

First Sunday of Lent

Confronting the Tempter (Inspired by Matthew 4:1-4 NLT)

Note: Before the reading, make sure all candles are lit.

Reader #1 - God used temptations by the devil to test Jesus' loyalty.

Reader #2 - In the first temptation Jesus was faced with the discomfort of hunger.

Reader #1 - From the Gospel According to Matthew we read, "Then Jesus was led out into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted there by the devil."

Reader #2 - "For forty days and forty nights he ate nothing and became very hungry."

Reader #1 - "Then the devil came and said to him, 'If you are the son of God, change these stones into loaves of bread.'"

Reader #2 - "But Jesus told him, 'No! The Scriptures say, 'People need more than bread for their life; they must feed on every word of God.'"

Reader #1 - Thus we have learned through the Scriptures, Jesus proved his obedience to God in this and every temptation.

Reader #2 - Jesus' victory over temptation has stood throughout the centuries as a model for our resistance to the Tempter.

Now, please extinguish one violet candle ... and return to your pew ...

(Thank you!)