

LENT

ST. JOHN'S POWELL, WYOMING

The Great Fast –Lent–
is a time of spiritual reflection.
The forty days reflect Jesus's journey into the desert,
upon which he fasted for forty days
and faced severe temptations,
and they echo the years which Moses and the children of Israel
were said to wander between Egypt and the Promised Land.
It is a time of struggle,
a time of preparation,
and a time of spiritual enlightenment.
We come together,
struggle together,
and help each other
in our ongoing pilgrimage
to God.

WELCOME

We are so happy you are with us, whether this is your first time or your 553rd. Please add your voice and heart to the prayers. Help others find a place near you and greet the person next to you as we prepare to worship together. Please stand and sit as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE MUSIC

“TUVAYHUN - Beatitudes for a Wounded World” is a moving and innovative 80-minute work with a message of inclusion, trust, kindness, compassion, humanity, and mutual respect. **The work is based on the beatitudes.** As part of its message to embrace differences, this is a hybrid work with elements from classical, jazz, and world music.

THE POINT OF LENT

We are to gain self-awareness. We must come to know ourselves. The Fast is not about what we give up, but what we gain: self-knowledge. Once we have come to know ourselves, we can come to know God, for in knowing ourselves, we will come to know our true relationship with God. The process certainly includes emptying ourselves of all distractions, all entanglements which would lead us astray...we empty ourselves from all that is false and come to know who and what we are once all the illusion we have held to is shed from us. -from <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/henrykarlson/2017/02/lent-not-give/>

SOURCES

Gathering, Confession, Offertory and Blessing - *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*, ©2015, Westminster John Knox Press.

Collects of the Day - The Reverend Canon Lara Gilbert, Diocese of Wyoming, Casper.

Prayer of the Season - The Reverend Megan Nickles, St. John's Episcopal Church, Powell.

Gospel Acclamation, Joel 2:12-13

Short Intercessions, Nickles.

Long Intercessions - adapted by Nickles from The Reverend Christine Sobania Johnson, <http://freshlysqueezedliturgy.blogspot.com/>

Affirmation - Pat Bennett, *Walking in the Wilderness*, © 2007 Wild Goose Publications, Glasgow and at ionabooks.com.

Eucharistic Prayer, Nickles, sourced in part from *Eucharistic Prayers* by Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher, © 2013 Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Sending - “Pilgrimage is a Circular Route,” Kathryn Potts, & Members of Churches in Northumberland, ©2016, Wild Goose Publications, Glasgow and at ionabooks.com.

MINISTERS

Altar Guild	Mary Dillivan
Sound	Scott Larsen
Greeter	Kathy Riley
Worship Leader	Mary Dillivan
Readers	Steve Nickles Rob Koelling
Preacher	Allen Doyle
Intercessor	Kim Dillivan
Presider	Megan Nickles
Communion Server	Laura Greathouse
Communion Server	Susan McEvoy
Communion Bread	Laurel McKeen

Following the service today, please join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship. Today's hosts are Jen Litterer-Trevino and Christine Garceau.

PRAYERS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Scottish Episcopal Church
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. David's, Fort Washakie

Hunter & Charlotte; Wendy & Tim and The Butler Family; Shirley & Deb; Richard & Jennifer; Tim & Lynnae; Robin & Mark; Charlie & Jane; Sharon & Steve; Margie & Josey; John Grover & Family; Bobbi & Bentley; Mike & Michelle, Bob & Charlotte; Ann & Martha; Tammy, Rob K., Bobby B., Larry, Alex, Irene, Nancy, Alan, Katy, Marlynn, Sue, Kahli, Ron, Marge	Justin, Ryan, Jacob, Patrick, Chip, and Sam who are serving in the military. Josephine DeWitt who resides at Canyon Creek Care Center and Don Smith who resides at American House Assisted Living, Orange City, FL.
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CELEBRATIONS

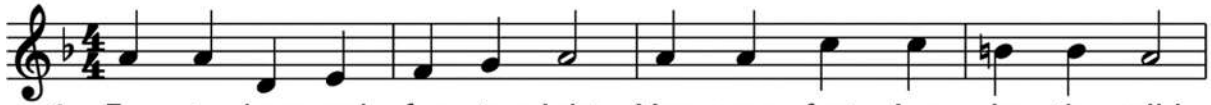
Birthday: MarChel Dawson—27th, Andre Allen—27th, Brooke Stewart—March 1st

Prelude

“Forty Days and Forty Nights,” Nidarosdomens Jentekor, Trondheimsolistene, Cecilie Koch & Maria Cordelia Skagen.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN *Verses 1-3*



