



WORSHIP AT HOME FOR MARCH 15

CALL TO WORSHIP

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.
The hour is coming and is now here. In spirit and truth, let us worship God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
When it comes to our faith, we know we could learn from the Samaritan woman
who ran through the streets singing your name.

Forgive us for the times when we remain silent about what our faith means to us.
Forgive us for the times when we choose comfort over bravery.
And forgive us for the times we shut people out, missing opportunities to run
into you. Teach us to be brave like the Samaritan woman, and saturate our thirst
for that which leaves us thirsty. With hope and gratitude, we confess.
With hope and gratitude we pray, amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

This is the good news of God's grace;
Though we were sinners, Christ died for us.
Though we were enemies of God, God loved us.

Once we were lost and dead – now Christ has become our life and salvation.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Living God, through the reading of the scriptures and by the power of your
spirit,
may we hear for ourselves the good news,
and believe, because of your Word, that Jesus Christ is the savior of the world.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 17:1-7

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

Questions for reflection from Jill Duffield:

1. Read this story from John slowly. Notice the progression of understanding on the part of the Samaritan woman. How does she come to see and understand who Jesus is? How do we?
2. What are the cultural, religious, racial barriers in our church? Community? How does Jesus transcend those divisions? How, then, do we?
3. Be mindful of water this week. Every time you encounter water think about Jesus' statement that he is the living water. What difference does this awareness make in how you go about your daily activities?
4. The Samaritan woman at the well becomes an evangelist. When and how have you told others about Jesus? How was it received?
5. The Samaritan woman encountered Jesus going about her ordinary, daily work and routine. When have we unexpectedly encountered Jesus in the midst of the ordinary? How did we recognize him?
6. Look at other passages in John where the phrase "come and see" is used, John 1:38-39 and John 1:46. How do these passages inform your understanding of John 4? Of the Samaritan woman?

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (taken from *Every Moment Holy*)

Holy God, in a world so wired and interconnected, our anxious hearts are pummeled by an endless barrage of troubling news. We are daily aware of more grief, O Lord, than we can rightly consider, of more suffering and scandal than we can respond to, of more hostility, hatred, horror and injustice than we can engage with compassion.

But you, O Jesus, are not disquieted by such news. You are neither anxious nor overwhelmed. You carried the full weight of the suffering of a broken world when you hung upon the cross, and you carry it still.

When the cacophony of universal distress unsettles us, remind us that we are but small and finite creatures, never designed to carry the vast abstractions of great burdens, for our arms are too short and our strength is too small. Justice and mercy, healing and redemptions, are your great labors.

Guard us from shutting down our empathy or walling off our hearts because of the gluttony of unactionable misery that floods our awareness.

You have many children in many places around this globe. Move each of our hearts to compassionately respond to those needs and intersect our actual lives, that in all places your body might be actively addressing the pain and brokenness of this world, each of us liberated and empowered by your spirit to fulfil the small part of your redemptive work assigned to us.

Give us discernment in the face of troubling news reports,
Give us discernment to know when to pray, when to speak out, when to act and when to simply shut off our screens, and our devices and to sit quietly in your presence,

Casting the burden of this world upon the strong shoulders of the one who alone is able to bear them up.

LORD'S PRAYER

CHARGE AND BLESSING

The hour is coming and is now here. Go forth to worship the lord your God in spirit and in truth, in all that you say and do. May the grace of the lord Jesus Christ, springing up like living water, fill your heart, and flow through your life.

*For Sermons: you can tune into
our new TPC YouTube Channel: <https://bit.ly/2TRnT05>
or listen to sermons online at a later time www.tuckahoe.org*