



Living in the Spirit  
◆ **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
**We Live Not By Bread Alone**

***Call to Prayer and Sharing***

❖ *Invitation to Prayer - Leader*

Let us begin,  
Now, here in this place  
With a moment of silence, to reflect,  
to focus, to be attentive to ourselves,  
to one another, and to the presence of Christ.

May the Lord come and increase our faith. (*reflective pause*)

❖ *Opening Song - If time allows, sing a familiar hymn or song.*

❖ *Then: "In the name of the Father and of the Son . . . ."*

***The Word of God***

❖ *Leader: Let us welcome God's Word into our hearts.*

- *Sing: May the Word be a lamp for our feet and a light to guide our path!*

**From Luke 4:1-13** (Jesus is led into the desert in tempted)

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, *One does not live on bread alone.*" Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish. All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: *You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.*" Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: *He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you, and: With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.*" Jesus said to him in reply, "It also says, *You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.*" When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.

The Word of the Lord...

- ❖ *At the conclusion of the reading, briefly pause for quiet reflection.*

***Faith Sharing/Question of the Week*** (*consider sharing on either question*)

- ❖ **Adult:** What things best help you to open yourself to God's presence?
- ❖ **Mixed Ages:** When do you most like to pray? Why is that a good time for you to pray?

***For further reflection and discussion***

- ❖ How does this influence and affect what we are doing here at this gathering?

*Time is provided for sharing responses to the question. Silence between responses is to be expected. Allow a few minutes for faith sharing. For larger groups, leader invites members to divide into groups of 3 or 4 for faith sharing.*

❖ *When the sharing comes to an end, the leader invites everyone to take a moment to silently and reverently hold what has been shared together.*

### ***Litany of Faith***

**Leader:** Christ Jesus, we cannot live only on bread.  
You – you alone are what we need.

**All:** We live not by bread alone; your Word is all we need.

**Leader:** Christ Jesus, we are called to worship you and you alone.  
You – you alone are the one that we surrender to.

**All:** We live not by bread alone; your Word is all we need.

**Leader:** Christ Jesus, we are called to resist the temptation of selfishness and greed.  
You – you alone are the way to service and compassion

**All:** We live not by bread alone; your Word is all we need.

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

**Leader:** Let us pray together:

**All:** Gracious God,  
we know that you are with us here,  
and we have taken your Word into our hearts.  
You call us all to conversion,  
we who are here in this place,  
and we who are now ready to welcome you into our lives.  
We are ready,  
we are willing,  
and we are yours.  
So we surrender to you  
our aches and longings into one as we pray:  
Our Father...

### ***Continue with the Meeting***

#### ***Final Blessing***

**Leader:** Now let us bless one another:

**All:** May God bless and keep us, may God smile upon us.  
May God show us kindness, fill us with peace.  
And may God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;  
may we always love and serve,  
filled with God's Peace. Amen.

**Leader:** *Conclude the meeting or sing a closing song.*