1. For - ty days and for - ty nights You were fast - ing in the wild;
2. Shall not we your sor - row share And from world - ly joys ab - stain,
3. Then if Sa - tan on us press, Flesh or spir - it to as - sail,
4. So shall we have peace di - vine: Ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
5. Keep, O keep us, Sav - ior dear, Ev - er con - stant by your side;



1. For - ty days and for - ty nights Tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
2. Fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, Strong with you to suf - fer pain?
3. Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, Grant we may not faint nor fail!
4. Round us, too, shall an - gels shine, Such as served you faith - ful - ly.
5. That with you we may ap - pear At th'e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Text: 77 77; George H. Smyttan, 1822–1870, alt.
Music: attr. to Martin Herbst, 1654–1681, alt.

GATHERING

People of God, on this wilderness journey,
what will you eat?

The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

People of God, in this time of temptation,
how will you live?

Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

People of God, at this kingdom crossroad,
who will you serve?

We worship the Lord our God alone.

Redeeming God, you come to us in Christ
to rescue us from slavery and lead us out of captivity.

**Guide us by the wisdom of the cross,
and show us how to live a life
of justice, love, and peace.**

CONFESSION

We confess our sins,
trusting in God's wisdom and strength rather than in our own.
Merciful God, how fickle we are;
we sin against you without even knowing it.
Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin,
and save us from willfully ignoring your way.
Let your commandments guide and govern us.
Forgive us for worshiping anyone or anything but you.
Keep us faithful.
Forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships
with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors.
Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness,
rather than words that belittle or destroy.
Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness.
Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power,
for you are the God who made us, led us out slavery,
and has brought us into the community of faith.
Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace.
In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Brothers and sisters,
in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and in his coming again,
we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness
with God and with one another!
Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYER FOR LENT

Let us pray.
Rugged God of wilderness,
as we devote these forty days to you,
shape us by your Holy Spirit into the image of Christ our brother,
that we find the road that leads to life,
that we take the turns that bring right relationships;
and accompany others on the way;
so that when your goodness passes in front of us
our transformation is complete.
Amen.

FIRST READING

We sit.

Gracious God, in rushing waters and in dry wilderness,
in every season and circumstance, we need your sustaining word.
By the power of your Holy Spirit, proclaim the good news among us today
so that we may repent and believe and see anew how the time is fulfilled
and the kingdom has come near.

Amen.

A reading from ____.

After the reading

Word of God, Word of promise.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

A reading from ____.

After the reading

Word of God, Word of promise.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

INTERCESSIONS

We sit or kneel.

You are the Lord our God, who brought us out of the house of slavery:
as we search for water in a dry and weary land
forgetting what lies behind, and straining forward to what lies ahead,
we press on toward the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus
and pray for all humanity, saying

Lord, speak to us in this uncharted territory.

Show us the way to walk.

The intercessor continues, closing with

God of the poor in spirit, forgive us for treading so gracelessly on this journey.
Outfit us for the next leg of this trip with you with generosity, wonder, humility,
and courage, with water from the spring, bread from the earth, that we may follow
Jesus with our every step.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

We pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

AFFIRMATION

We stand.

We believe in God the maker and shaper of our pathways
who sent Moses to lead us out of captivity,
who sent Jesus to show us the narrow way,
and who is the beginning and end of our travels.

We believe in Jesus Christ the one who inhabits our flesh;
who entered and experienced the human journey,
and who walks beside us as companion and guide.

We believe in the Holy Spirit the midwife of our potential,
who drove Moses into the wilderness and Jesus out into the desert,
and who calls us now to cast away from the paved road.

We believe in Creator, Son and Spirit, who guide and spark our journeys;
and we recommit ourselves to following their Way. Amen.

THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We may greet each other in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

This is a house of prayer, a place of healing and restoration,
a place where we bring before God our provisions to be used for present needs.
Let us present our pledges and plate offerings to God.

MUSIC

“Lord, Have Mercy,” Willie and Luke Woods.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

God is with you.

And also with you.

Let us open our hearts.

We open them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to the God of forgiveness.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Thanks and praise are yours, Holy God,
because you remain faithful through our unfaith
and devoted amid our unbelief.

You called a people to share a life with you.

And when they were captive in Egypt,

with a mighty hand, an outstretched arm, and your prophet Moses,
you brought them out of oppression,

through the temptations of the wilderness wanderings

where you were constant in fire and cloud;

with manna and mercy you sustained each step.

You gave Moses the strength of leadership, the Law set in stone,

a face shining with sacred intimacy, and a promised place of new life.

