VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



Third Sunday in Lent March 12, 2023 10:30 AM Worship

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PRELUDE: Dinah Helgeson

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Patte Wagner, Lay Leader

Pastor (P): Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Rev. Wayne Bacus

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence for reflection

P: Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, + forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn (next page):

ELW, #658

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts



Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt. Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

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

KYRIE (next page):

Congregation sings refrains

Nancy Lee Spears, Cantor



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: 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.**Congregation may be seated

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

L: A reading from Exodus, Chapter 17.

L: 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. 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?" 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?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." 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. 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. He 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.**

PSALM: Psalm 95

Nancy Lee Spears, Cantor



Come, let us sing to the LORD; *let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving

*and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.

For you, LORD, | are a great God, *and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth; *the heights of the hills are also yours.

The sea is yours, | for you made it, *and your hands have molded | the dry land.

Come, let us worship and bow down, *let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

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!

"Harden | not your hearts, *as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.

There your ancestors | tested me, *they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.

Forty years I loathed that gener- ation, saying,

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

Indeed I swore in my anger, *'They shall never come to my rest.'"

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

Elise Ericksen, Lector

L: A reading from Romans, Chapter 5.

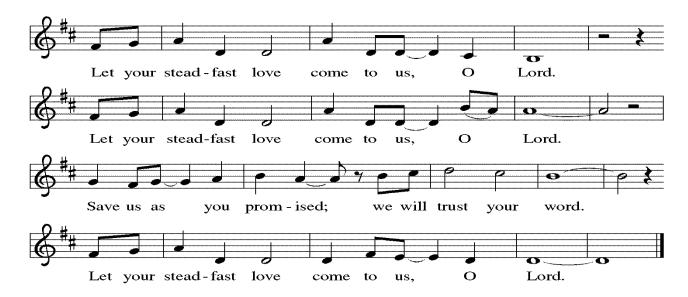
L: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings,

knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 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.

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

Please stand as able

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

Rev. Wayne Bacus

P: The holy gospel according to John, Chapter 4. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus] 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 worshiped 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 worshipers 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?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. 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. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

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

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

MESSAGE:

Rev. Wayne Bacus

Congregation stands as able

Hymn of the Day (next page):

ELW, #777, vs. 1-3

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty



- 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy; I would be your trusted friend. Come and seek the gift I offer, come, your open hands extend." Refrain
- 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned; lonely ways no longer roam. Come and take the gift I offer, let me make in you my home." Refrain

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985 Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, 104 Chapel Lane, St. Joseph, MN 56374, Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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THE APOSTLES' CREED:

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. Congregation may be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Jack Kirkman, Assisting Minister (A)

A: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A: We pray for your church. Bless partnerships with other Christians and inter-religious dialogue. Guide the daily work of denominational and congregational leaders. Strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that all experience your life-giving love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the universe. All creation teems with life, from the depths of the earth and seas to the skies above. Fill us with awe and reverence for the diversity and preservation of life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the nations of the world. Topple the dividing walls that separate us from our neighbors. Form us into your beloved community where diversity of gender, race, language, ability, and ethnic origin is celebrated and affirmed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. Be present with all who are lonely, and give courage to all who are afraid. Comfort those who live with chronic illness or other sickness. Give them your living water always. We especially remember those for whom we pray either silently or aloud... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this congregation, especially those preparing for baptism. Nurture their faith and pour your love into their hearts. Inspire our community by their testimony to God's grace in their lives. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: We give thanks for the lives of all your saints. Their hope in you sustained lives of faith and service. Encourage us with the hope they shared in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **C: Amen.**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt. Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, $1873–1932\,$

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

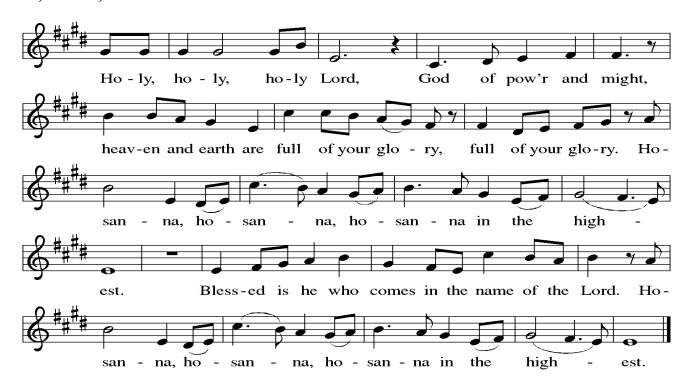
Amen.

Congregation Stands as able

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

- P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION/COMMUNION:

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

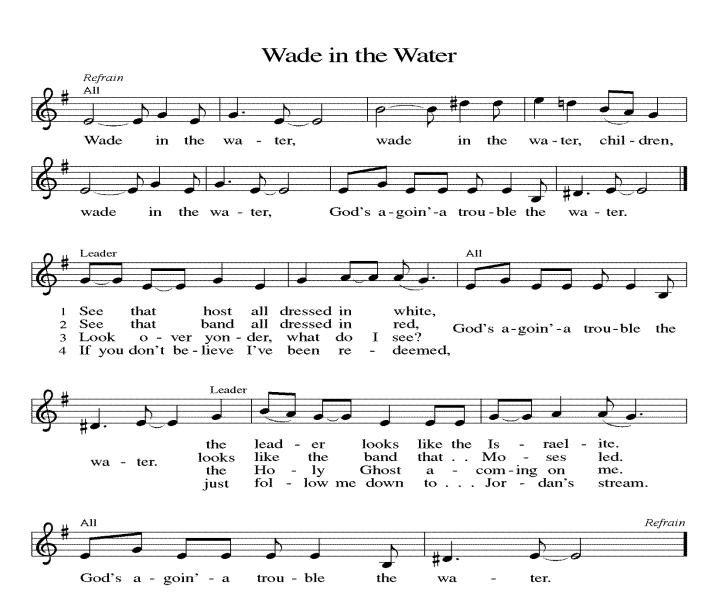
P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion: P: This is the table, not of this church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little; come, you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. Come, you who have never been before; come, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you; this is Christ, and he invites you to meet him right here. **Congregation may be seated**

