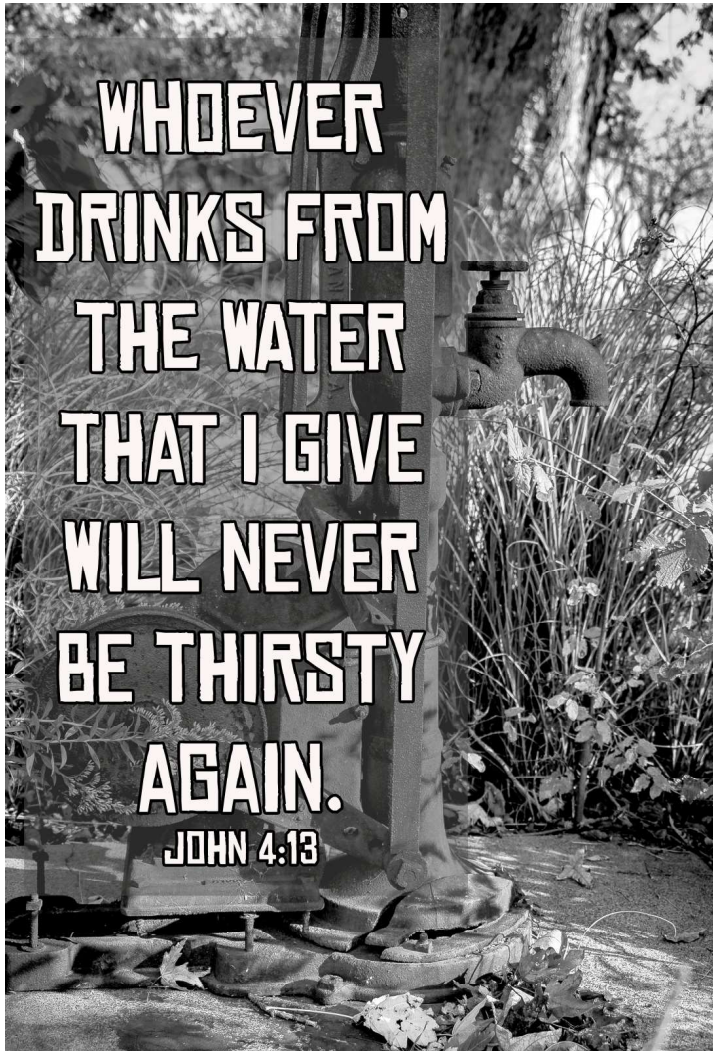


*St. John United Church of Christ
301 S. Market Street
New Athens, Illinois 62264*



A chance meeting with a stranger from Galilee turned around a Samaritan woman's life forever—and it all started with a trip to the well.

*The Third Sunday
of Lent*

March 15, 2020

Worship and Grow Today

*Traditional Worship
8 am*

*Contemporary Worship
9:15 am*

Sunday School Classes, 9 am

Learn More About Us
stjohnuccnewathens.com

Contact Our Staff

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stjohnucc@att.net*

*Tarrah Vaupel, Student Pastor
tarrahsv@gmail.com*

*Beth Buettner, Office Staff
stjucckdesknaill@att.net*

*Cindy Vogler,
Director Christian Education
dcecindy@att.net*

*Melinda Milligan, Director
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THE MORNING PRELUDE, CALL OF THE BELL

Seeking God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP *(From Psalm 95)*

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the HOLY ONE, our Maker!

Yes! God is our God, and we are God's people:

O that today we would listen for the Lord's voice!

Let us not harden our hearts, as they did in the wilderness,

When our ancestors tested our Liberator,

requiring proof of God's faithfulness,

even though they had witnessed miracles!

For forty years God contended with that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."

Today, Holy One, we have learned from their struggles.

Today, we re-dedicate our hearts to you

and strain our ears to hear your voice.

Speak now, Still-Speaking God, for your people are listening!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of grace and truth,

we come to your house today to worship you.

