

## **Offering Invitations and Prayers for February 2010 based on the Lectionary Readings**

*These resources are written from the reading of scriptures from The Message Bible.*

### **February 7–Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**

The prophet Isaiah and the apostle Peter both recognized they were on holy ground in the presence of Almighty God. But God recognized that these two human beings were also to be most loyal servants. God asked Isaiah “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” And Isaiah said “I’ll go. Send me!” We are all called in different ways at different times. God calls us now to give. May we answer “I’ll give. Let me give!”

Plentiful God, as Peter recognized the holiness of Jesus Christ in the abundance of the fish, may we recognize your holiness in what we bring now. Amen.

### **February 14–Last Sunday After Epiphany**

When Moses was in the presence of God, he did not even realize he was radically changed by the experience. When Jesus experienced the transfiguration, he too was radically changed and even those with him “became deeply aware of God.” When we are in the presence of God’s blessings, do we experience a radical change? Perhaps this is the chance for us to show that change to one another. Let us give our tithes and offerings to God.

God of change, we long to be so changed by you that others can see it in our faces and actions. Let this offering represent that change and may it become more and more radiant each week. Amen.

### **February 21–First Sunday in Lent**

Deuteronomy 26 says “...take some of all the first fruits of what you grow in the land that God, your God, is giving you, put them in a basket and go to the place God, your God, sets apart for your to worship him....And rejoice! Celebrate all the good things that God, your God, has given you and your family....” Let us bring our first fruits to God.

God of all good gifts, as you asked, we have brought our gifts to you and through them celebrate the good things you have give us. Let us always be grateful for your gifts and generous with ours.

### **February 28–Second Sunday in Lent**

As in the story of Abram being the Father of Many Nations, we also find it hard to accept the promise of abundance. Because of our reluctance to believe in our abundance, we find it hard to give. But we don’t need to fear. The Bible is filled with stories of God’s abundance to God’s people. With that in mind, let us give abundantly to God’s work here on earth through our church.

Abundant God, we have received the many gifts you offer us and give back a portion of these gifts knowing that you will use them to further your kingdom here on earth. Amen.