In time, your Son came among us,

facing wilderness, temptation, and hunger without bread,

to bring us out of the oppression of sin with his gifts of healing,

to live into a new covenant, fulfilling all the law.

His face shone with the light of love;

he promised a place of never-ending life.

Restoring God, in wild, desolate places we are shaped by our struggles,

but have found, in your sheltering presence

that rocks have yielded water,

and manna has appeared on the ground.

Through Jesus' resurrection you brought us out of death

into the fullness of green pastures: your fruit-bearing, fruit-sharing life.

And so with all who have walked the wilderness way

in every time and all who walk it this day,

we rejoice with every generation in heaven and on earth in this hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We remember that it was on the night before he died
when Jesus was at supper with his friends.

He took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying
“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying
“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
Which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Great is the mystery of faith.

Save, Savior of the world,

For by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.

God of wilderness and God of promised land,
through this meal strengthen us to keep our Lenten fast.

With your Spirit, bless this bread and this wine,
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we remember Jesus’ saving passion;
transform our insatiable desire into hunger for the feast of this table.

With your mighty hand and outstretched arm,
uphold all those enduring trials

and any who know their life is at stake.

Be with your children who are heavy laden,
and all who labor beneath the misuse of power by another.

Amid all our temptations, shape us to be faithful to your kingdom first,
until the day when in your resurrection there is one life,

one sharing, one holy communion among all for ever:

Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.

AMEN.

BREAKING BREAD AND INVITATION

This is the bread of life,
come from heaven.

**Into our hands which have clutched at stones,
we now take the feast.**

God’s sustaining gifts for God’s hungry and thirsty people.

COMMUNION

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

We approach the altar beginning with those sitting in the last rows; they shall be first. Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread, only wine, or both. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

Receiving the bread and wine is the central act of worship in the Episcopal Church.

MUSIC

“Take, Eat,” Josh Garrels.

“Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy,” Poor Bishop Hooper.

THANKSGIVING

We stand.

Let us pray.

God of Moses, God of Jesus:

**you have given us bread from heaven
to nourish our faith, increase our hope,
strengthen our love,
and sustain us on the journey.**

**Teach us to hunger for him
who is the true and living bread,
and help us to live by the Word
that proceeds from your lips
and finds footing in our hearts.**

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN



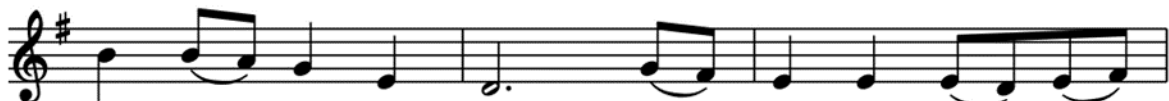
1. Led by the Spir - it of our God, we go to fast and
2. Led by the Spir - it, we con - front temp - ta - tion face to
3. Led by the Spir - it, now draw near the wa - ters of re -
4. Led by the Spir - it, now sing praise to God the Trin - i -



1. pray With Christ in - to the wil - der - ness; we join his
2. face, And know full well we must re - ly on God's re -
3. birth With hearts that long to wor - ship God in spir - it
4. ty: The Source of Life, the liv - ing Word made flesh to



1. pas - chal way. "Rend not your gar - ments, rend your hearts. Turn
2. deem - ing grace. On bread a - lone we can - not live, but
3. and in truth. "Who - ev - er drinks the drink I give shall
4. set us free, The Spir - it blow - ing where it will to



1. back your lives to me." Thus says our kind and
2. nour - ished by the Word We seek the will of
3. nev - er thirst a - gain." Thus says the Lord who
4. make us friends of God: This mys - t'ry far be -



1. gra - cious God, whose reign is lib - er - ty.
2. God to do: this is our drink and food.
3. died for us, our Sav - ior, kin and friend.
4. yond our reach, yet near in heal - ing love.

Text: CMD; based on Joel 2:12–13; Matthew 4:1–4; Mark 1:12–15; John 4:5–42; Bob Hurd, © 1996, Bob Hurd.
 Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Music: trad. English Melody; English Country Songs, 1893;
 adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958.

SENDING

Journeying with you, Creator God,
is to journey in your world
full of marvels and harsh beauty,
to glimpse eternity in the sky and the desert,
to feel the earth and rock beneath our feet.

Amen.

Journeying with you, brother Jesus,
Is to journey with your friends,
to meet and travel a while together,
then part at the intersections,
knowing you are with us all.

Amen.

Journeying with you, Holy Spirit,
is to journey with the wind,
to move to your wild music,
to sing your song so others may hear.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Lord Have Mercy On My Soul,” Cal Williams Jr.