We bring all of ourselves to you,

all of the good, the bad, and the ugly.

We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves

to your transforming power and gentle, loving care.

Blessing, glory, and honor are yours alone.

Thank you for the many ways your Spirit

breaks into our lives and into this troubled world.

We offer this prayer in the name of the One

whose name is above every name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

Pew Booklet, pp. 12-13

Asking God's Forgiveness

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Responsively

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people. For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives to our own hands alone,

Forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected,

Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused,

Show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom, for each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us,

Direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence, and our indifference to the suffering round us,

Forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace;

Remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion.

For Christ's sake we pray. Amen.

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Responding With Our Prayers

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And with you also.

Let us pray....

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer

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RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer"

Hymnal, No. 501

Responding With Our Gifts

MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Hymnal, No. 551

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great Provider, bless these offerings and multiply them according to your will.

May they restore hope and wholeness to those who benefit from them.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Responding With Faithful Service in the World

BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Once a Woman Seeking Water"

Bulletin, p. 6

POSTLUDE



Once a Woman Seeking Water
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
(Tune, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken")

Once a woman seeking water
at a well not far from home
Met a thirsty, waiting stranger
from a people not her own.
Would she give a drink of water
and respond to human need?
Could she know the joy and wonder
she, the giver, would receive?

She drew water for the thirsty;
Jesus offered something more:
Living water, God's own mercy,
love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body;
one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator —
gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water
from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather,
sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given
in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing
from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends,
In the ones we call our partners — no more strangers, now our friends.

Words Copyright © 2012 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.



• **Lenten Worship This Wednesday, 7 pm**

We'll hear from a man whom Mark tells us that Jesus not only loved, but also asked to follow him—after selling what he had and giving the money to the poor. Jesus' promised "treasure in heaven" didn't sound nearly as secure as money in the bank. So, Mark says, the man "went away grieving." What would we have done, had we been in his place—as, in fact, we so often are? Special music will be from a dulcimer trio. Be sure to come early for our soup and sandwich supper, from 5:30-6:30 pm in the dining hall.

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Thirst Voices
John 4:5-42

Third Sunday in Lent
Amistad Sunday

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

On this Amistad Sunday, we remember those who thirsted for justice aboard the slave ship Amistad. We remember how women, children and men were stolen from their homes, were loaded like cargo onto a ship, were mocked and tortured. We remember the horrors of that terrible voyage and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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We remember how those imprisoned aboard the Amistad were strangers to each other, and did not even speak the same language, yet still worked together to plan and execute an escape. We remember how the prisoners took control of the ship. We remember how the ship Amistad was then captured a second time, and how those children of God were imprisoned once again, this time on American soil. We remember the indignity of imprisonment and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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We remember how a legal battle then began, to send those imprisoned on the Amistad home to the African soil from which they had been stolen. We remember those, many of them our ancestors in faith, who worked for justice both from within and outside of prison bars. We remember those who have fought for freedom from unjust confinement and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

We remember and give thanks for these, our ancestors in faith who fought for freedom from sea and land. We celebrate their courage and we honor their dedication. We join them here and now as we say with one voice that never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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Find out more about the Amistad case of 1839 at the National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/amistad>

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Legible handwriting or printing is much appreciated!
If you're a visitor with us today, we hope you'll come again!*

Date _____

Your Name _____

- Member Visitor Child/Youth Looking for a Church Home
 Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

We want to know
what you think!
Please include
comments, suggestions,
or other feedback below:



Welcome to Worship!



