

*Introduction to the day:* 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.

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

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### **WELCOME**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** (ELW p. 94)

*We examine ourselves and publicly confess our sins. Such a confession at the beginning of the gathering provides a climate of acceptance. In spite of our sins, we are accepted by God, and in turn we can accept each other.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who is present, who gives life,  
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**Amen.**

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned away from you,  
knowingly and unknowingly.**

**We have wandered from your resurrection life.**

**We have strayed from your love for all people.**

**Turn us back to you, O God.**

**Give us new hearts and right spirits,**

**that we may find what is pleasing to you  
and dwell in your house forever.**

**Amen.**

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.

“I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God.

All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ,

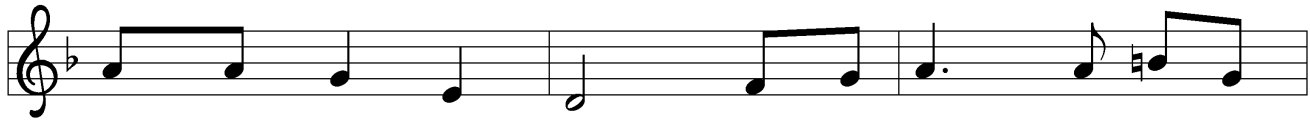
who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG** *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery* (ELW 334)



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your  
2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed  
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of  
on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and  
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you  
bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the  
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.  
bod - y of our Lord.  
riv - er, you the sea.

*May be sung on Lent 3 as final verse*

Living Water of salvation,  
be the fountain of each soul;  
springing up in new creation,  
flow in us and make us whole.

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

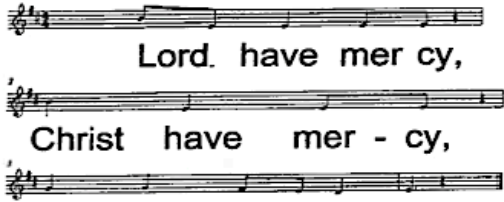
**KYRIE** *Kyrie* (ELW p. 138)

*Kyrie Eleison* is Greek for "Lord, Have Mercy." The *Kyrie* is simultaneously a series of petitions and prayers of thanksgiving for what God has done, what God is doing, and what God will continue to do.

*music & lyrics on next page*

Leader  
In peace, let us pray  
to the Lord

CONGREGATION



Lord. have mer cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader  
For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation, let us pray  
to the Lord

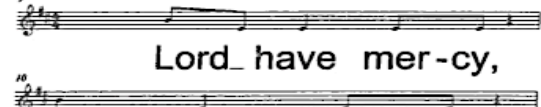
CONGREGATION



Lord\_ have mer- cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader  
For peace in the world,  
for the health of God's church,  
and for all unity, let us pray  
to the Lord


CONGREGATION



Lord\_ have mer-cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader  
For this holy house,  
and we who offer praise, let us pray  
to the Lord

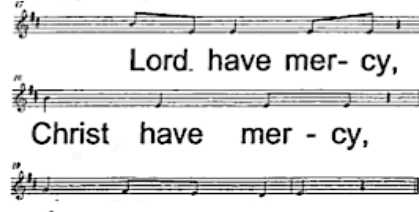
CONGREGATION



Lord\_ have mer cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader  
Help, save, comfort and defend us,  
gracious Lord

CONGREGATION



Lord. have mer- cy,  
Christ have mer - cy,  
A - - - - - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 215)

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.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

*We are a people with a high view of the Bible's inspiration and authority. God's word shapes and forms how we live. The public reading of Scripture is an indispensable part of worship.*

*For each Sunday, four readings are suggested: one each from the Old Testament, the Psalms, the New Testament letters, and the Gospels.*

## **FIRST READING:** Exodus 17:1-7

*A reading from Exodus.*

<sup>1</sup>From 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. <sup>2</sup>The 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?" <sup>3</sup>But 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?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The 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. <sup>6</sup>I 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. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM:** Psalm 95

<sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup>**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup>For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

<sup>4</sup>**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup>**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

<sup>7</sup>For 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!

<sup>8</sup>**"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup>There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

<sup>10</sup>**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,**

**'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**

<sup>11</sup>Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.'

