

April 1, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

# *Daily Reflections*

JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT

Photo by Alan Carrillo from Unsplash

## **I WILL BE THEIR GOD AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE**

By Sister Christine Hilliard, CSJ

### **Excerpt from Today's Reading**

*I will make with them a covenant of peace; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them, and I will multiply them, and put my sanctuary among them forever. My dwelling shall be with them; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Thus the nations shall know that it is I, the LORD, who make Israel holy, when my sanctuary shall be set up among them forever.*

**EZEKIEL 37:26-28**

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### **Reflection**

This chapter in the book of Ezekiel prepares for the restoration of the Jerusalem Temple depicted in chapters 40-48. The return of the exiles coupled with confirmation of the covenant between God and God's people is imaged as

gathering around in the Temple sanctuary: “My dwelling shall be with them; I will be their God and they shall be my people.” The word “dwelling” is associated with the “tent of meeting” set up during the wilderness wanderings. Even in the desert, where there was no stable gathering location, there was an experience of the “dwelling” of God. Living out of the covenant relationship with God and each other means being connected with, always belonging to each other: *I will be their God, they will be my people and my dwelling shall be established among them forever.*



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### For Pondering

- Recall a time when you knew yourself to be connected with God. What do you notice about how it affects your present moment? What image would describe the “connection”?
  - What do you say to God? . . . what does God say to you?
  - How would you describe God’s dwelling place today? Is it one place or many places? How often do you visit the place where God dwells? What does it offer you? What do you bring to it?
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## Closing Prayer

*Dear God,  
all the good  
I can do in this world  
will never match  
all the good  
you've done for me.  
All my acts of kindness  
will never equal  
all the kindness  
you've shown me.  
Even all the gratitude I can muster  
will never suffice  
to express  
my appreciation  
and thanks  
to you, my God.*

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