Pastor
Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarrah Vaupel

Organist
Julie Daab

Ushers
Carol Prunty, Keith Reuss

Acolyte
Logan Gallagher

Please pray for these churches, pastors, and friends:

Hospitalized

Ralph Kinzinger	Mercy Hospital South
Sue Kosarek	St. Elizabeth's
Sue Zaring	Memorial East

From the Illinois South Conference:

St. Paul, Nashville
Rev. Beverly Kahle, Pastor

Zion, New Baden
Rev. Jan Dashner, Interim Pastor

Members and friends of St. John's:

Chris Volner
 Norma Volner
 Debbie and Rick Volner
 Christine and Robert Volner, Delilah and Waylon
 Zach Volner
 April and James Wade
 Alec Wade
 Jeremy Wade
 Dorothy Vielweber-Wagner
 Fred Werner
 SueAnn Werner
 Gene and Jan Whaley
 Teresa Wheelehan, Peyton and Hailey Houser

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- Mention this joy/concern during morning prayers.
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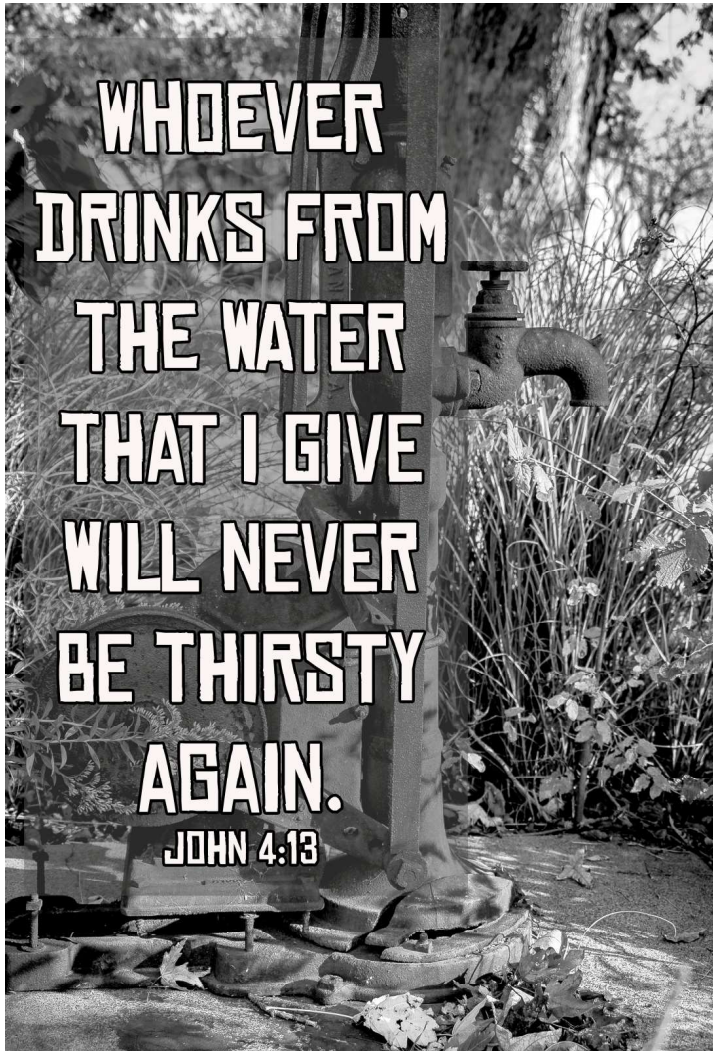
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- Youth group volunteer
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- Serve on a committee
- Join "Prayer Partners"

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MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY

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PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
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Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

We want to know
what you think!
Please include
comments, suggestions,
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Welcome to Worship!



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Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarrah Vaupel

