

## **Monday, March 6, 2017 - Day 64 – Deuteronomy 1-3, Psalm 53, Luke 11**

Do not bring us to the test.

When warned by his partner to not break any rules, my favorite T.V. character warned his T.V. partner, 'be careful, I don't test well.'

Only a few verses later Jesus was 'driving out a devil' from a man and the people gathered 'put him to the test' asking him to prove he was of God and not Beelzebub. He seemed patient as he explained, if the spirit in this man is proclaimed by you, of the devil, and if the power of Beelzebub drove him out, His house could not stand. If you think it must be Beelzebub working against himself to drive out unclean spirits, then who are you to drive out unclean spirits? It is a classic equation, if  $a=b$  and  $b=c$  then  $a=c$ .

We have been bombarded with all matter of bad news, character assassinations, fake news and derogatory comments about anything I thought was good in the world. It seems sometimes that the 'unclean spirit' will win in the end. But if I pray with an expectant heart to the good news that God will "save us from the time of trial" and empower us to build the kingdom on earth as it is in heaven, I know better. I can see Jesus for who he has come to be – a light to shine in the darkness. I believe.

By The Very Rev. Donna Maree