

Banning United Methodist Church

Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

GATHERING MUSIC

Cathy Mauge

MEDITATIVE THOUGHT

Kathy Bainter

My soul is parched, Lord, like Israel in the wilderness and the woman at the well. Pour into me your forgiveness and love.

PRELUDE

Cathy Mauge

WELCOMING FRIENDS and NEWCOMERS

Kathy Bainter

We ask that you please sign the attendance book, then pass it to the middle aisle. If you are here this morning as a guest, please include your address and phone number, so that we can reach out to you and extend our welcome.

WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Doug

MINISTRY MOMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathy Bainter

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Kathy Bainter

L: When we hunger

P: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."

L: When we thirst

P: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."

L: God, Who created the heavens and the earth hears our cries.

P: Lord, come and quench our thirst and heal our hunger. AMEN.

†OPENING HYMN

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" vs. 1, 3, & 4

Hymn #361

OPENING PRAYER

Kathy Bainter

Holy One, we yearn to draw near, as we arrive in this place. We come to calm our hearts, soothe our fears, and deepen our faith. As the Samaritan woman before us, help us draw cool water from the well of Your love, and help us leave with the living water of belief, through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 17:1-7 NRSV

Kathy Bainter

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?"

†GOSPEL READING

John 4:5-23 NRSV

Pastor Doug

So he 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.

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

†HYMN "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" vs 1 & 4 Hymn#382

SERMON TITLE "An Unexpected Evangelist" Pastor Doug

PRAYERS OF THE PASTOR and PEOPLE Pastor Doug

Children in Prayer

(After all slides: In Your mercy, **Lord, hear our prayer**)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

THE 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.

GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS) Kathy Bainter

†DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION Kathy Bainter

God of unwavering love, You have held nothing back in Your love for us, not even Your Son. How we marvel at that kind of love and how we long to reflect a portion of that devotion to You. As we dedicate our offerings to You, lead us away from our tendency to hold back and worry that there will not be enough. Help us to live as the people of love and abundance You have called us to be. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

†CLOSING HYMN "Standing on the Promises" vs. 1, 3, & 4 Hymn #374

†BENEDICTION Pastor Doug

POSTLUDE Cathy Mauge