

Worship Supplement – March 9, 2025

* Call to Worship

One: Jesus went to the mountaintop to pray.

All: Jesus went into the city to heal.

One: Jesus walked to Samaria to extend love.

All: Jesus went to the water's edge to teach.

One: Jesus went to places of peace and connection,

All: but Jesus also went to the wilderness.

One: There is nowhere we can go that God does not walk with us.

All: We are in God's house. Let us worship Holy God.

Gathering Song - Bless Now, O God, the Journey (326)

1 Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and
silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.

2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way,
your hope burns through the
terrors,
your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound.
Together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.

3 Divine Eternal Lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise
where milk and honey flow.
But waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.

Prayer of the Day -

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture - Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands

they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sermon - “Even in the Desert” - Rev. Pamela Meilands

***Sermon Song - Beautiful Things**

1 All this pain
I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life
could really change, at all

2 All this earth
Could all that is lost ever be found?
Could a garden come out
from this ground, at all?

Chorus:
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us

3 All around,
Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life
is being found, in you

Chorus x 2

Bridge:
You make me new,
You are making me new
You make me new,
You are making me new

Chorus x 2

***Sending Song - Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (334)**

1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry morn,
still you rise with ev'ry morn.

2 We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
ev'ry person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.

3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river, you the sea.

4 From the dawning of creation
you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation,
make us turn to you alone.
make us turn to you alone.

