

**March 15, 2020 8:30 & 10:45**

**The Third Sunday in Lent**

The theme for our service today is “living water.” This is what Jesus offers to the Samaritan woman whom he met at the well – water that *“wells up to eternal life for God's people”* (v. 14 NIV). Just as the Samaritan woman had exactly what Jesus needed in that moment – water – he had precisely what she needed as well, even if she didn't know it: grace and forgiveness and the promise of new life.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

\*Asterisk indicates to rise in body or spirit

**Gathering Music** **Hymnal 523 Saranam, Saranam** *Punjabi*

**Greeting**

Leader: You who are righteous, rejoice in the Lord and be glad!

**People: All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!**

*Psalm 32:11 (CEV)*

**Announcements**

\*10:45 **Introit**  John 3: 16 *Karle Erickson*

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son,

so that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: You are the salt of the earth.

**People: May we season the world with faithfulness, O God.**

Leader: You are the light of the world.

**People: May your love shine through us, O Christ our Savior.**

Leader: You are a city built on a hill.

**People: May your vigor make us bold witnesses, O Spirit of the living God.**

*Worship & Song*

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

\* **Hymnal 731 Glorious things of thee are spoken**  *Austria*

**\*Opening Prayer (in unison)**

**God of creation, your heavens and earth shout out the amazing news of your power and glory. God of justice, your laws of mercy and goodness reveal your vision of harmony for all people. God of love, your Son Jesus Christ proclaims the amazing news of your liberation for all who are hungry, poor, or oppressed. May we join with all of creation to become your message of love to the world. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

\***Worship & Song 3119 Take, O take me** *Take, O take*

**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;**

**set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

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**… TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

**\*The Sign of Peace** *Please pass the peace to your neighbors as a sign of reconciliation and love.*

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

10:45 Gathering Song *James Ritchie*

This, this is where children belong,

welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.

Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:

This is where children belong. James Ritchie ©1999 Abingdon Press

10:45 **Message for Young Disciples**

All children are invited. Please sing as children come forward. After the children’s message at the 10:45 service, children ages 3 - 3rd grade may attend **Kids Praise** in the Welcome Center. Children will be escorted to and from Kids Praise by teachers. They will return to the sanctuary near the end of the service.

**Hymnal 641 Fill my cup, Lord** *Fill my cup*

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Joeta D’Este 10:45 Bob James

**A Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures**

Exodus 17:1-7 Water from a rock

**Response**

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*Good News Acclamation:**             *James J. Chepponis*

  **Praise and honor to you. Praise and honor to you.**

**Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

\*Scripture Reading

**A Lesson from the Gospels**

John 4:5-26 Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well

**Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

**… TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TO DEDICATE OUR LIVES …**

10:45 **Offertory anthem**  *arranged by Mark Hayes*

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?

Why should my heart be lonely and long for heav’n and home when Jesus is my portion?

My constant Friend is He. His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

I sing because I’m happy. I sing because I’m free. For His eye is on the sparrow….

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise, when songs give place to sighing,

when hope within me dies, I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free.

His eye is on the sparrow…. I sing because I’m happy. I sing….

\***Hymnal** **95 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow** (standing) *Old 100th*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “Living Water” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe** in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe** in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe** in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\**The Apostles’ Creed (ecumenical version)*

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

\***Hymnal 479 Jesus, lover of my soul** (stanzas 1-3)*Aberystwyth*

\***Benediction**

\***Hymnal 479 Jesus, lover of my soul** (stanza 4)*Aberystwyth*

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers on the altar** are given in loving memory of our friend Elizabeth Yost by Cindy and Kathleen.

**The flowers in the chancel** are given by John and Shirley Baker in loving memory of Shirley's parents, William and Myrtle English. Elizabeth Baker is their granddaughter.

