

The Lessons Appointed for Use on the

# First Sunday in Lent

Year B  
RCL



## FIRST READER:

**IN THIS MORNING'S FIRST READING, WE HEAR THE CONCLUSION OF THE STORY OF NOAH, WHO RESCUED THE ANIMALS FROM THE GREAT FLOOD WHICH THREATENED TO DESTROY ALL LIVING THINGS. BECAUSE OF NOAH'S RIGHTEOUSNESS, GOD MAKES A COVENANT WITH HIM, KNOWN AS THE "RAINBOW COVENANT". GOD PROMISES TO PROTECT THE FUTURE STABILITY OF THE WORLD, AND NOAH PROMISES TO CONTINUE HIS CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION.**

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

## THE WORD OF THE LORD

**SECOND READER:**

**IN THIS MORNING'S SECOND LESSON, SAINT PETER SPEAKS OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION. REMEMBERING THE STORY OF NOAH'S SALVATION THROUGH THE WATER OF THE GREAT FLOOD, PETER RECOGNIZES THAT THIS STORY PRE-FIGURES OUR OWN SALVATION THROUGH THE WATER OF BAPTISM.**

**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF SAINT PETER**

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD**

**Mark 1:9-15**