

READINGS LENT 4

Psalm 107: 1-7 and 33-38

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,
those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.**

Some wandered in desert wastelands,
finding no way to a city where they could settle.

**They were hungry and thirsty,
and their lives ebbed away.**

Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.

**He led them by a straight way
to a city where they could settle.**

He turned rivers into a desert,
flowing springs into thirsty ground,
**and fruitful land into a salt waste,
because of the wickedness of those who lived there.**

He turned the desert into pools of water
and the parched ground into flowing springs;
**there he brought the hungry to live,
and they founded a city where they could settle.**

They sowed fields and planted vineyards
that yielded a fruitful harvest;
**he blessed them, and their numbers greatly increased,
and he did not let their herds diminish.**

Deuteronomy 8:1-9

Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors.

² Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³ He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.

⁶ Observe the commands of the LORD your God, walking in obedience to him and revering him. ⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; ⁸ a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.