





# Sunset United Church



March 15th, 2020- Lent 3A  
Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard  
Children & Youth Minister:  
Michelle McConkey  
Choir Director: Nancy Edwards  
Pianist: Shirley Hill

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## WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Invitation

Opening Hymn: MV14 Where Two or Three are Gathered

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

In the desert, God provided flowing water  
From a rock for the Israelite people.

**In Samaria, Jesus gave living water to the woman at  
the well.**

It is here that we, too, can quench our thirst.

**It is here that we, too, can draw from the well of God's  
love.**

So come, all you who are thirsty.

**Let us drink deeply and give thanks.**

**Let us worship God together.**

## **Opening Prayer**

Holy One,

Today we stop with Jesus by a well,  
Where he meets a woman whose culture  
And religion is different from his town.  
But he doesn't acknowledge their differences  
When he looks at her -  
He notices the common thing they share.  
They both seek water.  
He perceives a person,  
Who, like himself, is thirsty.  
In that moment,  
The only thing that matters is her humanity  
And her need for water, companionship,  
And a listening ear.  
As we continue to make our way through  
These Lenten days and nights,  
May we be vigilant as we seek to see  
The humanity in every person we meet  
And respond with care and kindness.  
Amen.

**Hymn:** MV3 River

## **Prayer Seeking Reconciliation:**

During the season of Lent,  
We focus, in part, on our relationship with God.  
Confession is one of our relational avenues  
For turning back to God.  
Confession is the means by which  
We look deeply inside to discover the ways  
Love has been blocked by our self-interests.

Confession is our way of opening our heart  
Unreservedly to God.  
Let us invite God's healing love  
To soften our hearts,  
Opening the way for wholeness.  
By offering our prayers:

God of Living Water, you call us to come and drink,  
**So why do we sit here and complain there is not  
enough water?**

You call us to strike the rocks of our world and let your Living  
Water flow.

**But we do not trust enough that the spring is there.  
We want to find the water on our own, using our  
wisdom.**

You call us to share the Water of Life with the world around  
us.

**But we believe that the water is limited,  
Not abundant and so we are tempted to save it  
for ourselves.**

For all the times we turn away from your Water,  
For all the times we sully the Water by misusing it,  
For all the times we let others go thirsty instead of  
offering a drink,

**Forgive us, we pray.**

- *Silent reflection* -

**Words of Assurance**

**Sung Response:** VU619 Healer of our Every Ill (refrain only)

**Passing the Peace**

## WE LISTEN

**Anthem:** Lower Your Bucket

**Sharing the Story**

**Hymn:** MV92 Like A Rock

**Scripture:** Exodus 17: 1-7  
John 4: 5-30, 39-42

**Reflection**

**Hymn:** MV87 Water Flowing from the Mountains

## WE RESPOND

**Offering Collection and Dedication**

**Hymn:** VU#538 For the Gift of Creation  
**Offering Prayer**

**Lenten Prayers & The Lord's Prayer (spoken)**

**Hymn:** VU651 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

**Commissioning and Benediction**

**Postlude**