

Dear members of God's family:

Because of our joint concern about the present epidemic, worship has been cancelled at Resurrection this coming Sunday. Because we cannot meet together face-to-face, here is a resource to help you join us all in shared prayer. Please be careful yourselves. And do pray together with all of us for our needy world.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Gordon Lathrop

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Third Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2020
Our Common Prayer at Home**

One Person may pray the PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

Then the readings for this Sunday may be read, as follows

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

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?”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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PSALM 95 may be read in response to the First Reading:

- ¹Come, let us sing | to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
- ²Let 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.

⁴In 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.
⁶Come, 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.
¹⁰Forty 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."

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-5

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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

The holy gospel according to John, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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?"³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his

work. ³⁵Do 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. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They 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.

Having read these readings, think of this:

We are all the woman of Samaria, a woman thirsty for hope and life. Our baptism identifies us with all such thirsty people. By seeing ourselves together with her, we also see the meaning of our baptism into the living water given by Christ: by his gift, from the cross and today in worship, we and all the needy ones are given the reliable water to drink. He is the Rock from whom we slake our thirst. He is the source of the Spirit poured into our hearts.

If you have a hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, you might now read or sing:

Hymn #331

“As the Deer Runs to the River”

Then you might pray together these prayers for our church and world:

As we gather together and separately in our homes, let us pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with the words “Your mercy is great.”

A brief silence.

Gathered in the mystery of our baptism, O God, we pray
for Christians around the globe keeping Lent
for Christians who must stop holding Sunday services
for all church-sponsored hospitals and clinics
for our congregation as it readies for our full-time pastor. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, faithful God: **Your mercy is great.**

Facing global climate change, we pray
for animals and plants with threatened habitats
for waters that are polluted
for areas that suffer from climate-based drought. . . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, creator God: **Your mercy is great.**

Facing violence throughout the world, we pray
for the United Nations and all efforts toward world peace
for all who serve in their nation's armed forces
for the people of Syria, Afghanistan, and Yemen
for those maimed by war and terrorism
for displaced families
for traumatized children. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, sovereign God: **Your mercy is great.**

Remembering the story of the woman at the well
and facing the needs of countless of the world's women, we pray
for the women who still must walk daily for the family's water
for the women who suffer sexual attack
for the abandoned widows of jihadist fighters
for the women who receive less pay for their work. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, mothering God: **Your mercy is great.**

Facing the coronavirus, we pray
for the thousands who have contracted the virus
for all who are quarantined or stranded away from home
for those who have lost their employment
for those who are fearful
for children who have no school

for health professionals
for medical researchers
for the World Health Organization
for adequate and wise governmental policies. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, benevolent God: **Your mercy is great.**

Remembering all the sick, we pray
for all who today will die
for those who are hospitalized
for those who have no access to medical care
for Nathan Linman, Barb Jensen, Jack Mulloy,
for those whom we remember before you now:

A brief silence.

Hear us, compassionate God: **Your mercy is great.**

We make bold to pray for the secrets of our hearts:

A brief silence.

Hear us, loving God: **Your mercy is great.**

Honoring those who have died in the faith, we offer our thanks for
for St. Patrick, for St. Joseph, for Thomas Cranmer,
and those we remember before you now.

A brief silence.

Hear us, eternal God: **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, God of loving might,
we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy,
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen

**IF YOU HAVE A HYMNAL, YOU MAY CONCLUDE BY READING OR
SINGING**

HYMN, #332

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

THEN CONCLUDE WITH THESE PRAYERS:

LET US PRAY,

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of Baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
And deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours,
Now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

Amen.

Readings for the Week:

Monday Psalm 81. **Tuesday** (commemoration of Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461) 1 Corinthians 10:1-4. **Wednesday** John 7:14-31, 37-39. **Thursday** (Joseph, Guardian of Jesus) Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a. **Friday** Ephesians 5:1-9. **Saturday** (commemoration of Thomas

Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556) 1 Samuel 15:32-34. **Fourth Sunday in Lent** (commemoration of Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, died 1758) 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.