

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Genesis 2:5-17;3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her

husband, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 32 [page 624]

Romans 5:12-19

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

The results of the gift, Jesus Christ, outweigh one man's sin.

Brethren, as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned -- sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one mans trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. And the free gift is not like the effect of that one mans sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of one mans trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness

reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Then as one mans trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one man's act of righteousness leads to acquittal and life for all men. For as by one mans disobedience many were made sinners, so by One man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Matthew 4:1-11

Man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that come from the mouth of God.

The ♣ Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward He was hungry. And the tempter came and said to Him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But He answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Then the devil took Him to the holy city, and set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will give his angels charge of you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God." Again, the devil took Him to a very

high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them; and he said to Him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! for it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve." Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

The gospel of the Lord.