

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 fleeting 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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