

St Andrew's and St George's West
Order of Service, 12 March 2023
A Test in the Desert



Gathering music

Welcome

Call to worship

- ¹ O come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- ² **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;**
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- ³ For the LORD is a great God
and a great King above all gods.
- ⁴ **In his hand are the depths of the earth;**
the heights of the mountains are his also.
- ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.
- ⁶ **O come, let us worship and bow down;**
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- ⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

from Psalm 95

Hymn

CH4 457 All hail the power of Jesus' name

Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven.
Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you
and also with you

Hymn

CH4 485 Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Scripture Readings (NRSV)

Exodus 8: 1-10

"The entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase and go in and occupy the land that the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. ² Remember the long way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. ³ He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ The clothes on your back did not wear out, and your feet did not swell these forty years. ⁵ Know, then, in your heart that, as a parent disciplines a child, so the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶ Therefore keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey, ⁹ a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰ You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

Anthem: Lord for thy tender mercy's sake *by* Richard Farrant

Matthew 4: 1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.' "

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Hymn

CH4 641 Seek ye first the kingdom of God

Reflection

Facing Down the Foe

Hymn

CH4 644 O Jesus, I have promised

Prayers of the People

Hymn

CH4 519 Love divine, all loves excelling

Sending and blessing

Sending music

Worship Leader: Very Rev Angus Morrison
Worship Assistant: Susan McLarty
Scripture Reader: Laura Shepherd
Organist/pianist: David Stewart

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