
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*Jesus knows all about temptation;
and he can deal with our sin.*

Our God knows us and the temptations we face.
Let us pray to him now.

As the Church begins this season of Lent
we ask you to remind us of what is important
and what is not;
of where we are wandering away
and what we need to change;
so that by Easter
we will be renewed and strengthened
for your service in the world.

Silence

The Lord is God:
there is no other.

The world's misery and pain
and desperate need of healing
are clear to see and affect us all.
We pray now for this damaged world
with all its weakness, longings and failings,
with all its potential and hope.

Silence

The Lord is God:
there is no other.

Whenever a child is born
we celebrate the creative hope of God.

We pray for all being born this week
and for their families and communities,
that all our children may be loved and cared for,
safe and happy.

Silence

The Lord is God:
there is no other.

We pray for all who suffer through others' sin;
all victims of abuse or oppression or apathy;
all whose adult lives are distorted and misshapen
by early damaging experiences
which need your healing.

Silence

The Lord is God:
there is no other.

We remember those who,
freed from the ageing and pain of their bodies,
can live now with you
in the peace and joy of heaven.

Silence

The Lord is God:
there is no other.

Lord, we give you thanks and praise
for the hope we have in Jesus;
for the strength to resist temptation
and the joy and relief of forgiveness when we fall.

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.