



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SANBORNVILLE, NH

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT, FEBRUARY 18, 2018

SERVICE TIMES: 8am and 10:30am

REV. SUE POULIN, RECTOR

LECTIONARY READINGS

Genesis: 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-9

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

SCHEDULED PARTICIPANTS

L.E.M. 8am Kirsten Gowdy, 10:30am David Moberg

Lector: 8am Peter Campbell, 10:30am Ann Elkins

Acolyte: 8am Kirsten Gowdy, 10:30am David Guinta

Ushers: 8am Jim Keating, 10:30am Jane Daniell and Ann Elkins

Counting: Tina Firicano and Julia Stackpole

Coffee Hour: Ann Elkins and Donna Nelson

Altar Guild: Carole Connors

Bread Ministry for February: Tina Firicano

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CELEBRATION COFFEE HOUR  
FEBRUARY 25th,  
following 10:30am service

This will be Rev. Sue and Kirsten's last Sunday at St. John's.

Please join us in celebrating Rev. Sue and Kirsten's ministry with us the past 11 years. We will eat well, share stories, laugh and cry, as we wish Rev. Sue and Kirsten, much success, as they begin the next chapter in their lives.

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### Daily Prayer for all Seasons-

The following is the introduction to the Lenten section of this book of prayer.

Figuring out how to keep a holy Lent can be a challenge, but if we move beyond the popular conceptions (and misconceptions). Lent holds the possibility for real change - in our lives, as well as for rich and lasting spiritual growth. (The word "lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lection, referring to the springtime of the year when the days grow longer and warmer and brighter.)

Lent emerged in our history as a season of final preparation for those who would be baptized at the Great Vigil of Easter. The entire Christian community was highly invested in walking alongside those who were about to commit their lives to Christ. In time, the season took on some extra layers of meaning, and many people now associate it with listening for a deeper awareness of our own sin - how we fall short of the ideals God sets before us - and the need for ongoing repentance and amendment of life.

That said, joy in the new life we have found in the Christian faith should never be overwhelmed by our struggles to live out that faith or our awareness of the ways we fall short. We can see Lent as an opportunity to deepen our spiritual lives. In Lent we step back and consider the ways we need to repent, to turn around - to be converted.

During Lent we as individual Christians and as a church - the Body of Christ - consider our spiritual health. How are we living the gospel in our lives, our homes, our churches, our towns, our schools, our places of work? What areas of growth or signs of renewal should we celebrate with gratitude and joy? In what ways have we fallen short, grown stagnant or cold-hearted, or failed to love God by embracing new life when we encounter it? These are the kinds of questions we ask ourselves during the weeks of Lent.

Peace

Carole Connors

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