Organist
Julie Daab

Ushers
Carol Prunty, Keith Reuss

Acolyte
Logan Gallagher

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 Norma Volner
 Debbie and Rick Volner
 Christine and Robert Volner, Delilah and Waylon
 Zach Volner
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 Alec Wade
 Jeremy Wade
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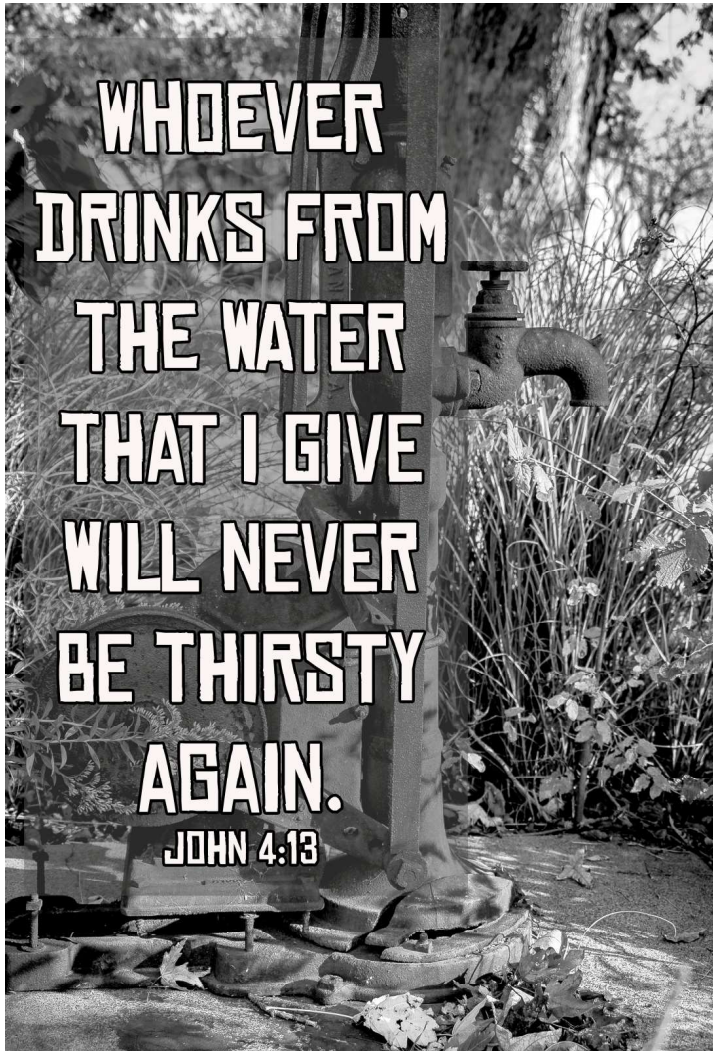


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breaks into our lives and into this troubled world.

We offer this prayer in the name of the One

whose name is above every name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

Pew Booklet, pp. 12-13

Asking God's Forgiveness

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Responsively

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people. For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives to our own hands alone,

Forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected,

Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused,

Show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom, for each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us,

Direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence, and our indifference to the suffering round us,

Forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace;

Remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion.

For Christ's sake we pray. Amen.

People of God, bring your confession to our Creator during this time of sacred silence...

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

Passing the Peace

Hymnal, No. 493

Hearing God's Word

THE MORNING COLLECT

The words that we hear from the Gospel of John illustrate something that is often overlooked, Lord Jesus.

Break our hearts open, Divine Creator, so that the life and story of your beloved Samaritan woman can be uplifted and fall freshly upon our hearts. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 4:5-42

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"Anyone Else Catch That?!?"

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JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR WORSHIPING FAMILY

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The Lord be with you.

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Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer

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Responding With Faithful Service in the World

BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Once a Woman Seeking Water"

Bulletin, p. 6

POSTLUDE



Once a Woman Seeking Water
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
(Tune, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken")

Once a woman seeking water
at a well not far from home
Met a thirsty, waiting stranger
from a people not her own.
Would she give a drink of water
and respond to human need?
Could she know the joy and wonder
she, the giver, would receive?

She drew water for the thirsty;
Jesus offered something more:
Living water, God's own mercy,
love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body;
one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator —
gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water
from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather,
sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given
in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing
from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends,
In the ones we call our partners — no more strangers, now our friends.

Words Copyright © 2012 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.



