



**Ballarat Central
Uniting Congregation**
20th September 2026

Season of Creation 3
**“Outback/Wilderness
Sunday!”**



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

***WILDERNESS:
Place of Testing!***



**PROCLAMATION
OF THE WORD:**

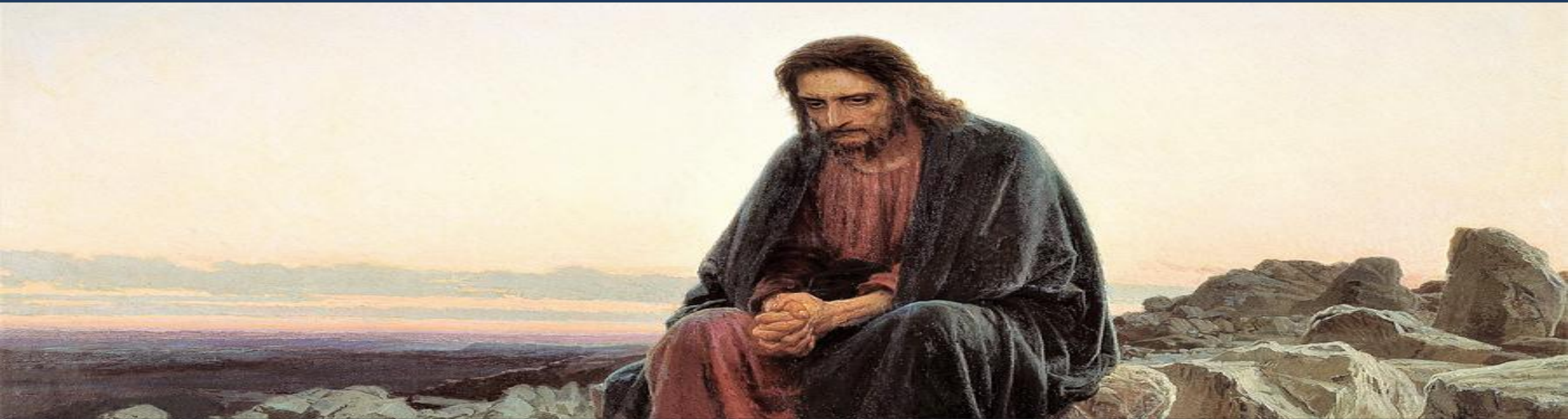
***WILDERNESS/
OUTBACK:
Place of Testing!***



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

Wilderness: Place of Testing!



**4 ¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil.
² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. (Matthew 4:1-2)**



**He fulfilled his call – missions,
ministry, death, resurrection!**

**Jesus came out from the
wilderness “stronger”!**



**The Israelites came out from
the wilderness stronger!**

**Wilderness: place for recovery,
preparation, re-inspiration ...**



**Wilderness is not a place for
punishment ...**



How was/is our wilderness?

UCA 50th Anniversary ...

First Nations People in 1788 ...

First Fleet in 1788 ...

The wildernesses today?



- **Wilderness is a place we imagine to be desolate, barren and a place without hope.**
- **Paul reminds that our human future is linked to Creation's future. We listen to the groaning and cries from Wilderness.**
- **How might our community turn toward and find hope in the wilderness?**
- **How might we imagine a new future for Creation and our connection to the Creator?**

LET US PRAY

**We are with the Wilderness.
Holy One, our kin and us thank you
for the wild, beautiful, eternally
changing world that is always
beyond our understanding.
Help us to find wonder and awe,
challenge and invitation, life
beyond death with you. Amen.**