

## *listen to him*

Second Sunday in Lent - March 1st, 2026

Gospel readings: Matthew 17:1-9 & John 3: 1-17



### Poetry

#### love saves - John 3: 1-17

what does it mean  
he said from his wheelchair  
that love is stronger than my fear  
how does that help me live  
in all this mess and I confess  
for just one fleeing moment  
I was going to say I don't know,  
I can't imagine  
how a 13-year-old mind  
could cope with all this pain  
gone and still to come, struck dumb

then it came  
for God so loved the world ...  
and I asked him  
what do you do when fear  
blocks out the day  
oh, he said, I pray,  
and seek my family and friends  
that's right I said  
you know so deep within you  
that love will drive out fear  
yes, he said, and love is here

Jennie Gordon from *Dad and Daughter*, © 2012

### Questions to ponder/discuss:

What does the image evoke within you? What words, phrases or questions arise for you in the poetry? Have you ever had or experienced times of transfiguration or transformation? What holds you in your fear? What comes to mind when you hear, "For God so loved the world...?"

### Prayer

God of amazing compassion,  
lover of our wayward race,  
you bring to birth a pilgrim people,  
and call us to be a blessing for ourselves and all the world.  
We pray for grace to take your generous gift  
and step with courage on this holy path,  
confident in the radiant life that is your plan for us,  
made known and given in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Image: Cerezo Barredo <https://www.servicioskoinonia.org/cerezo/dibujosA/15CuaresmaA2.jpg>

Prayer: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/prayer/?y=17134&season=lent&d=lent2>

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