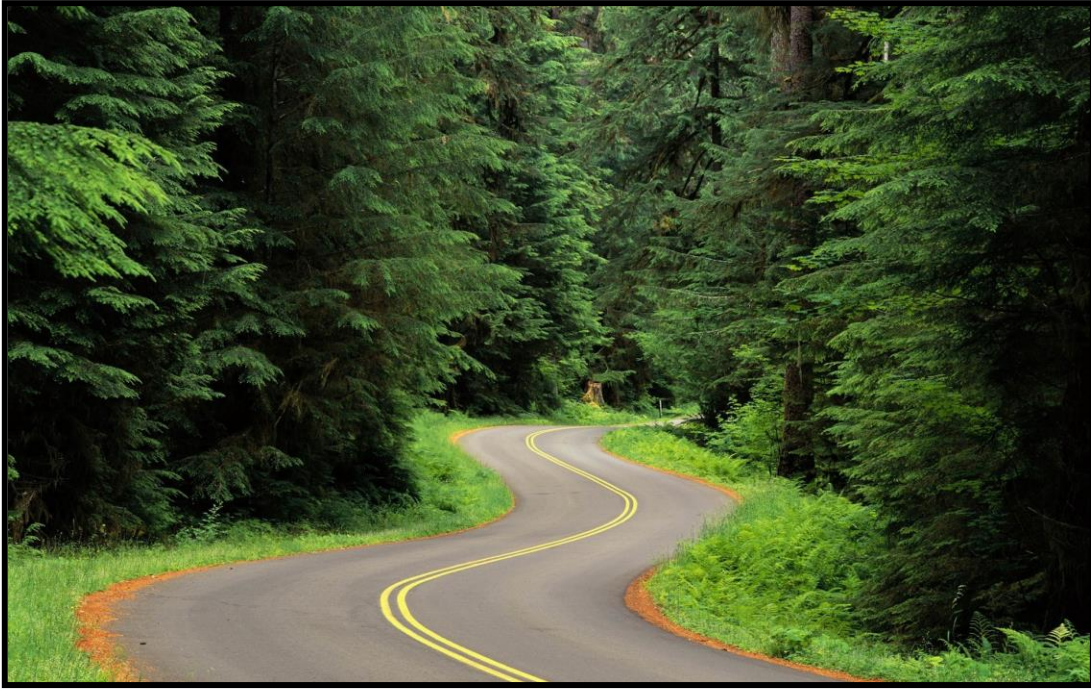


“The Long and Winding Road”: A Lenten Day of Reflection
Presenter: Clare A. D’Auria OSF

Session 1, Part 1—“The Long and Winding Road”: Being Lost



Invitation to Prayer: Luke 9: 51

*When the days for his being taken up were fulfilled,
he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem.*

Opening Song: “The Long and Winding Road”—The Beatles

*The long and winding road that leads to your door
will never disappear; I’ve seen that road before.
It always leads me here, leads me to your door.*

*The wild and windy night that the rain washed away
has left a pool of tears crying for the day.
Why leave me standing here let me know the way.*

*Many times I’ve been alone and many times I’ve cried
anyway you’ll never know the many ways I’ve tried*

*And still they lead me back to the long, winding road
you left me standing here a long, long time ago.
Don’t leave me waiting here; lead me to your door.*

*But still they lead me back to the long, winding road
you left me standing here a long, long time ago.
Don’t keep me waiting here; lead me to your door.*

Reading: “Lost”—David Wagoner

*Stand still. The trees ahead and bushes beside you
are not lost. Wherever you are is called Here,
and you must treat it as a powerful stranger,
must ask permission to know it and be known.
The forest breathes. Listen. It answers,
I have made this place around you,
if you leave it you may come back again, saying Here.
No two trees are the same to Raven.
No two branches are the same to Wren.
If what a tree or a bush does is lost on you,
you are surely lost. Stand still. The forest knows
where you are. You must let it find you.*

Guide for Reflection:

1. What is my initial response to this song? To the pictures in the slide presentation? To this reading? What word or phrase or image stirred something within my own mind or heart?
2. Have I ever **been** lost? What was that experience like for me?
3. Have I ever **felt** lost? What was that experience like for me?
4. As I reflect on my own experience, what do I want to share about my own “long and winding road”? About **being/feeling** lost? What do I need to say to God as I begin this retreat day?

Closing Prayer:

O God of our journey, we know that all of life is a journey, companioned with others. We travel as a pilgrim people—your people—on a long and winding road. On this road, we share our lives, our experiences, our hopes and our fears. On this road, we welcome other travelers to share our journey. On this road, we learn from one another; we laugh and cry with one another; we are at home with one another. And sometimes we feel lost on this road and cannot find our way.

We believe that you are present in our world and in our history. We believe that you walked with us from the beginning, in the cool of the evening and in the heat of the day. We believe that, after a long period of waiting, you became flesh in Jesus, your Word, and shared our human journey: the salt of our tears, the thrust of our dreams, and the intensity of our loves. We believe that we will never be finally lost and that, when our earthly story ends, you will come again to bring us home.

O God of our journey, companion us as we journey together this day. Walk with us in Jesus, our Brother. Amen.