

**3RD SUNDAY IN LENT
GATHER IN GOD’S NAME**

(*=**please stand if you are able**)

Prelude (A time for Silence and Reflection)

Welcome

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

Opening Prayer

L: As a deer longs for flowing streams

P: so our souls long for you, O God.

L: Our souls thirst for God, for the living God.

P: When shall I come and behold the face of God?

Hymn of the Month GTG# 749

“Come! Live in the Light!” (Verses 1, 3)

Call to Confession

As thirsty people wandering through this season of Lent, we seek God’s forgiveness and grace in this moment of honest confession.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are more aware of our thirst for your presence, your love, your guidance on life’s journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that led us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don’t run deep enough and don’t last. We come to your well today desperate and thirsty for Christ’s living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace.

Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of pardon

Jesus said, “Those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty.” Come, drink deep, and know that you are forgiven. Amen.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

“Glorify Thy Name”

Father, we love You, we worship and adore You,

Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name

Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name

Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Prayer for illumination

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving Word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts — a spring of hope for a thirsty world. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

The whole Israelite community broke camp and set out from the Sin desert to continue their journey, as the Lord commanded. They set up their camp at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people argued with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why are you arguing with me? Why are you testing the Lord?” But the people were very thirsty for water there, and they complained to Moses, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What should I do with this people? They are getting ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of Israel’s elders with you. Take in your hand the shepherd’s rod that you used to strike the Nile River, and go. I’ll be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Hit the rock. Water will come out of it, and the people will be able to drink.” Moses did so while Israel’s elders watched. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites argued with and tested the Lord, asking, “Is the Lord really with us or not?”

L: This is the word God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem:

Scripture Reading:

John 4: 5-42

He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, which was near the land Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there. Jesus was tired from his journey, so he sat down at the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me some water to drink.” His disciples had gone into the city to buy him some food. The Samaritan woman asked, “Why do you, a Jewish man, ask for something to drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” (Jews and Samaritans didn’t associate with each other.) Jesus responded, “If you recognized God’s gift and who is saying to you, ‘Give me some water to drink,’ you would be asking him and he would give you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you don’t have a bucket and the well is deep. Where would you get this living water? You aren’t greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave this well to us, and he drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will never be thirsty and will never need to come here to draw water!” Jesus said to her, “Go, get your husband, and come back here.” The woman replied, “I don’t have a husband.” “You are right to say, ‘I don’t have a husband,’” Jesus answered. “You’ve had five husbands, and the man you are with now isn’t

your husband. You’ve spoken the truth.” The woman said, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you and your people say that it is necessary to worship in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you and your people will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You and your people worship what you don’t know; we worship what we know because salvation is from the Jews. But the time is coming—and is here!—when true worshippers will worship in spirit and truth. The Father looks for those who worship him this way. ²⁴ God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth.” The woman said, “I know that the Messiah is coming, the one who is called the Christ. When he comes, he will teach everything to us. Jesus said to her, “I Am—the one who speaks with you.” Just then, Jesus’ disciples arrived and were shocked that he was talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?” The woman put down her water jar and went into the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who has told me everything I’ve done! Could this man be the Christ?” They left the city and were on their way to see Jesus. In the meantime the disciples spoke to Jesus, saying, “Rabbi, eat.” Jesus said to them, “I have food to eat that you don’t know about.” The disciples asked each other, “Has someone brought him food?” Jesus said to them, “I am fed by doing the will of the one who sent me and by completing his work. Don’t you have a saying, ‘Four more months and then it’s time for harvest’? Look, I tell you: open your eyes and notice that the fields are already ripe for the harvest. Those who harvest are receiving their pay and gathering fruit for eternal life so that those who sow and those who harvest can celebrate together. This is a true saying, that one sows and another harvests. I have sent you to harvest what you didn’t work hard for; others worked hard, and you will share in their hard work.” Many Samaritans in that city believed in Jesus because of the woman’s word when she testified, “He told me everything I’ve ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to Jesus, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. Many more believed because of his word, and they said to the woman, “We no longer believe because of what you said, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this one is truly the savior of the world.”

L: This is the word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“What’s Inside the Bucket”

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

Art Project: The Well of Reflection

Hymn GTG# 719

“Come, Labor On”

Words of Gratitude

God gives generously. Let us honor God by giving generously in return.

Offertory

RESPOND IN GRACE

“Thank you Jesus”

Thank you Thank you Jesus

Thank you Thank you Jesus in my heart

Thank you Thank you Jesus

Thank you Thank you Jesus in my heart

*** Doxology**

“Sithi Bonga (We Sing Praise)”

Sithi bonga bonga bonga bonga sithi bonga sithi bonga,

sithi bonga bonga bonga bonga; enhle hlabele

sithi bonga bonga bonga bonga sithi bonga sithi bonga

sithi bonga bonga sithi bonga enhle hlabelela.

