



Doors of Hope in the Desert:

From Loneliness through Solitude to Wholeness

8:45 a.m. + February 28, 2021 + Second Sunday of Lent

*Solitude is togetherness: it is here I get together with myself, with all creation, and with being.
Apart from solitude I am scattered and fragmented.*
Anthony de Mello

Waking Up

*The breeze sat dawn have secrets to tell you -
Do not go back to sleep.
The heart door is open and bids you to enter -
Do not go back to sleep.
The two worlds are waiting.
The Journey before you.
Stay awake.*

*Stay awake, stay awake.
Stay awake, stay awake.*

The Breezes at Dawn

Invitation to the Journey

Listening to the Prophet

*That is when I will entice you to Me,
lead you through the desert, and speak to your heart.
From there I will give you back your vineyards,
and make the "Valley of Trouble" the "Door of Hope."
There you shall respond as when you were young,
when you came up out of the "place of bondage."
On that Day, says "I AM," you will no longer call me, "My Lord."
You will call me, "My Beloved.*

Hosea 2:14-16 (adapted)

The Morning Gospel

*Then Jesus came with them into a place called Gethsemane ("The Oil Press"),
and he said to the disciples,
"Sit here as I go and pray there."*

*Having taken Peter and the two sons of Zebedee,
he began to be sorrowful and to be heavy.
Then Jesus said to them,
"My soul is surrounded with sorrow, unto death.
Abide here and stay awake with me."*

Matthew 26: 36-45

*And going further a little, he fell down upon his face, praying and saying,
"My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me.
Nevertheless, not as I will but as You."*

*And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter,
"So you were not strong enough to stay awake with me for one hour?
Stay awake and pray, so that you are not pulled down during a time of testing.
Truly, the spirit is willing but the flesh is without strength."*

*Again for a second time, he went away, praying,
"My Father, if this cup cannot pass from me except I drink it, may Your will be."*

*After leaving them and going away again, he prayed for a third time, saying the same word.
Then he came to his disciples and said to them,
"Sleep on now and rest. Behold, the Hour is near."*

Meditation

Song of Response

"Quiet My Heart"

*Hear in the silence
the whispers of memory,
Be still and listen,
Be still and wait.
Wait for the Voice
that once echoed through Eden,
That speaks affirmation,
That longs to create.
The Voice in the garden, the Voice in the cloud.
The Voice in the temple, still speaks aloud.*

*Quiet my heart, till I can hear,
There are distractions ever near.
Quiet my heart, help me discern,
What are the lessons I must learn.
Quiet my heart.*

*Help me awaken
and rise up from slumber,
Shake off the darkness,
Shine with your light.
Willing to listen,
to learn, and to follow,
To love with your passion,
To see with your sight.
Help me be watchful for where I'm asleep.
Attentive and mindful. God come and speak!*

Sitting with the Psalm

*I call to mind the closeness of my Friend;
yes, I remember the joy of the Beloved's presence.
I contemplate in the Silence,
recalling how You led me along the Way.
For your Way, O Beloved, is holy,
there is no other like You!
You are the One
who will bring us to wholeness.
You manifest your Love to all
who call upon You.
With You the peoples are redeemed,
the nations brought to peace.*

Guided Reflection

Song of Response

“When My World Falls Apart”

*When my world falls apart
I will keep on believeing
Though what I believe in may falter or grow.
Throughout trials and struggles,
And questions and failings,
My faith will keep changing,
But this truth I know:*

*You are God.
You are good.
You are gracious and loving.
And I'm still discovering how wondrous you are.
If I take time to see,
I can learn more about you.
And though I may doubt you
You never doubt me.*

Centering in the Silence

During these few minutes of silence, simply rest in God's abiding and loving presence in this moment. Simply be here now. Descend into this time of solitude and silence. There is nothing you need to do. Just let go. Relax. Sense your body. Breathe deeply. If it helps, use a sacred word to help you descend into this silence (such as Shalom, Beloved, Mercy, Abba, Jesus, or Spirit) or a breath prayer, such as “Lord” (inhale) “have mercy” (exhale).

God's Transforming Love

“I Will Change Your Name”

*I will change your name,
You shall no longer be called,
Wounded, outcast,
Lonely or afraid.
I will change your name,
Your new name shall be,
Confidence, joyfulness,
Overcoming one.
Faithfulness,
Friend of God.
One who seeks my face.*

Holy Communion

Song of Response

“When My World Falls Apart”

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Though what I believe in may falter or grow.
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*You are God.
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You never doubt me.*

A Lenten Prayer of Awakening

adapted from Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim, Edward Hays

*Come, O Life-giving Creator,
and rattle the door latch
of my slumbering heart.
Awaken me as you breathe upon
a winter-wrapped earth,
gently calling to life the virgin Spring.
Awaken in these fortified days
of Lenten prayer and discipline
my youthful dream of holiness.
Call me forth from the prison camp
of my numerous past defeats
and my narrow patterns of being
to make my ordinary life extra-ordinarily alive,
through the passion of my love.
Show to me during these Lenten days
how to take the daily things of life
and, by submerging them in the sacred,
to infuse them with a great love
for you, O God, and for others.
Guide me to perform simple acts of love and prayer,
the real works of reform and renewal
of this overture to the spring of the Spirit.
O Father of Jesus, Beloved One,
help me not to waste
these precious Lenten days
of my soul’s spiritual springtime.*

Receiving a Good Word

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<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6902676>