence. Embolden our faith that we may trust you rather than the false and empty promises of our age. Thank you for walking this Lenten journey with us. May we emerge from it prepared to serve you with renewed passion and joy. Hear us as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us: *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scriptures Psalm 91 (responsive pg 810)
Luke 4:1-13

Sermon Wandering in the Wilderness Rev. Stoddard

Interlude

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

Prayer Response

THANKSGIVING

The Offering

*Doxology #95

*Unison Offering Prayer

**We come every week to this place of prayer when we offer
gratitude for all the blessings we enjoy and dedicate what we
give that others might share in our bounty. Let our giving be
different this time. Let us not give out of routine. Let us not
give out of guilt. We do this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*Hymn *Nearer, My God, to Thee* #528

Benediction (seated)

Postlude

***Please join us for Fellowship and Coffee
in the parish hall after the service***

Rev. Janet Stoddard, Minister
Sean McMahon, Music Minister