

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

Temptations surround us every day. Even Jesus felt its pull in the wilderness. But when we keep our focus on God's call in our lives, we find the strength to move beyond its pull—we find the resources to move toward greatness. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD Natalia Lopez)

Here is God’s good news. Now is the time. God’s kingdom is at hand.

*SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 8:1-4

* OPENING HYMN: God Leads Us Along

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Jeremy Flint and Family)

Kate: Happy are those whose transgressions are forgiven.

Family: Happy are those who receive God's mercy.

Kate: Rejoice and be glad, you upright in heart.

Family: Shout for joy, you people of God.

Kate: Let us worship the one who gives us strength

Family: to resist temptation in the wilderness of our lives.

* Let us pray (Jeremy Flint and Family):

Walk with us, faithful traveler, as we journey with Christ through this season. Help us overcome the temptations we face each and every day.

Save us from the time of trial and send your angels to minister to us in times of weakness. Raise us to newness of life, through the gift of your Spirit and the love of your Son. Amen.

* LET’S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS: God Will Make a Way

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Lisa Schutt)

Holy One, we do not always face temptation well. We settle for loaves of bread when our souls long for bread that does not perish. We put you to the test, seeking signs of your favor, when we should "be still" and rest in the knowledge that you are God. We place our trust in leaders who make promises they cannot deliver, when we should be putting our faith in you. Forgive us, O God, and help us be found worthy of your calling, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

* LET’S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:

Word of God Speak – Mercy Me

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD (Natalia Lopez)

If we listen carefully, God calls out to us still. Listen, that you may hear how God is speaking through the Scriptures today.

*SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 4:1-11 (Natalia Lopez)

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: “WE HAVE TO OVERPASS OUR DESERTS”

* RESPONSE TO THE WORD:Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns

* CLOSING HYMN: Arise

*DISMISSAL BLESSING

Please don’t forget to send in your tithes and offerings to:

LeRoy UMC, 10 Trigon Park, LeRoy, NY 14482

Today's Scripture Readings

Deuteronomy 8:1-4 New King James Version (NKJV)

Remember the LORD Your God

8 “Every commandment which I command you today you must ^[a]be careful to observe, that you may live and multiply, ^[b]and go in and possess the land of which the LORD ^[c]swore to your fathers. ² And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you *and* test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. ³ So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ Your garments did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years.

~~~~~ Matthew 4:1-11 New King James Version (NKJV)

Satan Tempts Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. ³ Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”

⁴ But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ ”

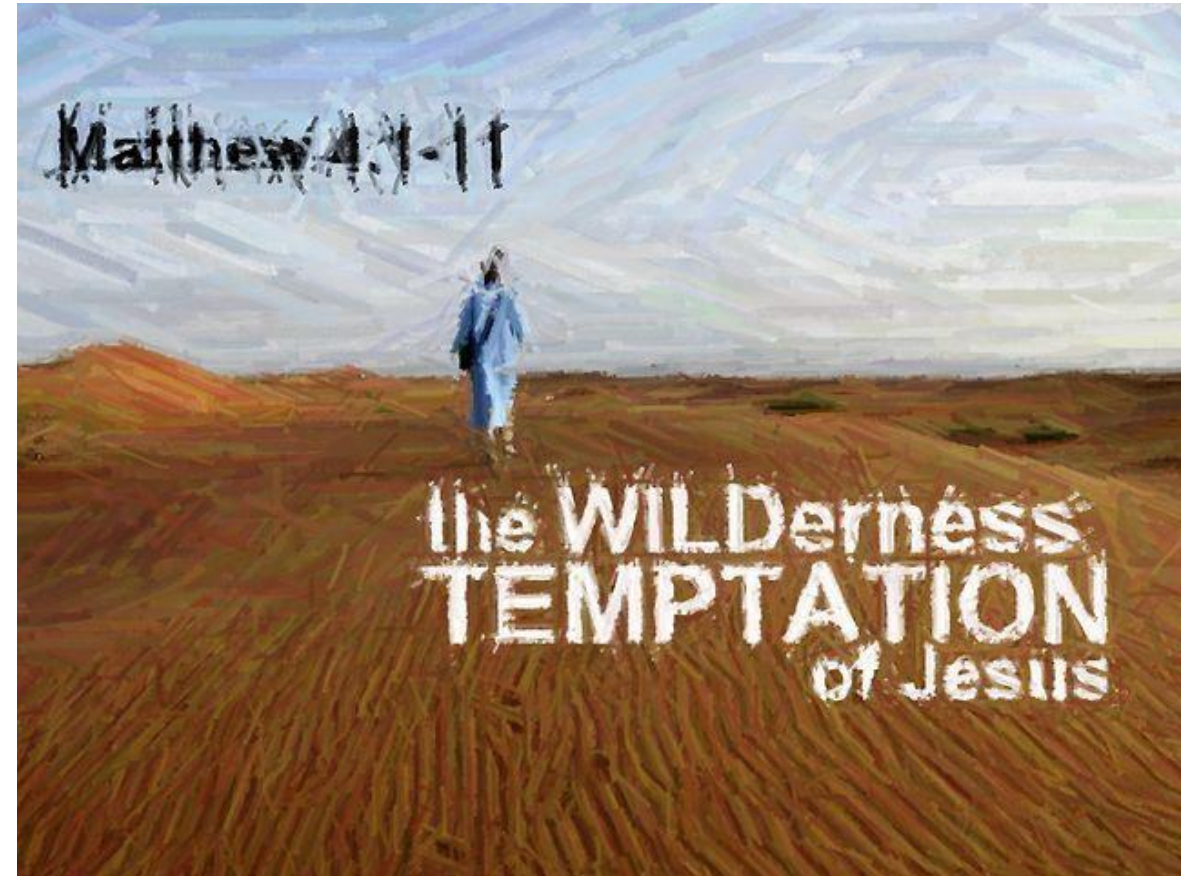
⁵ Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’ and, ‘In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not ^[a]tempt the LORD your God.’ ”

⁸ Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, ^[b]“Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”

¹¹ Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.



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