## **KIDS' MESSAGE**

## **SECOND READING:** Romans 5:1-11

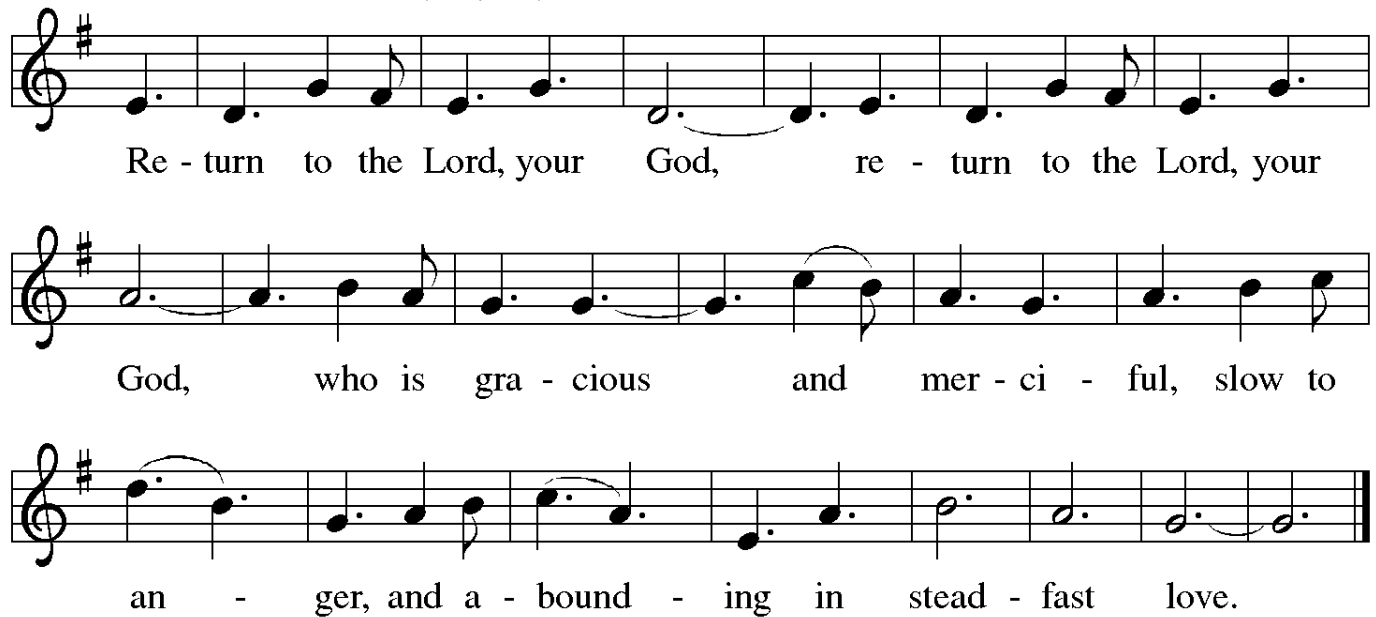
*A reading from Romans.*

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and 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.

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

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (ELW p. 216)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your  
 God, who is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful, slow to  
 an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**GOSPEL:** John 4:5-42

The holy gospel according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>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.) <sup>10</sup>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.” <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>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.” <sup>15</sup>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.”

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But 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. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup>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.” <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup>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?” <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*The pastor uses the lessons to apply God’s word to our daily life.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (THIRD MODE MELODY)* (ELW 332)

*music & lyrics on next page*



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

## CREED

*This creed is called the Apostles' Creed not because it was produced by the apostles themselves but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings.*

In this Epiphany Season, let us join with Christians throughout the world in confessing our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of living water, send your church beyond boundaries to proclaim your grace. May its witness be a source of refreshment for thirsty souls. Strengthen our voices, that all people can know and believe that Jesus is truly the savior of the world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of living water, protect from pollution or misuse all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams especially Folsom Lake, the American River, and the Delta. Bless the work of those who dig wells and those who advocate for access to clean water, that all people and animals have enough to drink. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of living water, open the hearts of leaders and authorities, that they hear the cries of the suffering and act with compassion toward them. Bring peace to disputed lands and bring reconciliation to people divided by race, culture, or nationality. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of living water, mend the hearts of those who grieve broken relationships, whether by conflict, abuse, divorce, or death. Draw near to all who are ill especially those suffering from the effects of the coronavirus or other difficult diseases. Assure those questioning your presence in the midst of doubt or suffering. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of living water, renew us in the promises of baptism. Join us together in worship, fellowship, and sharing your good news. Embolden us to serve others and to work for justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of living water, be with our Call Committee as they move into the next phase of their work. Give them patient and discerning hearts as they begin interviewing pastoral candidates. Be with all of our congregational leadership as they navigate our community through these uncertain times. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of living water, we thank you for those who endured suffering and who now boast in the glory of God. Pour your Holy Spirit into our hearts and give us peace as we live in the hope of our salvation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

*We express forgiveness and unity to, and for, one another as we prepare to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**



# THANKSGIVING

*We remember that God is the source of all things*

## OFFERING

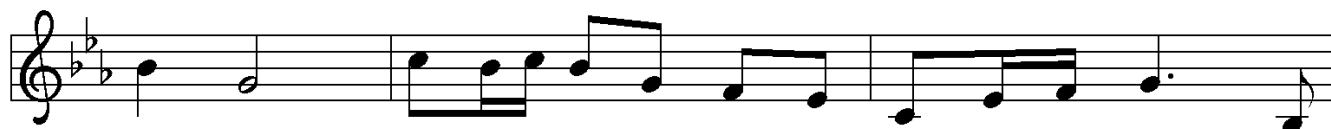
*We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us.*

## OFFERING SONG

*Let the Vineyards be Fruitful* (ELW 184)



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD (ELW p. 220)

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER** (ELW p. 221)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

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## **BLESSING**

*God sends us forth with blessings*

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ✠ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

**Amen.**

## **CELEBRATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please read through the final bulletin pages to see information on upcoming celebrations, events and ministry team activities. We encourage you to share your gifts with the congregation with these options.*

## **SENDING SONG** (ELW p. 222)

*music & lyrics on next page*

F Dm B♭ F F/C C

1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross— there a pre - cious foun - tain,  
 2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
 3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
 4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

**CHORUS**

5 F Dm B♭ F/C C F F

free to all, a heal - ing stream, flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain. In the cross,  
 There the Bright and Morn - ing Star sheds its beams a - round me.  
 Help me walk from day to day with its shad - ows o'er me.  
 till I reach the gold - en strand, just be - yond the riv - er.

10 B♭ F F/C C F A/E

in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er, Till my rap - tured

14 Dm B♭ F/C C F

soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**