



## A Prayer for 45 Years

Persistent, Uncontainable Spirit,  
In every age you have called faithful  
women,  
As you called our foremothers all those  
years ago,  
out of bondage to old ways,  
calcified traditions,  
and unjust institutions  
Into exodus in a wilderness that was as  
yet uncharted.

They did not know what they would find,  
But they knew you promised living water.  
They did not know when the journey  
would end,  
But knew you enlivened each step along  
the way.

Since that time,  
We have found the wilderness to be a  
place of unhindered growth.  
Of new forms of life and ministry  
flourishing,  
Nourishing us  
As the journey continues.

We have found ourselves,  
and found You, O God,  
among that which is untamed.  
There, we are free:  
to be priests to your people  
To speak prophetically to power  
To persist until justice abounds in the  
Church that we love.

Many have traveled on this unfinished  
path  
And have returned to the embrace of  
your arms.  
Still new sojourners arrive with fresh  
energy and hope,  
Reminding us that our continued exodus  
is a journey of promise.

We re-commit ourselves to fidelity to  
this journey  
And to the Spirit in the wilderness who  
has formed us  
So that, at the sound of our voices and  
the sight of our arms raised in prayer  
The stony institutions of patriarchy will  
crumble  
Revealing the living Body of Christ arisen  
in our varied bodies.

Wild Companion, Earth-Shaker,  
May Your fierce love continue to  
embolden us  
To share your sacramental presence so  
freely  
That the Church is drawn out of the  
sanctuary  
And into the holy wilderness with us and  
with You.

Amen.

*by Katie Lacz*