

You are the source of all living water, and we call upon your eternal righteousness today.

**Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever, Amen.*

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** O, I Want to Know You More Duet, Stefen Kane, Tenor

**\*Doxology #607**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

*Gracious God, you are a well that does not run dry. You never tire of giving good gifts  
to your children. And in response, we bring our offerings to be used to support our  
faith community and to participate in heaven's love and justice work. Bless and  
multiply these gifts today, and use them for your glory. Amen*

— Sending —

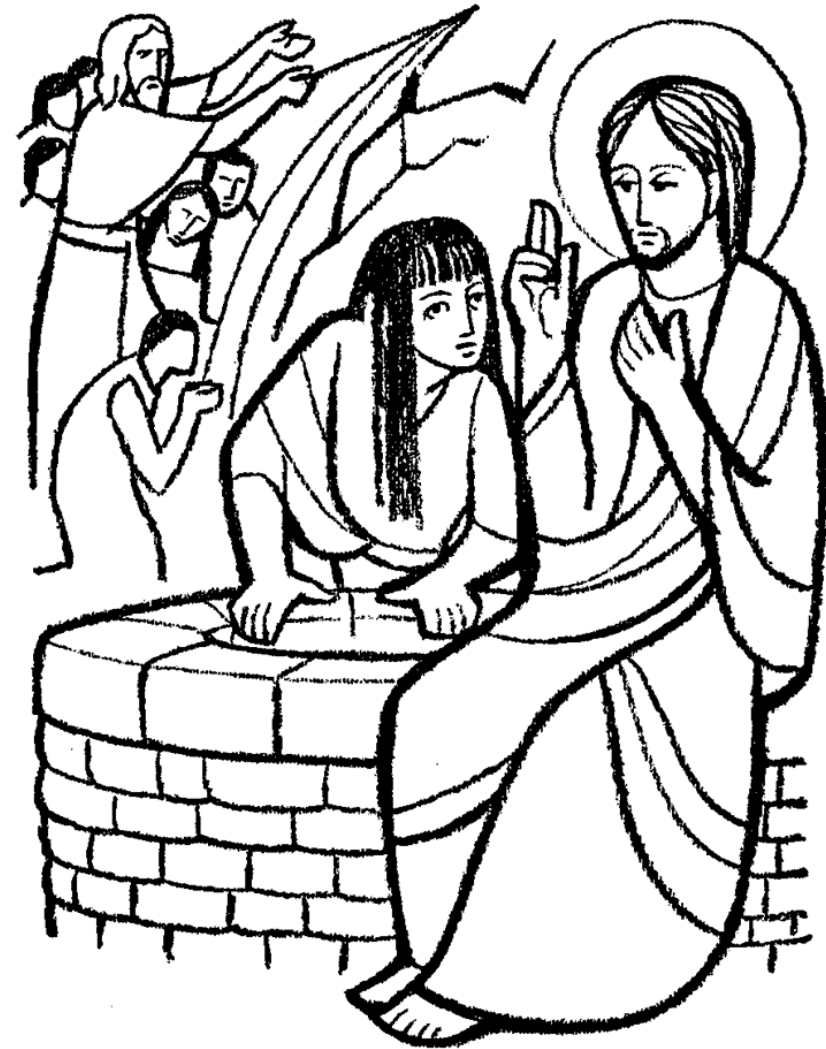
**\*Hymn #614** Great Is the Lord (Great Are You, Lord)

**\*Charge and Benediction - Michele**

Siblings in Christ, you have come to the fountain, and you have received the living water. Go forth into the world, bringing water to the thirsty and welcome to the lonely. May you be saturated in peace, and drenched in love. **Amen.**

**POSTLUDE** Fill My Cup, Lord Joshua Allen

*You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.*



**First  
Presbyterian  
Church**  
Henderson, Texas



*Serving God,  
Honoring Creation,  
Embracing Differences*



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
HENDERSON, TX**

**3rd Sunday in Lent  
March 12, 2023**

(\*) Please rise in body or in spirit  
*Bold Italic Letters* indicate congregational response

— *Gathering* —

**Come Just As You Are**

Ensemble

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

Rev. Michele Goff

**\*OPENING SENTENCES**

Liturgist: John Hillin

Calling all travelers, pilgrims, and wanderers—

***We come to drink from the fountain of blessing.***

Gather, you siblings of God's family and servants of Christ.

***We come to rest by the fountain of blessing.***

Living water is available for all who are thirsty.

***We come to be restored at the fountain of blessing.***

Christ is the spring of everlasting life.

***We come to be healed by the fountain of blessing.***

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**\*HYMN #65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

**CONFESSION**

Creator God, you gave us vast stretches of open oceans. Forgive us for polluting and overfishing them. You gave us rivers that replenish our soil and sustain our wildlife.

Forgive us for contaminating them. You gave us the wisdom and knowledge to purify our household water. Forgive us for wasting it. Forgive us for bottling it.

Forgive us for allowing some to go without it. You gave us enough clean water for all people. Forgive us for hoarding it. You gave us areas of abundant rain and grassy lands. Forgive us for trying to recreate those places in the desert. You gave us massive ice caps that keep our planet healthy. Forgive us for melting them. You gave us rain to saturate the land in cycles and seasons. Forgive us for paving over the soil and rejecting your gift. You gave us Jesus, living water and God-with-us. Forgive us for living in a scarcity mindset, instead of resting upon his abundant and everlasting love for us. We ask these things on behalf of ourselves, our communities, our leaders, and our world. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The God who created the waters of baptism is faithful to cleanse our hearts and spirits when we confess our sins. Begin again, knowing there is healing and restoration to be found in the living water of Jesus. ***Thanks be to God.***

**\*Gloria #581**

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;***

***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.***

— *Word* —

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST TESTAMENT READING**

Exodus 17:1-7

Bible p. 61, LG p. 79-80

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

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

**SECOND TESTAMENT READING**

Romans 5:1-11

Bible p. 145, LG p. 188-189

Hear God's word for us.

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

**GOSPEL**

John 4:3-42

Bible p. 89-90, LG p. 115-116

Hear God's wisdom for us.

We proclaim Christ crucified—the wisdom and power of God. ***Thanks be to God.***

**SERMON**

**Challenged at the Well**

Rev. Michele Goff

**ASCRPTION OF PRAISE**

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we bend our knees and lift up our hearts, giving glory to God forever. **Amen.**

— *Response* —

**\*HYMN #833**

**O, Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21*

***The reconciling work of Jesus***

***was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.***

***His cross and resurrection become personal crisis***

***and present hope for women and men***

***when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.***

***In this experience,***

***the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,***

***moves people to respond in faith,***

***repentance, and obedience,***

***and initiates the new life in Christ.***

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God our loving parent, today we lift up to your mercy those who are thirsty, those who are made to feel invisible, and those who have the power to make a difference.

... Guide us in ways that we might make a difference on behalf of those who do not have clean water. ***Lord, hear the prayers of those who are thirsty.***

... Use the witness and testimony of our faith community to proclaim the truth to those in power. ***Lord, hear the prayers of those who live at the mercy of corporations, governments, and businesses.***

... Help us carry our siblings in Christ into community, to reach out and to be present.

***Lord, hear the prayers of those who feel invisible.***