

OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 26, 2023

1st Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m.

***Please rise, in body or in spirit.**

Gathering Music

Brian, John, and Paul

Welcome

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Prelude

Prelude Number 3

John Holt

***Call to Worship**

Dena Roper

Leader: In many and various ways, God has spoken of old to our ancestors by the prophets.

People: **But these last days, God has spoken to us through Jesus the Christ.**

Leader: We have not a high priest, who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses.

People: **But one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sinning.**

Leader: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

All: **Let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn**

Hymn of Promise

No. 250

***Prayer for the Day (unison)**

Dena Roper

Almighty God, your son fasted for forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are but did not sin. Give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your spirit, that as you know our weaknesses so we may know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Call to Confession

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Oak Hill Community

Loving and Holy God, as we enter into the season of Lent, we consider what it means to be tempted. When we hear your words of faithful promise, but are tempted not to believe, forgive us. When we listen to voices of the crowd and the false promises of advertising, call us back again to your steadfast path. When we cannot quiet our minds or our lives long enough to be aware of your presence, unite us once more to pause in the green pastures and visit the still waters. Forgive us, God. Have mercy on us and receive us into your light and love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Time for silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Hymn

When We Are Tested

No. 783

Peace

Oak Hill Community

Time for Growing Disciples

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Anthem

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Donna Cook

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 32

Dena Roper

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Sermon

Crucial Choices

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Meditation

Meditation Number 3

John Holt

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

⁴Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying 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.’” ⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Thank you for participating today in worship with Oak Hill. Please check our website for more information and updates: www.oakhillpcusa.org.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

250 In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Hymn of Promise (Em)

Capo 3: (D)

F Gm

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7) (D)
 C7 F

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(D7) (G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (F#) (Bm)
 F7 Bb Gm F Dm Gm A Dm

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

(G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A7) (D)
 Bb Gm F Dm Gm C7 F

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning."
 Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to
 be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

TEXT and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986
 Text and Music © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

PROMISE
 8.7.8.7.D

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When We Are Tested 783

Capo 2: (Dm) (Am) (Dm) (Am)
Em Bm Em Bm

1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,

(Em) (B7) (Em) (Dsus) (D)
F#m C#7 F#m Esus E

fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the power to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,

(G) (D) (Em7) (F)
A E F#m7 G

nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,

(Am6) (C) (Dm) (Am) (E)
Bm6 D Em Bm F#

food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Although the Temptation of Christ is mentioned in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 4:1-11/Mark 1:12-13/Luke 4:1-13), this hymn is based on the Lukan version. It is notable that each stanza begins "when," not "if"; temptation is not an optional feature of the spiritual life.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1996
MUSIC: Carlton R. Young, 1996
Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1996 Abingdon Press (admin. Music Services, Brentwood, TN)

ANGELS OF HEALING
10.10.10.10

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

166

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
 2 As you with Sa - tan did con - tend and did the vic - tory
 3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas - sion -
 4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fer - ing shall be

pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
 win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con - quer sin.
 tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
 past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.

TEXT: Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873, alt.
 MUSIC: Day's *Psalter*, 1562

ST. FLAVIAN
 CM