

# Prayer of the wilderness

Lord of the Fast,

I come before you as a sinner  
But fully aware of your divine mercy.

Still, I need this fast.  
For only in stepping away from the things of this world  
Am I able to fathom the immeasurable gift  
That is my redemption.

Turn my nose from the scents around me  
That I may again know the sweet fragrance of Christ.  
Numb my tongue from all that allures it  
So that I may taste anew the bread of my salvation.  
Dull my touch to all sensations  
That I feel only the pulse of my heart  
longing to reconcile with my brother and my sister,  
and you, my maker.

Stop my ears from all that lure them  
So that I may hear your song of mercy  
calling me back to the embrace of my father.

Blind my eyes from all that distracts them  
So that I may gaze fully on the light of Christ.

And once we have met  
There in wilderness  
Then return me to the world.  
Send me back among your people.  
That I may fill their senses with all I have  
found in you:  
All that is good  
All that is loving  
All that is merciful.

**Amen**