

March 7, 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE “A Quiet Place” John Rasley

OPENING HYMN “In The Cross of Christ I Glory” 295 UMH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O God of all ages and all generations, we come to worship you.

People: Women, men, youth, and children bow before you, the only wise God.

Leader: Our fore parents led the way for spiritual awareness and growth.

People: We try to follow in their footsteps recognizing you as God of all.

Leader: As we worship you, all your attributes of glory, mercy, and love show forth.

All: We humble ourselves in your holy presence because you are awesome. Holy, holy, holy is the name of the Lord. Amen

OPENING PRAYER

We acknowledge you, O God, as creator and as liberator. You are the One who brought the captives out of Egypt and delivered them from the oppression of slavery. You gave laws which shaped how people were to relate to you, to each other and to the whole environment. You implored people to worship only you, knowing that whatever was put in your place would become the object of idolatry—would become the priority of people's lives.

In this time of worship, help us to focus on you, O God, as the priority of our lives. Remind us of your steadfast love revealed so clearly in the new commandment of love which Jesus disclosed with his life and, as we especially remember in this period of Lent, with his death. Speak to us anew as we offer this prayer and our worship in Jesus' name and for his sake. Amen.

PRAISE SONGS

“The River Is Here”
“Come, Thou Fount”
“Come and See”
“Healer of My Heart”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

(Prayer Song – “Jesus, Remember Me”)

SCRIPTURE

John 4:5-42

⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.^[a])

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

¹¹ “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?”

¹³ Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶ He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.”

¹⁷ “I have no husband,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

¹⁹ “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

²¹ “Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we

worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

²⁵ The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?” ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

³¹ Meanwhile his disciples urged him, “Rabbi, eat something.”

³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.”

³³ Then his disciples said to each other, “Could someone have brought him food?”

³⁴ “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵ Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷ Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. ³⁸ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.”

³⁹ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹ And because of his words many more became believers.

⁴² They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”

MESSAGE “Giving Up Superiority” **Pastor Victor Harner**

CONFESSION

God gave us the covenant of the law to guide us and help us live with our neighbors in love. When we break God’s law, we leave our neighbors hurt and bruised. God’s law is a gift to us, showing us how to keep our part of the covenant. Even through old pain and wounds, may we embrace the new life that Christ can bring.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

May the God of the law guide us in living lives that keep the covenant of love. May Christ’s forgiveness grant us new life, even when we break God’s law. May the Holy Spirit of conviction lead us to confession and renewal. May we respond in love to the God of covenant and change.

HOLY COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN “God of Grace and God of Glory” 577 UMH

BENEDICTION **Pastor Victor Harner**

SENDING FORTH SONG “I Have Decided To Follow Jesus”

ORGAN POSTLUDE “O Sacred Head” Johann Pachelbel



WE’RE BACK!!

Beginning Sunday, March 21, 2021, you are invited to join us for Sunday in-person worship. Attendance will be by reservation only, and is limited to 60 people.

Reservations must be made by visiting the SignUp Genius page at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOC4DA4AE29A57-1000>.

If you are unable to access the internet, please call the church office at 410-256-6479 and leave the names of those attending on the answering machine.

All reservations must be in by noon on Fridays.

PHUMC Staff

Rev. Victor Harner, (home) 410-256-1028

Denise Boyd, Praise Band and Handbell Choir

Donald E. Appel, Director of Music



Music Ministry Team

Don Appel

Denise Boyd

Dan Kalendek

Debbie Siegert

Garret Van Essen

Dan Walker

Peggy Whiting

Rob Zell

Perry Hall United Methodist Church Worship Service



The woman of Samaria by Harold Copping