

A Deep Hunger

*He ate nothing at all during those days,
and when they were over, he was famished.*

*The devil said to him,
“If you are the Son of God,
command this stone to become a loaf of bread.”*

*Jesus answered him,
It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’*

The desert place
is born of restlessness -
a step beyond the secure,
the familiar.
No easy path,
no simple plan,
no sure promise.

And yet, the desert holds promise -
a distant horizon
beyond this dark night of the soul

*What are you journeying towards?
What are you journeying from?
What deep hunger rumbles within
you?*

In such a desert,
we hunger for an easier way -
a direct route.
In such a desert,
we wish we could turn
stones into bread.

*Take a stone. Hold it and reflect on
your inner hunger
- for your own wholeness
- for a faithful church
- for a world of peace and justice*

*Let the stone represent this hunger.
Spend a moment with God reflecting
on this hunger.
Know that only God can fulfil this
longing.*

The desert is a place in-between
the was and the not-yet
a place of emptiness and nowhere
a place where we cannot help
but be changed
by moving ahead or turning back -
a place where we may have little left
but to trust and follow.

*Take the stone with you on the journey
as a reminder that your hunger has yet
to be nourished.*