



First Church of Christ in Mansfield (Congregational) United Church of Christ

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT + MARCH 12, 2023

Gathering Song

Come and Seek

Steven Warner

5

Come and seek! Your eyes will be o - pened! Come and sing! Your voice will be heard! Come and live in the light, the mar - ve - lous joy of God!

Welcome and Greeting

Hymn

Come to the Water

John Foley SJ

8

O let all who thirst, let them come to the wa - ter
 And let all who seek, let them come to the wa - ter
 And let all who toil, let them come to the wa - ter
 And let all the poor, let them come to the wa - ter

15

And let all who have no - thing, let them come to the Lord:
 And let all who have no - thing, let them come to the Lord:
 And let all who are wea - ry, let them come to the Lord:
 Bring the ones who are la - den, bring them all to the Lord:

20

— With - out mon - ey, with - out price.
 — With - out mon - ey, with - out strife.
 — All who la - bor, with - out rest:
 — Bring the child - ren, with - out might,

Why should you pay the price, ex - cept for the Lord?
 Why should you spend your life, ex - cept for the Lord?
 How can your soul find rest, ex - cept in the Lord?
 Ea - sy the load and light, Come to the Lord!

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Grace

Let us pray.

Holy God, we have been on every side of this story. We have been the one who is thirsty and in need of compassion, and we have been the one with a bucket and a deep well. So today we wonder: how often have we missed the opportunity to share water with our neighbors? How often have we forgotten that we have a bucket and the power to bring change? How often have we simply decided that justice and compassion were not worth the work? Forgive our fragile hearts and remind us that it was you who sat at that well in Samaria in the heat of the day. It was you. It is still you. With hope we pray. Amen.

We belong to God.

We belong to God.

We are held in God's love.

We are held in God's love

We are made new. Amen.

We are made new. Amen.

Song of Praise

Glory Be to God Creator

Richard K Carlson

Glo-ry be to God, Cre - a - tor, glo-ry be to God, the Son, glo-ry
was in the be - gin - ning, it is now and so shall be in a

5 be to God, the Spi - rit, known as Three, yet God the One. As it
world with-out an end - ing, glo - ry through e - ter - ni - ty.

Hebrew Scripture

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalter

Psalms 95

CH747

Gospel

John 4:5-43

Poetry Prayer

Anything and Everything

Rev. Sarah Speed

Reflection

Rev. Joseph Blotz

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that a glass of water given to us by a stranger can taste like justice.

We believe that honest conversation has the power to change us.

We believe that all God's children have a voice and something to say.

We believe that Jesus loves the outcast, the ignored, the shamed, and the abandoned.

We believe in asking questions.

We believe in curiosity.

We believe in giving people a drink.

May we be brave enough to give people a drink. Amen.

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Don Besig and Nancy Price

9 Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou-bles, and our cares.

Help us, O Lord, to be o - pen to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

*Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for you.
The following are offered as examples...*

Our Father/Mother/Creator,
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 debts/sins/trespasses,
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/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.

Musical Offering*We All Come Thirsty*

Anna Strickland

We all come thir - sty to the well to seek the li - ving wa - ter with
 Through dif - fren - ces our hands can reach to care and hold each o - ther. There
 We care for God's com - mu - nu - ty, our mu - tual aide shared free - ly. To

10 wounds and pasts we'd ra - ther hide but let - ting our hearts sof - ten.
 are no stra - ngers for they are our sib - lings, si - sters, bro - thers.
 all we give as we re - ceive with grace and lov - ing deep - ly.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise
5 God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

Prayer of Dedication

Extravagant God, you lavish us with love and acceptance and ask that we love and accept others. In offering these gifts, we express our commitment to your way. May they bring hope and shalom to this congregation and to your world. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn

Go My Children with My Blessing

CH431

Benediction

As you leave this place,
may God bless you with seeking.
Seek out the hungry. Seek the weary.
Seek the good in every person you pass. Seek out the hopeful.
Seek the faithful. Seek God in each of us.
As you seek and as you wonder,
may you find what you are looking for. In the name of our loving God,
who is always seeking us,
go now in peace. Amen.

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

The Week Ahead...

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| Sunday, March 12 | 10:15am Worship and Worship Circle |
| Monday March 13 | 10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center 7pm Take Note in Fellowship Hall |
| Tuesday, March 14 | 7pm Adult Education: Signs and Wonders on Zoom |
| Wednesday, March 15 | 1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall |
| Thursday, March 16 | 9:30 Quilt Group in Fellowship Hall 12:15pm Contemplative Communion 7pm Choir Rehearsal in Fellowship Hall |
| Sunday, March 19 | 10:15am Worship and Worship Circle 5pm PLAG in Fellowship Hall |