

Collect and Readings for Sunday 22 February 2026

Collect for the First Sunday in Lent

God, you know better than we the temptations that will bring us down. Grant that our love for you may protect us from all foolish and corrupt desire. Praise to you our God; you answer prayer. **Amen.**

E te Atua, nui atu āu mōhiotanga i a mātou ki ngā whakamātautau e hinga ai mātou Tukua mā tō mātou aroha ki a koe e ārai atu i ngā hiahia pōhouhou, pōriro hoki He whakamoemiti ki a koe, e tō mātou Atua; ka whakamana te ĭnoi. Āmine.

Old Testament Reading – Genesis 2: 17-17, 3: 1-7

¹⁵The Lord God took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it. ¹⁶The Lord God commanded the human, “Eat your fill from all of the garden’s trees; ¹⁷but don’t eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it, you will die!”

3 The snake was the most intelligent^[a] of all the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say that you shouldn’t eat from any tree in the garden?” ²The woman said to the snake, “We may eat the fruit of the garden’s trees ³but not the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. God said, ‘Don’t eat from it, and don’t touch it, or you will die.’” ⁴The snake said to the woman, “You won’t die! ⁵God knows that on the day you eat from it, you will see clearly and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶The woman saw that the tree was beautiful with delicious food and that the tree would provide wisdom, so she took some of its fruit and ate it, and also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷Then they both saw clearly and knew that they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together and made garments for themselves.

Epistle Reading – Romans 5: 12-19

¹²Just as through one human being sin came into the world, and death came through sin, so death has come to everyone, since everyone has sinned. ¹³Although sin was in the world, since there was no Law, it wasn’t taken into account until the Law came. ¹⁴But death ruled from Adam until

Moses, even over those who didn't sin in the same way Adam did—Adam was a type of the one who was coming.

¹⁵ But the free gift of Christ isn't like Adam's failure. If many people died through what one person did wrong, God's grace is multiplied even more for many people with the gift—of the one person Jesus Christ—that comes through grace. ¹⁶ The gift isn't like the consequences of one person's sin. The judgment that came from one person's sin led to punishment, but the free gift that came out of many failures led to the verdict of acquittal. ¹⁷ If death ruled because of one person's failure, those who receive the multiplied grace and the gift of righteousness will even more certainly rule in life through the one person Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ So now the righteous requirements necessary for life are met for everyone through the righteous act of one person, just as judgment fell on everyone through the failure of one person. ¹⁹ Many people were made righteous through the obedience of one person, just as many people were made sinners through the disobedience of one person.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 4: 1-11

4 Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness so that the devil might tempt him. ² After Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he was starving. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "Since you are God's Son, command these stones to become bread." ⁴ Jesus replied, "It's written, *People won't live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God.*"^[a]

⁵ After that the devil brought him into the holy city and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, ⁶ "Since you are God's Son, throw yourself down; for it is written, *I will command my angels concerning you, and they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone.*"^[b] ⁷ Jesus replied, "Again it's written, *Don't test the Lord your God.*"^[c]

⁸ Then the devil brought him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ He said, "I'll give you all these if you bow down and worship me."¹⁰ Jesus responded, "Go away, Satan, because it's written, *You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.*"^[d] ¹¹ The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him.

[Translation: Common English Bible (CEB)]

Hymns for Sunday 22 February 2026

Opening Chant:

Wait for the Lord.

Wait for the Lord,
Whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord,
Keep watch, take heart.

Response during Confession:

E te Ariki

(Call) E te ariki, kia aroha mai
(All) E te ariki, kia aroha mai
(Call) E te Karaiti, Kia Aoha Mai
(All) E te Karaiti, Kia Aoha Mai
(Call) E te ariki, kia aroha mai
(All) E te ariki, kia aroha mai

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Gradual Hymn

The Servant King

Verse 1

From heav'n You came
helpless babe
Enter'd our world Your glory veil'd
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life
that we might live

Chorus

*This is our God the Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a
daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King*

Verse 2

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load He chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
Yet not my will but Yours He said

Verse 3

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails Surrendered

Verse 4

So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

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Offertory Hymn:

Take This Moment

Verse 1

Take this moment sign and space
Take my friends around
Here among us make the place
Where Your love is found

Verse 2

Take the time to call my name
Take the time to mend
Who I am and what I've been
All I've failed to tend

Verse 3

Take the tiredness of my days
Take my past regret
Letting Your forgiveness touch
All I can't forget

Verse 4

Take the little child in me
Scared of growing old
Help him/her here to find his/her
worth
Made in Christ's own mould

Verse 5

Take my talents take my skills
Take what's yet to be
Let my life be Yours and yet
Let it still be me

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During Communion:

***[Taste and See The Goodness of
the Lord](#)***



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Closing Hymn:

[I Will Sing the Wondrous Story](#)

Verse 1

I will sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me
How He left the realms of glory
For the cross on Calvary
Yes I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me
Sing it with His saints in glory
Gathered by the crystal sea

Verse 2

I was lost but Jesus found me
Found the sheep that went astray
Raised me up and gently led me
Back into the narrow way
Days of darkness
still may meet me
Sorrow's path I oft may tread
But His presence still is with me
By His guiding hand I'm led

Verse 3

He will keep me till the river
Rolls its waters at my feet
Then He'll bear me safely over
Made by grace for glory meet
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me
Sing it with His saints in glory
Gathered by the crystal sea

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