

## First Sunday in Lent – Sunday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – 10 a.m.

Rev. Crawford will not be present for this service due to some vacation time but we are fortunate to welcome once again one of our lay worship leaders, **Joyce Estes**. Thank you Joyce.

“Lent” comes from an old English word for springtime, perhaps connected with the lengthening of days in this time of year in the Northern Hemisphere. The season of Lent is a time for growth in faith – through prayer, spiritual discipline, fasting, and self-examination in preparation for the commemoration of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus Christ. Reconciliation is a key theme of Lent – reconciliation with God and with one another through the grace of Jesus Christ. Lent is a period of forty days – like the flood of Genesis, Moses’ sojourn at Mt. Sinai, Elijah’s journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah’s call of repentance to Ninevah, and Jesus’ time of testing in the wilderness. The Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days, as every Lord’s Day is a celebration of Christ’s resurrection. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and concludes at sunset on Holy Saturday, at the start of the Great Vigil of Easter. *Please join us for worship in Lent.*