**Greeters 8:30** Rob and Jane Spicher **10:45** Frances Graham

**Special Music at 10:45** is provided by the Chancel Choir, conducted by Richard Minnotte.

**Acolytes** Abby Purtill and Vivienne Volek **Cross Bearer** Kenneth Hendrata

**Worship options for children** We encourage children to participate in the **Children’s Sermon** at both services, and in **Kids Praise** during the 10:45 service. **Nursery services** are offered in Room 204 of the Education Building. Ask ushers or greeters and follow signs for direction.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Exodus 17:1-7**

17From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” 3But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” 4So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” 5The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

**John 4:5-26**

5So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. 7A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” 8(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) 9The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) 10Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” 11The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” 13Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” 15The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” 16Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” 17The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; 18for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” 19The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” 21Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. 24God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” 25The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” 26Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Ed Clarke, Asbury Heights

May Frederick, Baptist Home

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Woody Kimmel, Providence Point

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Doris Trimble, Providence Point

Olivia Woods, Baptist Manor

Anne Hoffman, Friendship Village

Dave Lewis, Manor Care Whitehall

**Convalescing at Home**

Bishop George Bashore,

Jean Boyer, Mary Caldwell,

Joseph Festor, Ezra Gibson,

Steve Howard, Susan Lichtenfels,

George Lindow, Carol Van Sickle,

Arlene Stewart, Peyton Wisterman

**In the Military**

Jason Boyer, SPC Natalie Brown,

**Maj. Zachary Allen Finch, USMC,**James Iantelli, 1st Lt. Jaskiewicz,   
S. Sgt. Keith Kimmell,

Sgt. Brendan Lamport,

Matt Lewis, USMC,

Sgt. Matthew McConahan, Thomas Orda,  
David Poncel, Sgt. Steven Reitz,   
Capt. Scott B. Rushe, Pastor Rick Townes,   
Maj. Azizi Wesmiller,

Maj. Matthew C. Wesmiller,  
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski,

Sgt Michael Zimmerman

**Podcasts of Sunday Sermons**  Catch up on messages from MLUMC with a podcast of Pastor Tom’s and others’ Sunday sermons. Sermons can be found at http://mlumc.buzzsprout.com or navigate to the site from the link on our webpage, [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org). Sermons also will be posted to iTunes. Full recordings of the service are available upon request.

**Honor or remember a loved one with a flower donation.** The flowers that grace the sanctuary each week are generously donated by our church family members. This is a great way to honor or memorialize a special person, event, or milestone in your personal life or in the life of the church. If you are interested in donating flowers on a particular Sunday, contact Lizzie Diller , 412-860-3614. The cost is $33 for the altar, narthex, or columbarium, and $66 for the chancel.

**Interested in Church Membership? Questions about *The Gathering?*** The church is organizing its next new members’ orientation class. If interested, please send an email to Pastor Strandburg at tstrandburg@mlumc.org .

Questions about our new service, ***The Gathering?*** Contact Pastor Scott Miller at smiller@mlumc.org

**Small Groups - Gifts of the Spirit** During Lent, the congregation has had two opportunities to join small groups to learn more about Gifts of the Spirit, our church’s theme for 2020. One group, led by John Esaias, will have its final meeting on Wednesday from 2 - 3:30 in Brookline Parlor on April 1. The other group, led by Clark Remington, will meet for the last time on Wednesday from 7 - 8:30 in Brookline Parlor on March 18.

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, MARCH 15 THRU SATURDAY, MARCH 21**

**SUNDAY 3/15 Girl Scout Cookie Sale 8 am – 12:30 pm**

8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

8:30 am The Gathering Asbury

9:30 am Sunday School Various

10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

10:45 am Kids Praise Welcome Center

11:45 am Youth Choir Choir Room

5 pm Youth Group Wesley

6:30 pm Eagle Board of Review Various

**MONDAY 3/16**

7 pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

7:30 pm Community Events & Outreach Meeting Wesley

**TUESDAY 3/17**

11 am Program Staff Meeting Pastor’s Office

6 pm Terrific Tuesday Asbury

7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley

**WEDNESDAY 3/18**

7 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting Wesley

7 pm Small Groups/Gifts of the Spirit(Clark Remington) Brookline Parlor

7 pm Trustees Meeting Welcome Center

**THURSDAY 3/19**

6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**SATURDAY 3/21**

10 am Food Pantry/Food Lift Free Market Food Pantry