Prayer of Dedication

God of grace, you provide for all our needs. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless them to further Christ’s ministry and mission among the poor, the despairing and the destitute. Amen.

Prayers of the People (See backpage)

***Lord’s Prayer**

Hymn GTG# 666

“O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”

Announcements

Benediction

God is Good! All the time! All the Time! God is Good!

Beloved people of God; I invite you, in the name of Christ, to continue to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by meditating on Gods’ word. May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us all, now and forever. Amen.

The Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you

Amen

Postlude

Prayers of the People

God of glory, we thirst for your presence in the midst of loneliness and despair, for your spirit of love poured into our hearts, for Christ's living water that quenches eternally. May all your children know that they belong, that they are loved, that they are wonderfully made.

Hear our silent prayers to know your presence in the midst of suffering, O God.

God of life, we thirst for knowledge of you at work in our world, dispelling our doubt and uncertainty. We pray for you to right what is wrong, banish evil and restore order in the midst of chaos. Turn our world towards peace.

Hear our silent prayers to know the ways you are at work in our world, O God.

God of hope, we thirst for healing and harmony, for an end to violence and living in fear of the next mass shooting. We pray for an end to bipartisan fighting, legislative meltdowns, and political turmoil that serves no citizen well. Fashion our world, our nation, our communities into places that reflect your peaceable kin-dom, where every life is valued, everyone's dignity respected.

Hear our silent prayers for healing and harmony, O God.

In your mercy, O God, hear the prayers of your people. Help us walk with you during this Lenten season, so we can learn and grow in your embrace. Help us follow in the footsteps of our Savior, who calls on us to pray as he prayed, "Our Father..."

Church Officers

At last week's congregational meeting we elected new Deacons and Elders. These are our officers now.

Session

2024	2025	2026
Rich Ellison	Tom Clemmens	Kofi Boateng
Bob Supina		Duna Fullerton

Deacons

2024	2025	2026
Lisa Clemmens		Susan Caretta
Nancy McIntyre		Julie Njie
Jonathan Oh		

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023



PASTOR
Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez
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MUSIC DIRECTOR
Carol Arrucci

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
Lindsay Wilkens
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SEXTON
Benson Njie

MINISTERS
All the Members

"A multicultural congregation worshipping together where Jesus Christ is Lord; where men, women, and children share in leadership; and where the strength of our fellowship builds bridges to the community."

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EVENTS HAPPENING IN 2023

- In person hybrid worship at 11AM
- English Bible Study Thursdays at 11:00AM.
- Spanish Bible Study will be Wednesdays at 10:00AM.
- Prayer Time on Fridays at 11AM via zoom.
- No session meeting in March. Next session meeting will be on Monday April 10th, 2023 at 7:00PM via zoom.
- Worship Team meeting March 28th at 9:30AM via zoom
- Servicio de los Dones de la Mujer (MHLP) on Saturday March 18th at 4:00PM Francis Almonte Baptism on Sunday March 19th
- Eric Gabriel Craig Rodriguez Baptism on Sunday April 16
- Presbytery Meeting on Tuesday April 25 at 10:00AM at Denton Presbyterian Church
- Zoom worship Service at 11:00AM

By Computer/Por Computadora

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/870270865>

Meeting ID: 870 270 865

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,870270865# US (New York)

+13126266799,,870270865# US (Chicago)

By Phone/Por teléfono

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 870 270 865

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/870270865>

Prayers and Praise

Please pray for everyone in leadership

Please pray for children/ families

Please pray for the Otu family

Please pray for the Supina/Ruess family

Please pray for the Sevilla family

Please pray for people struggling with cancer for healing

Please pray for leaders, people in a position of authority

Please pray for Israel, Palestine and Ukraine

Please pray for the Denzer Family

Please pray for Heather Blenkinsopp

Please pray for Raquel Welty

Please pray for Theresa

Please pray for Fior

Praise Songs and Hymns

Come! Live in the Light!

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.

*Refrain: We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.*

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love. (*Refrain*)

Come, labor on.

Come, labor on.

Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain
while all around us waves the golden grain?
And to each servant does the Master say,
"Go work today."

Come, labor on.

Claim the high calling angels cannot share;
to young and old the gospel gladness bear.
Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly.
The night draws nigh.

Come, labor on.

Cast off all gloomy doubt and faithless fear!
No arm so weak but may do service here.
Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill
God's righteous will.

Come, labor on.

No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,
and a glad sound comes with the setting sun,
"Well done, well done!"

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

O splendor of God's glory bright,
from light eternal bringing light;
O Light of Light, light's living spring,
true Day, all days illumining:

Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love,
rain down your radiance from above,
and to our inward hearts convey
the Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.

O joyful be the passing day
with thoughts as clear as morning's ray,
with faith like noontide shining bright,
our souls unshadowed by the night.

O Lord, with each returning morn,
your image to our heart is born;
O may we ever clearly view
our Savior and our God in you.