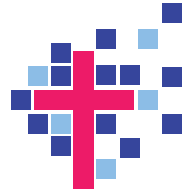


Third
Sunday
in LENT



Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*



In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.



WELCOME

Pastor Dave Thomas

PRELUDE

Dean Robinson, organist

Herzlich tut mich verlangen, BWV 727 – J. S. Bach

↑ OPENING LITANY

P We are thirsty, Lord. Thirsty for you. Thirsty for your goodness. Thirsty for your grace.

C Quench our thirst, Living Water.

P We thirst to be known for all we are. We thirst to be loved, welcomed, and renewed.

C Quench our thirst, Living Water.

P We thirst for fellowship one with another. We thirst for peace among all people.

C Quench our thirst, Living Water.

P We thirst for an end to this viral epidemic. We thirst for health for all. We thirst for healing for the sick, and comfort for those who mourn.

C Quench our thirst, Living Water.

P We thirst for your presence and your peace. We worship you now, believing your promise to be with us always.

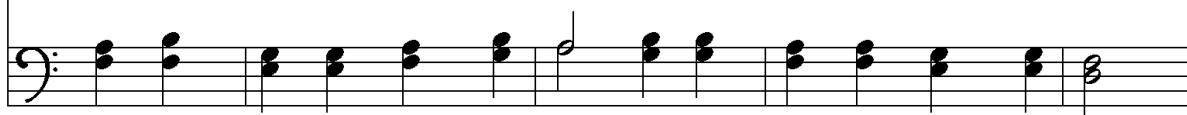
C Quench our thirst, Living Water.

P We pray...O God, you are great, a King above all others. You are the source of the waters of the earth – of oceans and rivers, of lakes and icecaps, or clouds and sky. As you bless the land with the rain that brings life, pour out upon us once more your life-giving Spirit, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified...

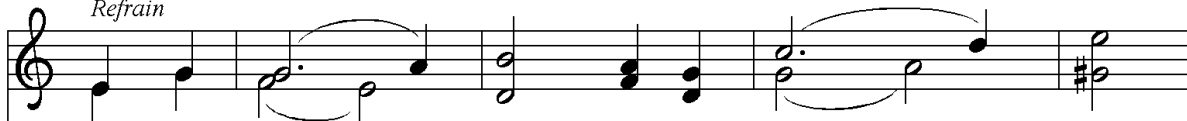
C One God, now and forever. Amen.

Give Me Jesus

1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
 2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
 3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
 4 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
 dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
 just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
 and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

*Refrain*

Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.





THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7 (NRSV)

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the Lord among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.

¹From 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?”

THE PSALM

Psalm 95 (NRSV)

Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. (Ps. 95:1)

- ¹Come, let us sing | to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
- ²**Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.**
- ³For you, Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
- ⁴**In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**
- ⁵The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
- ⁶**Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker.**
- ⁷For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture
and the sheep | of God's hand.
Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!
- ⁸**"Harden | not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**
- ⁹There your ancestors | tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.
- ¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.'**
- ¹¹Indeed I swore | in my anger,
'They shall never come | to my rest.' "

THE SECOND LESSON

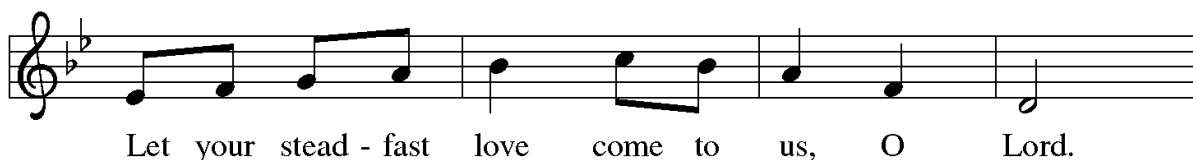
Romans 5:1-11 (NRSV)

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



↑ THE GOSPEL

John 4:5-42 (NRSV)

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

⁵[Jesus] 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."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"

SERMON

Pastor Dave Thomas

Drinking In Grace

OFFERING

Dean Robinson, organist

Be Thou My Vision – ELW #793

↑ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends, "Hear us, O God."

To which the congregation responds, "**Your mercy is great.**"

↑ THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray, as our Lord taught:

**C 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;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

↑ BENEDICTION

P May the peace of the Lord be with you to comfort and console you.
May you live in peace one with another and with all people.
May we be peacemakers and grace givers.
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.



Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;

praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
 praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
 Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.

Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
 Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.

calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
 from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
 Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813
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↑ SENT TO SERVE

P Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you."

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:

C **Worship God,**
Grow in Faith,
Share the Gospel,
Serve Others,
Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!