Communion Hymn:

ELW, #459



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Text: African American spiritual Music: WADE IN THE WATER, African American spiritual

P: Let us pray. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

BLESSING:

P: God, the giver of love, + Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

Sending Song: ELW, #807

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt. Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813 **DISMISSAL:** P: Go in peace. Serve in love. C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Dinah Helgeson

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Worship Assistants Today:

Guest Pastor – Rev. Wayne Bacus

Assisting Minister – Jack Kirkman

Lector – Elise Ericksen

Communion Assistant - Gail Larson

Usher – Jim Dam

Musician - Dinah Helgeson

Cantor – Nancy Lee

Communion Set Up – Gail Larson Flowers – Gary & Marlee Koch

Worship Assistants next week (3/19/23):

Guest Pastor – Rev. Wayne Bacus

Assisting Minister – TBA

Lector – Nancy Lee

Communion Assistants – TBA

Usher – Jim Dam

Musician – Marita Ericksen

Cantor - TBA

Communion Set Up – TBA Flowers – Gary & Marlee Koch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Rev. Wayne Bacus, for leading us in worship today!

No Sunday Bible study class on Mar. 12, 9:15 – 10:00 AM.

<u>IFCH Dinner Program</u>: The fourth Thursday of each month VLC is to provide the ingredients for five hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM. Contact Patte Wagner: <u>pattewags@aol.com</u> if you wish to help. IFCH will provide containers for packaging the food into meal-to-go bags.

<u>AARP Free Tax Preparation</u> – Thursdays, February 9 – April 7, 2023. Open between 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. By appointment: <u>vashonaarp@gmail.com</u>.

<u>In September, 2023 we are having our annual rummage sale.</u> Please begin gathering items, but keep them home for now. In spring, June Langland will tell you when items can be brought to the church.

<u>Giving Your Offering</u> – If you would like to continue giving an offering to VLC, our mailing address is: Vashon Lutheran Church, P. O. Box 2930, Vashon, WA 98070.

<u>The Care Closet</u>, Medical Equipment/Supplies – 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network – 206-604-3253. Email: contact@vashoncarenetwork.org; website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org

The Vashon Ecumenical Book Group will discuss the novel, *To Cook a Bear*, by Mikael Niemi, 4:00 -5:30 PM, Sun., April 2, in the social hall of Vashon Lutheran Church, 18623 Vashon Hwy SW. Cheryl Weise will facilitate. An international bestseller, *To Cook a Bear*, set in 1852 in Sweden, is the tale of a runaway boy mentored by a scholarly pastor as they investigate a murder in their village & discuss life's deepest questions. The villagers believe a predatory bear is the murderer. But in a community riven by exploitation, alcoholism, & revivalism, the boy & the pastor are convinced that a far worse killer is on the loose. Niemi, who grew up & lives in the northernmost part of Sweden, has won national & international awards for his writing, including best book of the year awards in Sweden & the UK. Our May 7 book, facilitated by Deborah Anderson, is *The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, and A Jew -- Three Women Search for Understanding*, by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, & Priscilla Warner.

Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY

1st Food Bank Sunday

10:30 AM Worship

April 2, 4:00 – 5:30 PM Ecumenical Book Group

6:30 – 8:30 PM AA Group

MONDAY

10:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Group

March 20, 6:00 PM Mission Planning Committee ZOOM Mtg.

TUESDAY

2nd, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

3rd, 10:00 AM – noon

Quilt Sewers Group

Vashon Quilting Group

WEDNESDAY

1st, 9:00 AM – noon Lutheran Quilters Group March 22, 7:00 PM Council ZOOM Meeting

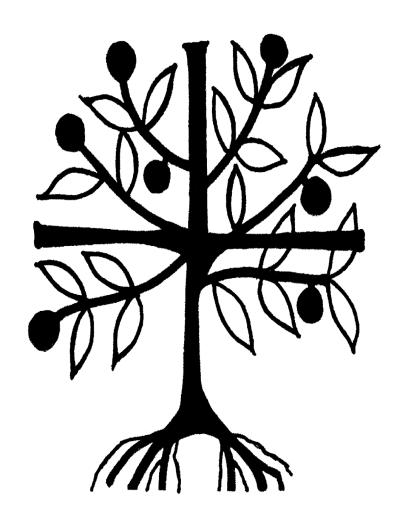
THURSDAY

Feb. 9 – Apr. 7, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM AARP Free Tax Prep, by appointment

Mar. 23, 5:00 PM IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC

FRIDAY

7:00 – 8:30 PM AA Group for Men



Vashon Lutheran Church

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2930, Vashon WA 98070

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 11 AM-2 PM

Phone: 206-463-2655

email: vlc98070@centurytel.net

Hymns for Mar. 12, 2023

ELW, 658 O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

ELW, 777, v. 1-3 Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

ELW, 618 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW, 459 Wade in the Water

ELW, 807 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing