March 9, 2014 – First Sunday in Lent

Opening Prayer

Walk with us, O God, as we enter the Lenten Season.
Remind us of your presence in all that we do.
Help prepare us, O God, for the journey ahead of us.
Stay with us through the wilderness,
through the towns, and all of the way to Jerusalem.
Remain aware of our needs and anxieties and comfort us like a Mother.
When the darkness becomes too much, you, O God, will be our light on the Lenten path.
Amen.

Call to Worship

One: Creating Spirit, help us to keep our eyes on and our hearts turned in your direction,
All: As we gather here to worship you, we rejoice to be in your presence.
One: You, who walked among the people as one of us, building relationships and
caring for all,
All: As we gather here to worship you, we rejoice that you brought us here together.
One: God, ever present and always creating, Mother and Father of the entire universe,
All: As we gather here to worship you, we rejoice for this day and for our journey ahead.

Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess that we often think that we can fix our own brokenness. We fall prey
to the idea that human invention can sustain our lives and our needs. Our sin is
sometimes so overwhelming that we turn further away from you, ashamed and
embarrassed by our inadequacy... shamed by our choices... saddened by how we have
failed to keep our promises to you. Forgive us O God, O Holy Parent, O Savior. Send your
Spirit to us and wrap us in your forgiving arms. Kiss us with your assurance. Remind us
that you never fail. Amen.