

Clemmons Presbyterian Church



"Living Water" by Lauren Wright Pitman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2023

WELCOME

Leigh Wisner

THE LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION and THE RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Sanctuary Handbells

arr. Lloyd Larson

We Gather Around The Word,

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kaylee Hilston

One: We gather together—

**All: the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting star wishers,
in hopes of seeing God.**

One: We gather together—

**All: the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely,
in hopes of finding peace.**

One: We gather together—

**All: those who are thirsty and those with water to spare,
in hopes of finding justice.**

One: So come to the well, come to the table. Come, let us worship God. Amen.

*HYMN #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

from A Sanctified Art

Holy God, we have been on every side of this story. We have been the one who is thirsty and in need of compassion, and we have been the one with a bucket and a deep well. So today we wonder: how often have we missed the opportunity to share water with our neighbors? How often have we forgotten that we have a bucket and the power to bring change? How often have we simply decided that justice and compassion were not worth the work? Forgive our fragile hearts and remind us that it was you who sat at that well in Samaria in the heat of the day. It was you. It is still you. With hope we pray, amen.

*TIME OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, as hard as it is to imagine:

we could lose the bucket, we could hoard the water for ourselves, we could pretend we do not see all who are thirsty, and we would still belong to God.

This is the good news of the gospel:

God's grace is deeper than any well. We are seen, loved, and forgiven.

May this realization change and inspire us. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Since God has opened his heart to us in Jesus Christ,
in Jesus Christ let us open our hearts to each other.

May the peace of God be with you.
People: And also with you.

*Please greet other worshippers with the peace of God,
introduce yourself and offer personal greetings.*

*HYMN #576

Lord Have Mercy

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.*

to Hear God's Word,

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (unison)

Jenn Holton, Elder

God of conversation, We come to you today thirsty— thirsty for hope, thirsty for good news, thirsty for a glimpse of you. So today we pray, move in these words like a current. Give us the courage to wade into your story with open eyes and open hearts. Give us the courage to drink this moment in. We are listening. We are grateful. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 17: 1-7

GOSPEL LESSON

John 4: 5-42

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

TIME FOR CHILDREN & PENNIES FOR HUNGER OFFERING

Kaylee Hilston

*HYMN #69

Here I am, Lord

ANTHEM

The Lord is My Shepherd
Sanctuary Choir

Pote

SERMON

“The Living Water”
Leigh Wisner

to Respond to the Word,

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

from A Sanctified Art

We believe that a glass of water given to us by a stranger can taste like justice. We believe that honest conversation has the power to change us. We believe that all God's children have a voice and something to say. We believe that Jesus loves the outcast, the ignored, the shamed, and the abandoned. We believe in asking questions. We believe in curiosity. We believe in giving people a drink. May we be brave enough to give people a drink. Amen.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Near the Cross

arr. Arnold B. Sherman

*DOXOLOGY #698

*Take, O Take Me As I Am
Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER (...debts/debtors...)

and to be Sent with the Word.

*HYMN #81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

*BENEDICTION

*THE CHIMES

*Three chimes, for the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
signal the end of our worship and call us forth into a new week of service.*

POSTLUDE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Austin Beasley

Anna Laura Page

***Please stand as you are able.**

We Welcome You in the Name of Christ - We especially welcome all our guests, and ask that you fill out the "Welcome Visitor" card you will find in the pew. We are a fellowship of prayer, worship, and service to a loving God. If you are looking for a church home, we would be delighted for you to consider membership in Clemmons Presbyterian Church.

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