

### ***Song before Service***

When I fear my faith will fail

### ***Welcome & Introduction to Worship***

This is the first Sunday in Lent. In the Gospel reading from Matthew, before Jesus begins his public ministry he is led by the Spirit into the desert where he is tempted by Satan.

***Video*** - *Lent a season of renewal*

### ***Call to Worship***

As Jesus began his work for the world, he was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

**As we begin our Lenten journey, may we be empowered by the Spirit, even in the uncomfortable places.**

In those forty days, Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt and temptation.

**As we seek to follow Jesus, may we be strengthened by the Spirit to do what is right when we face difficult choices.**

Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.

**As we continue on our path to faithfulness, may we be led by Jesus Christ, rejoicing in the Lord our God. Amen.**

### ***Worship in Song***

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
O'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
For we have no help but thee;  
Yet possessing every blessing  
If our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;  
All our weakness thou dost know,  
Thou didst tread this earth before us,  
Thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
Lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
Through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,  
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy,  
Love with every passion blending,  
Pleasure that can never cloy:  
Thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
Nothing can our peace destroy.

### ***Confession***

Gracious and merciful God, we confess to you our reluctance to get involved in difficult situations, and for the times when we are tempted to do what is easy rather than what is right:

**Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you.**

When we are tempted to use the gifts you give us to benefit ourselves at the expense of serving others:

**Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you.**

When we are tempted to boast, rather than being guided by the humility of Christ:

**Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you.**

When we are tempted to use power to influence and control others:

**Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you.**

**Merciful God, save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. Forgive us our sins and fill us with the joy and peace of your salvation. So strengthen us with your Spirit during this Lenten season that we put our whole trust in you as confidently as Jesus did. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### ***God's Assurance of Forgiveness***

As the Apostle Paul wrote: "...if you confess with your lips that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." These words contain the good news that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ***Bible Reading***

Matthew 4.1-11 (*Church Bible page 809*)

This is the gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## ***Prayer for Today***

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## ***Sermon***

### ***Worship in Song***

Blessed be your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be your name

Blessed be your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be your name

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord still I will say  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be your glorious name

Blessed be your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be  
Blessed be your name

Blessed be your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be your name

You give and take away, you give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be your name

## ***Affirmation of Faith***

Using the words from Colossians 1, let us confess our faith in the Son of God:  
**Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. By him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, thrones, powers, rulers, and authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the Church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from the dead. Amen.**

## ***Prayers***

*At the end:* Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## ***The Peace***

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

## ***Offertory Prayer***

In his hour of his temptation, when Jesus hungered, he quoted his Father's words to Israel in the wilderness: "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord." Lord, we thank you that you have provided all we need. All that we have is yours. Receive the offering of our hands and the gratitude of our hearts. In the name of our Saviour we pray. **Amen.**

## ***The Eucharistic Prayer***

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live  
in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross and  
made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with  
his friends he took bread, and gave you  
thanks; he broke it and gave it to them,  
saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is  
given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of  
you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of  
sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his  
rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this  
bread and this wine may be to us the body  
and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us  
one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our  
voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and  
might, heaven and earth are full of your  
glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

**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. Lead us  
not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

### ***Breaking of the Bread***

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

### ***Giving of Communion***

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our  
Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his  
blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in  
remembrance that he died for you, and feed on  
him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*We receive communion*

### ***Worship in Song***

What a friend we have in Jesus  
All our sins and griefs to bear  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer  
O what peace we often forfeit  
O what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Jesus only is our refuge  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Do thy friends despise forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee  
Thou wilt find a solace there

### ***Worship in Song***

When I fear my faith will fail  
Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail  
He will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold  
Through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold  
He must hold me fast

He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast  
For my Saviour loves me so, he will hold me fast

Those he saves are his delight  
Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in his holy sight  
He will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost  
His promises shall last  
Bought by him at such a cost  
He will hold me fast

For my life he bled and died  
Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied  
He will hold me fast  
Raised with him to endless life  
He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight  
When he comes at last

### ***Worship in Song***

Now when peace like a river attendeth my soul  
And when sorrows like sea billows roll  
Then whatever my lot You have taught me to say  
It is well it is well with my soul

It is well with my soul  
When the storms of winter blow  
And the cares of this world take their toll  
In the heat of the day there is grace enough to say  
It is well it is well with my soul

And when Satan should tempt me  
And trials should come  
Let this blessed assurance control  
For He sees ev'ry weakness and knows ev'ry fear  
And has shed His own blood for my soul

### ***Prayer after Communion***

Lord God, you have renewed us with the  
living bread from heaven; by it you nourish  
our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen  
our love: teach us always to hunger for him  
who is the true and living bread, and enable  
us to live by every word that proceeds from  
out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. **Amen.**

### ***Worship in Song***

Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong a perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is Love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heaven He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end of all my sin  
Because the sinless Saviour died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb  
My perfect spotless Righteousness  
The great unchangeable I AM  
The King of glory and of grace  
One with Himself I cannot die  
My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Saviour and my God

### ***Blessing***

The Lord bless you and watch over you, the  
Lord make his face shine upon you and be  
gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you  
and give you peace And may the blessing of  
God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### ***Music as we leave***

Now when peace like a river