

ONE2026 Lent Series

“The Word Made Flesh” - John 1:1-18 (NIV)

February 22, 2026

- **Introductory Question:** “*What is the most beautiful thing you’ve ever seen?*”
 - Beauty is like GLORY, it points us to that which transcends
 - Why do we see the cross as beautiful when it is an ancient torture and killing device?
 - Death is ugly
 - Lent Series and BEAUTY of a unified, diverse church
 - **Takeaway: God has made himself known**
- **John 1**
 - Context - Latest and Different Gospel, Evangelistic, Jewish rivalry
 - V.1 - Beginning and Logos
 - V.2-3 - Creator
 - V.4-5 - Beauty of the Light is in Contrast to the Dark
 - V.6-8 - John the Baptist connects to OT
 - V.9-10 - World did not recognize
 - V.11 - Jews did not recognize
 - V.12-13 - Identity is not physical but spiritual
 - V.14 - Tabernacling and Sacred Space
 - V.15 - Jesus surpasses the Prophets
 - V.16-17 - Jesus surpasses Moses
 - V.18 - **God has made himself known in Jesus**
- **Exodus 34**
 - Parallels with John 1:16-17
 - Complete Jewish Bible Translation of 34:6 - “grace and truth”
 - Grace on Mount Sinai, Fulfillment in Jesus
- **1 John 4**
 - Sacred space continues with us as receive Holy Spirit
 - **God makes himself known through Christians**
 - Beauty of Christians and Christian community
 - Challenge: CityServe 2026

Discussion Questions:

1. If someone asked you who Jesus was and why he was important, how would you respond?
2. Do you find the Old Testament beautiful? Why or why not?
3. How can you bring God’s sacred space to your workplace and/or home this week?

Personal Notes