

March 7 - 8, 2026

Third Sunday in Lent Readings

**First Reading**

A Reading from Exodus

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 for 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?"

(pause)

**Reader:** Word of God, word of Life.

**Congregation:** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Second Reading

A Reading from Romans

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand,  
and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

And hope does not put us to shame,  
because God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.  
Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—  
though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.  
But God proves his love for us  
in that while we still were sinners  
Christ died for us.

(pause)

**Reader:**        **Word of God, word of Life.**

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel

### A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus 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."

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.  
God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”  
The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ).  
“When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”  
Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him  
because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”  
So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them,  
and he stayed there two days.  
And many more believed because of his word.  
They said to the woman,  
“It is no longer because of what you said that we believe,  
for we have heard for ourselves,  
and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

***Pastor:***           **The Gospel of the Lord.**

***Congregation:*** Thanks be to God.