

# Sunday, March 19, 2017

## Third Sunday in Lent



### **BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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### **Pastor Terry Frovik, Interim**

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Church Secretary: Mary Braun & Jenny Schuett

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

### ***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH*

*we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS*

*we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.*

**Hearing Assistance is available during the service.**

**Please notify usher if you would like assistance**

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**INTRODUCTION**

*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.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN: “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”**

**#335 ELW**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the words of a reformation hymn, let us confess our sin before God.

**Amen.**

Out of the depths I cry to you;

**O Lord God, hear me calling. Incline your ear to my distress in spite of my rebelling. Do not regard my sinful deeds. Send me the grace my spirit needs.**

**Without it I am nothing. Amen.**

In God alone, in God we hope, and not in our own merit. We hope as Israel in the Lord, who sends redemption through the ✝ Word. Praise God for grace and mercy!

**Amen.**

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**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.**

*Please be seated*

**PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM:**

**“10,00 Reasons”**

## **First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7**

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put the Lord to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to the Lord. The Lord 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.*

<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**

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

<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.’ □”

## **Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11**

*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.*

<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**

*Please rise for the Reading of the Gospel*

## **Gospel: John 4:5-42**

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

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

<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**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” #618 ELW**

*Please be Seated*

**SERMON**

**“The Lord’s Prayer”**

**APOSTLE’S 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 into hell. 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**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence*

O God, let your church on earth, justified and reconciled through Jesus Christ, be bold in its proclamation of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In your hands are the depths of the earth and the sea which you made. Make us faithful inhabitants of this earth, caring for the waterways and their creatures. (*Local water sources may be named.*) Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lead the nations of the world away from the wilderness of sin and evil, and toward the light of love and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

To those who are thirsty for love, for justice, for peace, for belonging, give the water of life. For those who are suffering or in pain, bring healing balm and peace. (*We pray especially for . . .*) Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lead this congregation in service to others. Embolden the faithful here with your promise and your presence. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for the witness and testimony of the saints who have gone before us into eternal life (*especially Joseph, guardian of Jesus*). Let us boast in the hope they have shared, a hope that does not disappoint us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

*Ushers will begin passing the offering plate. Please rise as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Merciful God,

**receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **LORDS PRAYER - LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM**

**COMMUNION - *Distribution by intinction.***

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

## **BLESSING**

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. 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. **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" #325 ELW**

**DISMISSAL**

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship! Please come again.**

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: The Praise Choir                      Greeters: Bev Wedig, Darrel Kelly  
Ushers: Wally & Bev Swenson              Lectors: Steve Lackner, Sheila Penoyer, Val Benton  
Hospitality Hosts: Dianne & Del Jones

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week:

Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>: 9:00am: 64    Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>: 6:30pm 21

**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA**

March 20 thru March 26

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Monday	3/20	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	3/21	10-noon	Pastor Text Study
		5:30 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday	3/22	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		5:30 pm	Pot Luck - Table Talk "The Lord's Prayer"
		6:30 pm	Lenten Worship
		7:30 pm	Praise Team practice
Thursday	3/23	8:00 am	Romeos
		12:30 pm	Funtimers
Friday	3/24	10:00 am	Bones
Sunday	3/26	9:00 am	Worship

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ATTENDANCE REGISTRY** Please sign and pass the new attendance registry folders which you will find in the pew.

**REFORMATION 500 – LUTHER’S SMALL CATECHISM**

Wednesday's in Lent  
Sunday's in Lent                      5:30pm Potluck/Table Talk  
9:00am Service                      6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer

March 19    The Lord's Prayer                      March 22    TheLord's Prayer  
March 26    Holy Baptism                              March 29    Holy Baptism  
April 2      Holy communion                         April 5      Holy Communion



