

*St. John's Sinking Valley*  
*February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026*



[www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com](http://www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com)

PO Box 222  
Tyrone, PA 16686

\* = Please stand as you are able

Organ Prelude –

Lighting of Candles:

**Opening Dialogue –**

L: Once again, as the season of Lent begins, we commit ourselves to an intimate journey and encounter with God for these next 40 days. For, as the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness, He is leading us too.

**P: As we begin our Lenten journey, let us be led by the Spirit, even into the uncomfortable places.**

L: In those forty days, and in that place, Jesus was reflecting and walking into the divine purpose created for Him.

**P: As we seek to follow Jesus, we would be led, even into the uncomfortable moments of recognizing God's plan for us, realizing that we are SIGNIFICANT in the Kingdom of God.**

L: Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted and in the one whom had a great plan for Him...and for us.

**P: As we continue on our path to faithful call of God on our lives, may we be led by Jesus Christ, rejoicing in the Lord our God.**

**\*L: Let us pray,**

**C: Lord, we recognize that you have called us on this coming journey, a journey of repentance, reflection, renewal and rejoicing. A journey that over these 40 days draws us closer to you, to hear from you and to walk in your ways. Help us as we learn to fully trust in you. Guide us as we learn who we are in you. And strengthen us on this journey. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.**

**\*The Opening Hymn –**

**Majesty**

**Offertory**

**\* The Gloria Patri**

**\* Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*The Gospel Response –**

**Seek Ye First**

***The Liturgy of the Word***

***The Old Testament Lesson comes from***

**Psalm 139:13-18**

13 For you created my inmost being;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

your works are wonderful,

I know that full well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you

when I was made in the secret place,

when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes saw my unformed body;

all the days ordained for me were written in your book

before one of them came to be.

17 How precious to me are your thoughts,[a] God!

How vast is the sum of them!

18 Were I to count them,

they would outnumber the grains of sand—  
when I awake, I am still with you.

*The New Testament Lesson comes from Ephesians*

**Ephesians 2:1-10**

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*L: The Holy Gospel according to John

**\*C: Glory to you, O Lord**

**John 1:11-14**

11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

L: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

*Message-*

*inSIGNIFICANT*

**\*Hymn –**

**\*Corporate Prayer of Confession**

L: O God, when we pause to look back at our lives, we realize that we have been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

**P: We have neglected to do good when it was in our power to do so.**

L: We, like believers of old, have pulled down Your altars and erected idols crafted in our own image.

**P: We have turned our backs on those you call us to help.**

L: We have ignored the cries of those in need.

**P: We have consumed more than our share of riches.**

L: We have not dealt honorably with our friends or our enemies.

**P: Forgive us, O God, for the times we have neglected to provide for children and the world an authentic example of Christianity.**

L: As we begin the journey of Lent these forty days, wash us, O God and we shall be clean.

**P: Cleanse us, O Lord, and we shall be made whole.**

*Time for silent reflection.*

L: Hear the Good News. The Lord, our God, is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. God hears the earnest cries of the repentant and forgives our sins.

**P: Amen.**

**The Imposition of Ashes**

*“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”*

**A Lenten Challenge/Closing Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn –**

**\*Benediction—**

*The Dismissal from Worship on the Bells*

*\*Extinguishing of Candles – Let us look ahead with great anticipation to a New Year of God’s Glory!*

*Organ Postlude –*