

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN WORSHIP 1

JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-14

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where 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. ³The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' ⁴Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone." '

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And 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. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' ⁸Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." '

⁹ 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, ¹⁰for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you",

¹¹and

"On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

¹²Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." ' ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.

YOUTH HOMILY by Paul Gage

In this short story, the Devil tempts Jesus three times. For the first temptation, he tempted him to make himself food by turning stone into a loaf of bread. This to us can maybe mean you are being tempted to take all the food for yourself and not share. Or When you have the chance to help make food for others you don't. Physical needs and wants are temptations for us.. Thankfully for us, we are provided with Christ's body and blood, which is a reminder that God is with us in communion.

Next, Jesus is tempted to have all this power and authority that the Devil says he can give to him if he bowed down for him, but Jesus does not. This temptation to us can be when we are presented with the urge to take a shortcut in life. For example, you see your friend cheating on a math test and he is getting answers from a smart kid, this can urge you to cheat off of your friend that just got answers. The Devil is tempting us and Jesus to take a shortcut, Jesus was tempted to take a shortcut by gaining power and glory which God gives to him later on. We are tempted like this to take shortcuts in life.

For the final temptation the Devil tempted Jesus to throw himself down for him from the peak of the temple. The Devil said that God will command angels to protect Jesus. He does not throw himself down for the Devil, but he tells him "to not put the Lord our God to the test". This final temptation can be us wanting to not connect with God and be on our own. God surrounds us with a community to help us whenever we are in such times.

The ways that the Devil tempts Jesus aren't new, he tempts us with physical needs such as responsibility, authority, food, and security. God has blessed us with these gifts and needs including his body and blood. God is present with us always with the holy spirit. In the Story God was there for Jesus's baptism in the holy spirit, and the same spirit was there with him in the desert for the temptations watching over him and being on his side. The same holy spirit is with us.

This weekend I was at a youth gathering and was reminded of this story, the pastor talked about how the promise we receive at baptism is something special. He promises to be with us through temptations and forgives us whenever we fall into these temptations. This promise is for me in my baptism and for you in yours. This promise and it will always be in our hearts.

HYMN & OFFERING

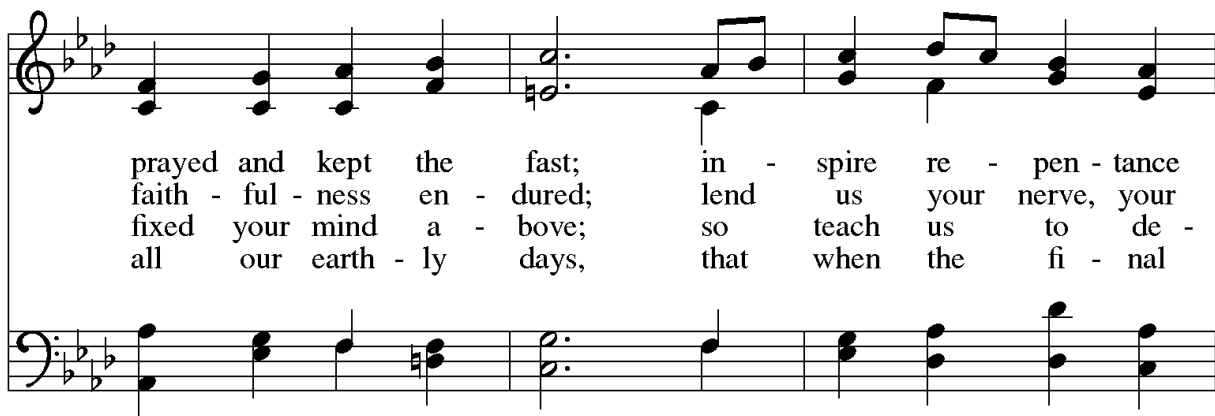
O Lord, throughout these forty days (ELW 319)

The offering will be taken during the Hymn

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Homily	Pastor Kyle Rouze
Youth Homily	Paul Gage
Cantor	Karter Johnson
Lector	Katie Graeber
Prayers	Lyra Shelton

2024 MID-WEEK LENTEN SERIES: GOD IS STILL WITH US

Holden Evening Prayer each Wednesday @ 7pm during Lent

February 14 (5pm and 7pm) – Ash Wednesday

February 21 (7pm) – Jesus in the Wilderness – Luke 4:1-14

February 28 (7pm) – A Blind Man is Healed – Luke 18:35-43

March 6 (7pm) – Mary, Martha and Lazarus – John 11:3-6, 17-44

March 13 (7pm) – Calming the storm – Mark 4:35-41

March 20 (7pm) – Jesus in the Garden – Mark 14:32-41



Two Ways to Give

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