**19 March 2017**

**Lent 3A 9.30 am Order of Service**



So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.7A 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.) 9The 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.)[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+4&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-26156b)] 10Jesus 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.” 11The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” 13Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14but 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.” 15The 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.”27Just 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?” 28Then 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,[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+4&version=NRSV" \l "fen-NRSV-26176e" \o "See footnote e)] can he?” 30They left the city and were on their way to him.

*Candles, lit and then 3 extinguished and Christ candle lit*

**Call to Worship**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

For water in the wilderness,

**we give you thanks, O God.**

For knowing us as we really are,

**we give you thanks, O God.**

For loving us as we truly are,

**we give you thanks, O God.**

Loving God, in the desert, your people thirsted for water; they yearned for life-giving water.

***We*, your people, thirst for that which gives *life*; in the desert of our struggles we thirst for meaning and purpose.**

In our thirst, you lead us to the *Well*; to the place from which we draw wisdom and strength.

**You lead us to the Source of *living water*.**

May this living water become for us a spring, welling up to eternal life-

**a spring that overflows, with *love*, into the lives of all those we encounter. AMEN.**

**Very early word**:

**Song Desert Rain SfpoG 4 #17**

**Acknowledgement of Land**

**Welcome and 2 minutes with Clive**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Do we wonder,

as we hunger for justice

and thirst for hope,

“Is God among us or not?”

**Help us to trust your presence, Loving God.**

Let us drink our fill of the living water;

and let our food be doing your will.

Let us find here the living water,

like a spring gushing up to eternal life.

**Give us this water,**

**so that we may never be thirsty.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When the water runs out,

we think you have abandoned us.

When we come to the well,

we think you will not meet us.

When we are thirsty,

we think you don’t care.

**And yet the living waters flow.**

Our suffering threatens to outlast our endurance;

our suffering obscures our hope.

**And yet the living waters flow.**

Where is our trust,

how did it come to be poured out

like water on the ground;

spilled, leaving us empty?

**And yet the living waters flow.**

We acknowledge our thirst;

we bring our empty pots.

We know that you know us,

through and through.

Help us to trust our lives to you:

**give us the living water**

**so that we may never be thirsty.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Be assured, people of God:

we are reconciled to God in Christ.

Receive this reconciliation,

truly take it in,

and let it be for you like living waters

offering you fresh hope and new life.

**Holy Communion**

**Introduction and invitation**
Come, all you who are loved by God,

Come to this table where bread is shared, and the fruit of the vine is shared.

Come and eat food with no cost. Come and drink with no money to pay.

**We come to eat, to drink, and our hearts are glad.**

**Song of preparation SfP #4 Bread of Peace**

**Thanksgiving**

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Open up your hearts! **We open them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

….and so we lift our voices, filled with joy, joining them with the glad songs of every place and generation, all creation praising your name:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might**
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**
**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord**
**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Institution** of the Last Supper

**Prayer**

**Breaking bread**

**Song**: **TiS 714 Eat this bread**

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

 Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst (twice)

**Sharing Holy Communion**

**Song: TIS 530 Now let us from this table rise (Print words)**

**Readings from our Scripture Traditions**

 **Proverbs 1:2-7**

**Galatians 6:2-10**

**Luke 12:54-56**

**Witness: Clive Pearson**

**A time of reflection**-

**Song: “Deep in the human heart”.**

**Offering** *collected in the seats during the singing of the song*

**1 Deep in the human heart**

**The fire of justice burns;**

**A vision of a world renewed**

**Through radical concern.**

**As Christians we are called**

**To set the captives free,**

**To overthrow the evil powers**

**And end hypocrisy.**

**2 This is our task today -**

**To build a world of peace;**

**A world of justice, freedom, truth,**

**Where kindness will increase.**

**A world from hunger freed,**

**A world where people share,**

**Where every person is of worth**

**And no one lives in fear.**

**3 Taking the step of faith,**

**We leave the past behind**

**And move into the future’s world**

**With open heart and mind.**

**By grace we work with Christ,**

**As one community,**

**To bring new hope, and fuller life**

**To all humanity.**

**(Lyrics : Bill Wallace, Tune : Diademata, TiS 228).**

**Dedication of Offering**

**Prayers for others:**

**Words of Hope**

**Song: SftPG 4 #**7 May the kindness

**Benediction**

God of Jesus, our best Friend,

please keep us thirsty for your love

in our hearts and minds.

Help us to love you

more than for anything else.

You are the Living Water

that satisfies our inner life

***All: Be our light as we journey to Easter***

***Help us carry your light into dark places***

***In the name of Jesus, we pray.***

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

*The sign of the peace is exchanged.*