• **Lenten Worship This Wednesday, 7 pm**

We'll hear from a man whom Mark tells us that Jesus not only loved, but also asked to follow him—after selling what he had and giving the money to the poor. Jesus' promised "treasure in heaven" didn't sound nearly as secure as money in the bank. So, Mark says, the man "went away grieving." What would we have done, had we been in his place—as, in fact, we so often are? Special music will be from a dulcimer trio. Be sure to come early for our soup and sandwich supper, from 5:30-6:30 pm in the dining hall.

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Thirst Voices
John 4:5-42

Third Sunday in Lent
Amistad Sunday

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

On this Amistad Sunday, we remember those who thirsted for justice aboard the slave ship Amistad. We remember how women, children and men were stolen from their homes, were loaded like cargo onto a ship, were mocked and tortured. We remember the horrors of that terrible voyage and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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We remember how a legal battle then began, to send those imprisoned on the Amistad home to the African soil from which they had been stolen. We remember those, many of them our ancestors in faith, who worked for justice both from within and outside of prison bars. We remember those who have fought for freedom from unjust confinement and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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We remember and give thanks for these, our ancestors in faith who fought for freedom from sea and land. We celebrate their courage and we honor their dedication. We join them here and now as we say with one voice that never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry, now and forever. Amen.

Find out more about the Amistad case of 1839 at the National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/amistad>

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Legible handwriting or printing is much appreciated!
If you're a visitor with us today, we hope you'll come again!*

Date _____

Your Name _____

- Member Visitor Child/Youth Looking for a Church Home
 Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

We want to know
what you think!
Please include
comments, suggestions,
or other feedback below:



Welcome to Worship!



Pastor
Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarrah Vaupel

Organist
Julie Daab

Ushers
Carol Prunty, Keith Reuss

Acolyte
Logan Gallagher

Please pray for these churches, pastors, and friends:

Hospitalized

Ralph Kinzinger	Mercy Hospital South
Sue Kosarek	St. Elizabeth's
Sue Zaring	Memorial East

From the Illinois South Conference:

St. Paul, Nashville
Rev. Beverly Kahle, Pastor

Zion, New Baden
Rev. Jan Dashner, Interim Pastor

Members and friends of St. John's:

Chris Volner
 Norma Volner
 Debbie and Rick Volner
 Christine and Robert Volner, Delilah and Waylon
 Zach Volner
 April and James Wade
 Alec Wade
 Jeremy Wade
 Dorothy Vielweber-Wagner
 Fred Werner
 SueAnn Werner
 Gene and Jan Whaley
 Teresa Wheelehan, Peyton and Hailey Houser

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Contact Pastor Koch or the church office to schedule an appointment.
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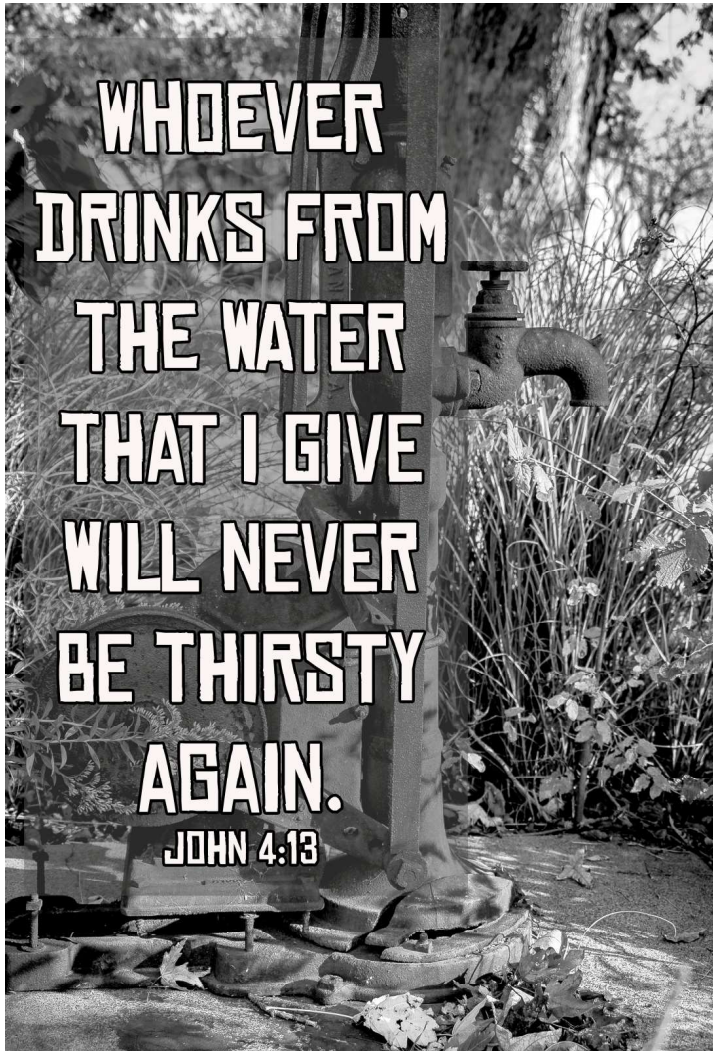
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- "Doughnut time" helper

