

Worship Leader Edition
Stewardship of God's Love

April 25, 2021

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Rob*)

LITANY FOR NEIGHBORS (*Rob*)

L: Christ, you taught us the keys to life,

C: the great commandments:

L: Love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength:

C: love our neighbors as ourselves.

L: We are asked to love Love

C: and to serve Love.

L: Teach us what this means, oh God,

C: and help us to do it well.

L: So fill us with love, oh God,

C: and awakened by Love,

L: let our eyes never veer from Love,

C: our hearts never stray from Love,

L: our minds be fixed on Love,

C: our bodies dedicated to Love's service.

L: And as we do the work of learning to accept and love ourselves,

C: let us also accept and love our neighbors.

L: For these are our neighbor and our family:

C: the poor, the lonely, the sick, the prisoner, the flawed and downtrodden.

L: Love is who and whose we are.

C: And love is what we do. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty"
Verses 1, 3 & 4

ELW #777

Verse 1

Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty;
Drink, the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer,
You would come to me and live.

Refrain

Jesus, ever flowing fountain,
Give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer
There is joy no tongue can tell.

Verse 3

Come to me, believers burdened;
Find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer,
Turn to me and seek my face.

Refrain

Verse 4

Come to me, repentant sinners;
Leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion,
Turn to me, I call your name.

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Assistant*)

L: Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING (*Mark Bergherr*)

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 4:1-29

L: The Holy Gospel according to John

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, ‘Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John’— although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink’. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The 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.) Jesus 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.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?’ Jesus said to her, ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but 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.’ The 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.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Go, call your husband, and come back.’ The woman answered him, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You are right in saying, “I have no husband”; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’ Just 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?’ Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

Vicar Stephanie Luedtke

HYMN OF THE DAY

“As the Deer Runs to the River”

ELW #331

Verses 1 & 4

Verse 1

As the deer runs to the river,
Parched and weary from the chase,
We have come from hurt and hurry,
Thirsting for your healing grace.

Refrain

Jesus, source of living water,
May we drink of you and live!

Verse 4

Christ, we come from desert places,
Deepest thirst unsatisfied.

Lead us to the waters flowing
From the cross on which you died.

Refrain

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Assistant*)

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Assistant*)

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

L: Risen Lord,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Assistant*)

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.

SENDING

SHARING OF THE PEACE (*Rob*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you!

Please share of wave of peace with one another.

COUNCIL INTRODUCTION – Nancee Erickson, Worship & Music

SERVICE OF SENDING/BLESSING FOR VICAR STEPHANIE LUEDTKE

L: People of God, members and friends of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, do you release Stephanie Luedtke from service as your vicar? **C: We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.**

L: Stephanie, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with St. Luke's Lutheran Church?

V: I do, and I give thanks to God for your ministry together.

L: Let us pray. Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of Vicar Stephanie Luedtke among the people of God in this place. You watch over our going out and our coming in: Bless this time of ending and beginning. You surround your people in every time and place: Keep us close in your love. You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial: Prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together, Heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us. Help Vicar Stephanie and her family and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future. As they have been a blessing to us, so now send them forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

BENEDICTION (*Rob*)

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

ELW #669

Verse 1

Rise up, O saints of God!
From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts
With nobler zeal might burn.

Verse 2

Speak out, O saints of God!
Despair engulfs earth's frame;
As heirs of God's baptismal grace,
The word of hope proclaim.

Verse 3

Rise up, O saints of God!
The kingdom's task embrace;

Redress sin's cruel consequence;
Give justice larger place.

Verse 4

Give heed, O saints of God!
Creation cries in pain;
Stretch forth your hand of healing now,
With love and weak sustain.

Verse 5

Commit your hearts to seek
The paths which Christ has trod;
And, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,
Rise up, O saints of God!

DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE