A Lenten Wilderness Journey: The Wilderness, A Place of Rebirth

Wednesday, April 6: 7-8:30 p.m.
Children's Center, 2nd Floor Rotunda

7:00 - 7:25 p.m.

Overview: For Quiet Reflection

In Lent, we hear the Matthew story of Jesus being sent into the wilderness, after being filled with the Holy Spirit. Lent reminds us that Jesus was laid bare by the Tempter and still later attended to by Angels. Wilderness conjures many images: wild, untamed, uninhabited, expansive, dangerous, stark, unknown, overwhelming.

Tonight's reflection and discussion pose a pivotal question. Do these images of Jesus's wilderness journey spark memories of our own personal struggles that carry us forward to a rebirthed relationship with God? We gather together to seek resources and strength to embrace that journey.

SCRIPTURE:

Isaiah 43:18-19

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!

Matthew 28:2

"And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

READING: When We Long for Rebirth

Thou my source and my returning

My beginning and welcome home

Bless the path on which I journey.

Be the way that leads me on.

"In Wisdom's Path" Jan Richardson

QUESTIONS

1. Has there been a struggle or challenge in your life that has been transformative, i.e. acceptance, being at peace?

2. In what way was/has your relationship with God changed?

3. is there a current or ongoing struggle (wilderness) you face that holds this

same potential for rebirthing your faith and reframing it through a new lens?

4. How might we as a community (angels) pray for and support you in this journey?

A WILDERNESS COLLAGE

In your mind's eye, consider this sheet to be your personal white board: a blank canvas. Write a word, draw an image, or paste an imaginary photo that conjures up your **summary thought about wilderness, as being a place of renewal, rebirth and integral to your ongoing pilgrimage of faith.**

Group Discussion: Childrens Center Classroom (Neighborhood 3 & 4) at 7:25 p.m.

Please proceed to Neighborhood 3 & 4 to gather with fellow participants for tonight's discussion of the Lenten Wilderness Journey.