

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 2018



THE LESSON Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"I am now setting up my covenant with you, with your descendants, ¹⁰and with every living being with you—with the birds, with the large animals, and with all the animals of the earth, leaving the ark with you. ¹¹I will set up my covenant with you so that never again will all life be cut off by floodwaters. There will never again be a flood to destroy the earth."

¹²God said, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I am drawing up between me and you and every living thing with you, on behalf of every

future generation. ¹³I have placed my bow in the clouds; it will be the symbol of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember the covenant between me and you and every living being among all the creatures. Floodwaters will never again destroy all creatures. ¹⁶The bow will be in the clouds, and upon seeing it I will remember the enduring covenant between God and every living being of all the earth's creatures." ¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I have set up between me and all creatures on earth."

THE RESPONSE Psalm 25:1-10

I offer my life to you, LORD.

²My God, I trust you. Please don't let me be put to shame! Don't let my enemies rejoice over me!

³For that matter, don't let anyone who hopes in you be put to shame;

instead, let those who are treacherous without excuse be put to shame.

⁴Make your ways known to me, LORD;

teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth—teach it to me—

because you are the God who saves me. I put my hope in you all day long.

⁶LORD, remember your compassion and faithful love—they are forever!

⁷But don't remember the sins of my youth or my wrongdoing. Remember me only according to your faithful love for the sake of your goodness, LORD.

⁸The LORD is good and does the right thing; he teaches sinners which way they should go. ⁹God guides the weak to justice, teaching them his way.

¹⁰All the LORD's paths are loving and faithful for those who keep his covenant and laws.

THE EPISTLE 1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ himself suffered on account of sins, once for all, the righteous one on behalf of the unrighteous. He did this in order to bring you into the presence of God. Christ was put to death as a human, but made alive by the Spirit. ¹⁹And it was by the Spirit that he went to preach to the spirits in prison. ²⁰In the past, these spirits were disobedient—when God patiently waited

during the time of Noah. Noah built an ark in which a few (that is, eight) lives were rescued through water. ²¹Baptism is like that. It saves you now—not because it removes dirt from your body but because it is the mark of a good conscience toward God. Your salvation comes through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who is at God's right side. Now that he has gone into heaven, he rules over all angels, authorities, and powers.

THE GOSPEL Mark 1:9-15

⁹About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. ¹⁰While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. ¹¹And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

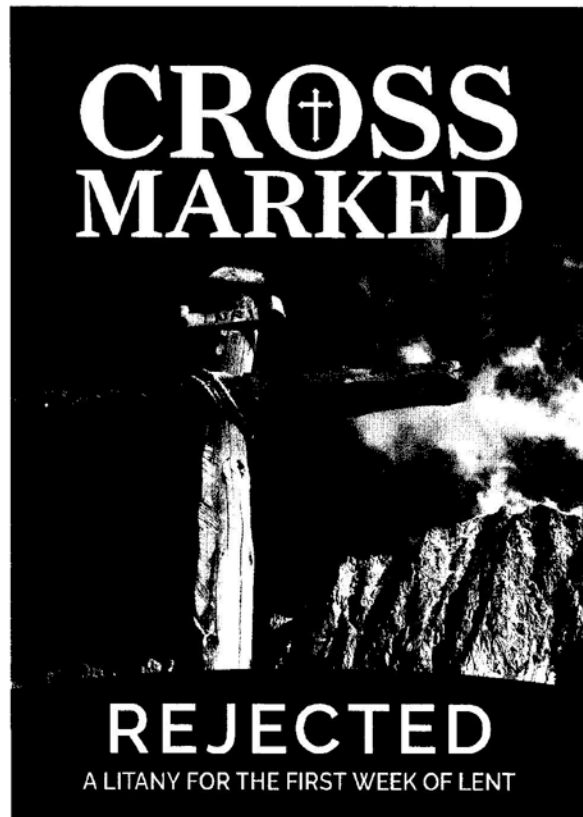
¹²At once the Spirit forced Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among the wild animals, and the angels took care of him.

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, ¹⁵saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

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CROSS MARKED

REJECTED

A LITANY FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

He was despised and rejected by men. Isaiah 53:3

P The apostle John said of Jesus, "He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him" (John 1:11). Jesus the Messiah was rejected and condemned. When he was betrayed and arrested, his disciples fled.

Tune.....Hamburg LM

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

P We confess Jesus as Lord, yet we are not always faithful witnesses for him.

C **Jesus, our thoughts, words and actions do not always reflect our love for you. Forgive us and heal us.**

P He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces.

C **He was despised, and we esteemed him not.** (Isaiah 53:3)

P All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

C **He trusts in the Lord ... let him rescue him, for he delights in him.** (Psalm 22:7-8)

P Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?"

C **They all said, "Let him be crucified!"**

P And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?"

C **But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"** (Matthew 27:22-23)

P Lord, do not let us fear rejection or persecution for the sake of your name.

C **Make us bold witnesses for you.**

See, from his head, his hands, his feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Bible Readings for the First Week of Lent

Sunday	Isaiah 53:1-3
Monday	Psalm 22:6-11
Tuesday	Matthew 13:53-57
Wednesday.....	Matthew 27:15-23
Thursday.....	John 1:9-13
Friday	1 Peter 4:12-19
Saturday.....	Matthew 5:10-12