



March 22, 2020

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Prayer:

Loving and caring God, we come this morning in hope— hope that will sustain us in our trying times, our lonely times, our doubting times. Refresh us this morning with the living water of your presence and love. Open us to the possibilities of friendship and connecting with each other in old and new ways and the possibilities of encountering you in unexpected ways, the possibilities of seeing the miraculous in everyday life. Amen.

Come and Find the Quiet Center

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Call to Worship:

L: Jesus bids us welcome. He brings peace and forgiveness.

P: Yet we dwell in the midst of doubt and fear.

L: Jesus bids us welcome. He brings hope and healing.

P: But we persist in our ways of stubbornness and greed.

L: Jesus, come among us once more and bring us your word of Peace.

P: Open our hearts, our spirits, our souls to receive your healing Word. AMEN.

All Who Hunger

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Scripture: John 4:5-42 NRSV

5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

7 A 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.) 9 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.) 10 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." 11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12 Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" 13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 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." 15 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."

16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." 17 The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; 18 for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" 19 The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." 21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 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. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." 25 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." 26 Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

27 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?" 28 Then 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?" 30 They left the city and were on their way to him.

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." 32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." 33 So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" 34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. 35 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. 36 The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. 37 For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

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

For the word of hope that pours over us like living water, for the word of grace that leads us to encounter the living Christ, **we offer you our thanks, O God.**

Children's Message: please view the worship video

A Message for All: How can we be Life Sustaining Water?

If you do not join us online, or even if you do, spend time in silence reflecting on scripture and answering the following questions. When finished, share your reflections with family or a friend. Call someone from church on the phone and ask them what they think.

- Who do I overlook and ignore that might be sharing God's love and light with me?
- How can I look for God in unexpected people & places, like the Samaritan Woman?
- How has my faith been sustained?
- How have others been life sustaining water for me?
- How have I been life sustaining water for others?
- Who can I share God's living water with in this time of uncertainty, anxiety, and social distancing?
- How, and for whom, can I be a source of life and connection during this time of unknown?

Time - Out with God:

I invite you to continue our practice of giving our worries over to God. Create your own God Box at home, a place to collect and give your worries to God. When we return together, physically bring them with you and we will lift them all up to God together.

Sing: Sweet Hour of Prayer

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What are my prayers of concern?

What are my prayers of joy and thanksgiving?

What are the worries I need to release to God?

Prayer written by Laura Kelly Fanucci

O Lord, when this is over, may we never again take for granted a handshake with a stranger, full shelves at the store, conversations with neighbors, a crowded theatre, Friday night out, the taste of communion, a routine checkup, the school rush reach morning, coffee with a friend, the stadium roaring, each deep breath, a boring Tuesday, life itself. God, when this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be; we were called to be; we hoped to be; and may we stay that way - better for each other because of the worst.

Serenity Prayer - God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardship as a pathway to peace; taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as we would have it; trusting that You will make all things right if we surrender to Your will; so that we may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Where we will sit with your son, the one who taught us to pray saying:

Lord's Prayer - Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Note:

While we are not gathering in-person, the ministry of Anchor Park UMC continues. Please consider putting your regular, or additional, offering in the mail or going online to AnchorPark.org to make an online contribution. We are now accepting ACH, Debit, and Credit Card giving online. There is an optional box to check to donate 3% more to help offset the additional costs for those features. However you choose to give, we are so thankful for your continued support of our ministry together for the world.

Prayer of Dedication:

O God, our gifts are so small in comparison to your bounty. Transform our offering into ministries that quench parched lives with the life sustaining water of eternal life. Nurture our need to share your water and your spirit through the gifts that you have given so freely. In the name Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Sending Challenge

This week, live as life sustaining water for others. Call your people, call the person you just thought of now, write a card, stand outside in the sun and remind others to do the same, practice social distancing as an act of love for you and for others, and wash your hands. Wash your hands. Wash your hands. Be bearers of God's goodness and love for others. Amen.

God Be With You till We Meet Again
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Come and Find the Quiet Center 151

Fm Cm Fm Eb

1 Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd-ed life we lead,
 2 Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
 3 In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's pain,

D♭maj7 Eb B♭m Eb/G Fm

find the room for hope to en - ter, find the frame where we are freed;
 God it is who speaks and names us, knows our be - ing, touch-es base,
 let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e - brate the space we gain:

B♭m Fm B♭m C

clear the cha - os and the clut - ter, clear our eyes that we can see
 mak - ing space with - in our think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun,
 there's a place for deep - est dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care,

B♭m Fm/A♭ D♭maj7 Eb Fm

all the things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 rais - ing cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 in the Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



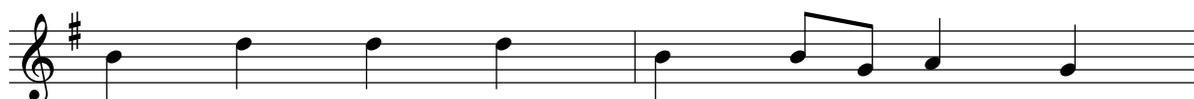
1. All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly;
2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers,
3. All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er;



Ho - ly man - na is our bread. Come from wil - der -
Seek - er, be a wel - come guest. Come from rest - less -
Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li -



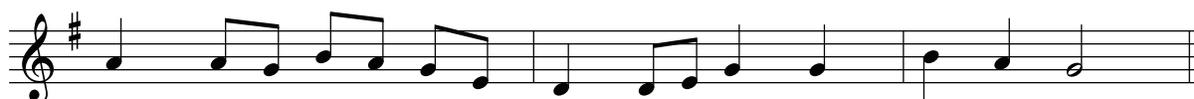
ness and wan - d'ring. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
ness and roam - ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full - ness,
We that once were lost and scat - tered
Blest are those who from this ta - ble



All a - round us is our food. Taste and see the
In com - mun - ion's love have stood. Taste and see the
Live their days in grat - i - tude. Taste and see the



grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Sweet Hour of Prayer

1. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That
 2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy
 3. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, May

3

calls me from a world of care And bids me at my
 wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear To Him whose truth and
 I thy con - so - la - tion share, Till from Mount Pis - gah's

6

Fa - ther's throne Make all my wants and wish - es known!
 faith - ful - ness En - gage the wait - ing soul to bless;
 loft - y height I view my home and take my flight:

In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief My soul has of - ten
And since He bids me seek His face, Be - lieve His word and
This robe of flesh I'll drop, and rise To seize the ev - er -

12

found re - lief, And oft es - caped the tempt - er's snare
trust His grace, I'll cast on Him my ev - 'ry care,
last - ing prize, And shout, while pass - ing through the air,

By thy re - turn, sweet hour of prayer.
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.
"Fare - well, fare - well, sweet hour of prayer!"

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Unison *Harmony*

1 God be with you till we meet again; lov - ing coun - sels
 2 God be with you till we meet again; un - seen wings pro -
 3 God be with you till we meet again; when life's per - ils
 4 God be with you till we meet again; keep love's ban - ner

4

guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's
 tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na
 thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing
 float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening

6 *Unison*

care en - fold you:
 still pro - vide you: God be with you till we meet again.
 arms a - round you:
 wave be - fore you:

(alternate tune: GOD BE WITH YOU, 542)

Glory to God 541

TEXT: Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880, alt.

MUSIC (RANDOLPH 9.8.8.9): Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906