I'm interested in these opportunities to serve and grow:

- Usher
- Teach Sunday School
- Youth group volunteer
- Attend Bible study
- Serve on a committee
- Join "Prayer Partners"

*St. John United Church of Christ
301 S. Market Street
New Athens, Illinois 62264*



A chance meeting with a stranger from Galilee turned around a Samaritan woman's life forever—and it all started with a trip to the well.

*The Third Sunday
of Lent*

March 15, 2020

Worship and Grow Today

*Traditional Worship
8 am*

*Contemporary Worship
9:15 am*

Sunday School Classes, 9 am

Learn More About Us
stjohnuccnewathens.com

Contact Our Staff

*Bob Koch, Pastor
stjohnucc@att.net*

*Tarrah Vaupel, Student Pastor
tarrahsv@gmail.com*

*Beth Buettner, Office Staff
stjucckdesknaill@att.net*

*Cindy Vogler,
Director Christian Education
dcecindy@att.net*

*Melinda Milligan, Director
New Beginnings Daycare
new-beginnings@att.net
475-2969*

*Church Office Phone
(618) 475-2947*

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"Morning Has Broken" (Vs. 1)

Beginning five minutes prior to worship

Pew Booklet, p. 32

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(Please pass your Attendance/Prayer Concern slips to the center aisle.)

THE MORNING PRELUDE, CALL OF THE BELL

Seeking God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP *(From Psalm 95)*

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the HOLY ONE, our Maker!

Yes! God is our God, and we are God's people:

O that today we would listen for the Lord's voice!

Let us not harden our hearts, as they did in the wilderness,

When our ancestors tested our Liberator,

requiring proof of God's faithfulness,

even though they had witnessed miracles!

For forty years God contended with that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."

Today, Holy One, we have learned from their struggles.

Today, we re-dedicate our hearts to you

and strain our ears to hear your voice.

Speak now, Still-Speaking God, for your people are listening!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of grace and truth,

we come to your house today to worship you.

We bring all of ourselves to you,

all of the good, the bad, and the ugly.

We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves

to your transforming power and gentle, loving care.

Blessing, glory, and honor are yours alone.

Thank you for the many ways your Spirit

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One, a blessing for the body;
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Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

We want to know
what you think!
Please include
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Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarah Vaupel

Organist
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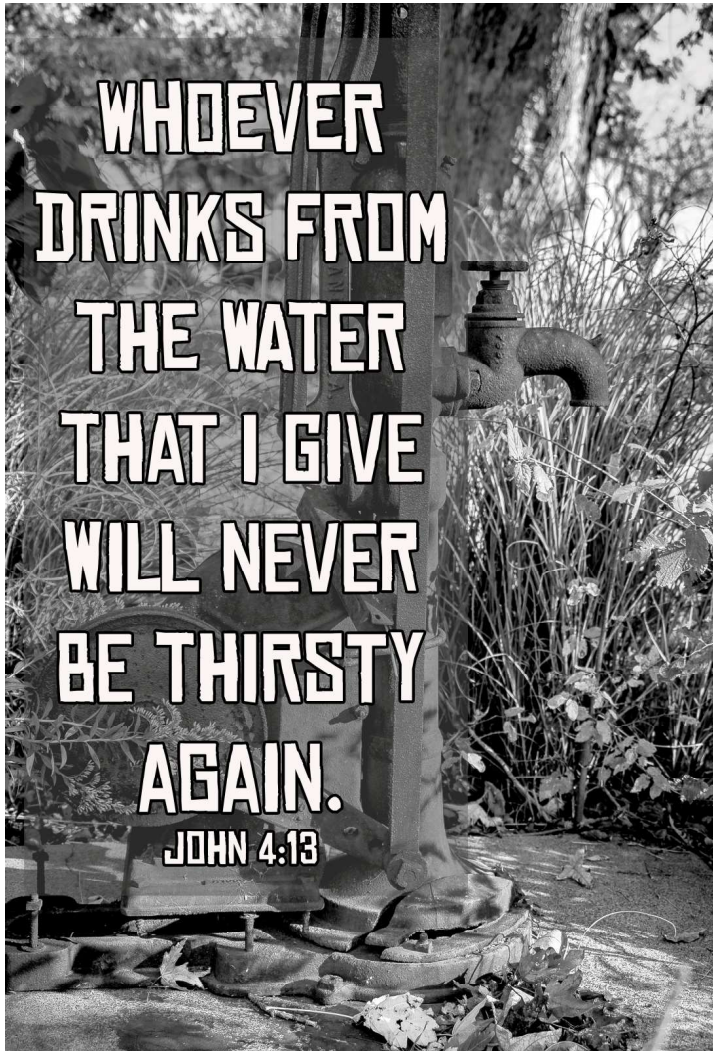
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Thirst Voices
John 4:5-42

Third Sunday in Lent
Amistad Sunday

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On this Amistad Sunday, we remember those who thirsted for justice aboard the slave ship Amistad. We remember how women, children and men were stolen from their homes, were loaded like cargo onto a ship, were mocked and tortured. We remember the horrors of that terrible voyage and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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We want to know
what you think!
Please include
comments, suggestions,
or other feedback below:



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Student Pastor

Tarrah Vaupel

Organist

Julie Daab

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Carol Prunty, Keith Reuss

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Mercy Hospital South
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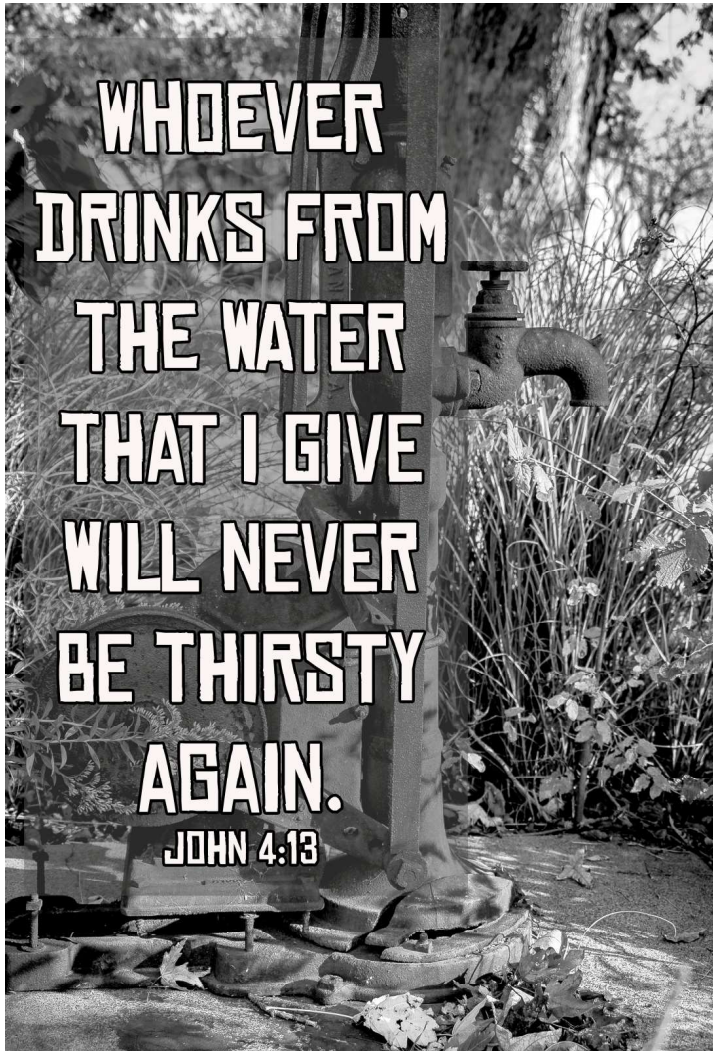
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*St. John United Church of Christ
301 S. Market Street
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*The Third Sunday
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March 15, 2020

Worship and Grow Today

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8 am*

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Learn More About Us
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Gathering Together

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

"Morning Has Broken" (Vs. 1)

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Pew Booklet, p. 32

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

(Please pass your Attendance/Prayer Concern slips to the center aisle.)

THE MORNING PRELUDE, CALL OF THE BELL

Seeking God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP *(From Psalm 95)*

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the HOLY ONE, our Maker!

Yes! God is our God, and we are God's people:

O that today we would listen for the Lord's voice!

Let us not harden our hearts, as they did in the wilderness,

When our ancestors tested our Liberator,

requiring proof of God's faithfulness,

even though they had witnessed miracles!

For forty years God contended with that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."

Today, Holy One, we have learned from their struggles.

Today, we re-dedicate our hearts to you

and strain our ears to hear your voice.

Speak now, Still-Speaking God, for your people are listening!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of grace and truth,

we come to your house today to worship you.

We bring all of ourselves to you,

all of the good, the bad, and the ugly.

We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves

to your transforming power and gentle, loving care.

Blessing, glory, and honor are yours alone.

Thank you for the many ways your Spirit

breaks into our lives and into this troubled world.

We offer this prayer in the name of the One

whose name is above every name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

Pew Booklet, pp. 12-13

Asking God's Forgiveness

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Responsively

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people. For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives to our own hands alone,

Forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected,

Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused,

Show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom, for each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us,

Direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence, and our indifference to the suffering round us,

Forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace;

Remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion.

For Christ's sake we pray. Amen.

People of God, bring your confession to our Creator during this time of sacred silence...

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

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Hymnal, No. 493

Hearing God's Word

THE MORNING COLLECT

The words that we hear from the Gospel of John illustrate something that is often overlooked, Lord Jesus.

Break our hearts open, Divine Creator, so that the life and story of your beloved Samaritan woman can be uplifted and fall freshly upon our hearts. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

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*OUR UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH

Responding With Our Prayers

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR WORSHIPING FAMILY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And with you also.

Let us pray....

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

Together, Words on Screen

RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer"

Hymnal, No. 501

Responding With Our Gifts

MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Hymnal, No. 551

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great Provider, bless these offerings and multiply them according to your will.

May they restore hope and wholeness to those who benefit from them.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Responding With Faithful Service in the World

BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Once a Woman Seeking Water"

Bulletin, p. 6

POSTLUDE



Once a Woman Seeking Water
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
(Tune, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken")

Once a woman seeking water
at a well not far from home
Met a thirsty, waiting stranger
from a people not her own.
Would she give a drink of water
and respond to human need?
Could she know the joy and wonder
she, the giver, would receive?

She drew water for the thirsty;
Jesus offered something more:
Living water, God's own mercy,
love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body;
one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator —
gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water
from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather,
sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given
in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing
from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends,
In the ones we call our partners — no more strangers, now our friends.

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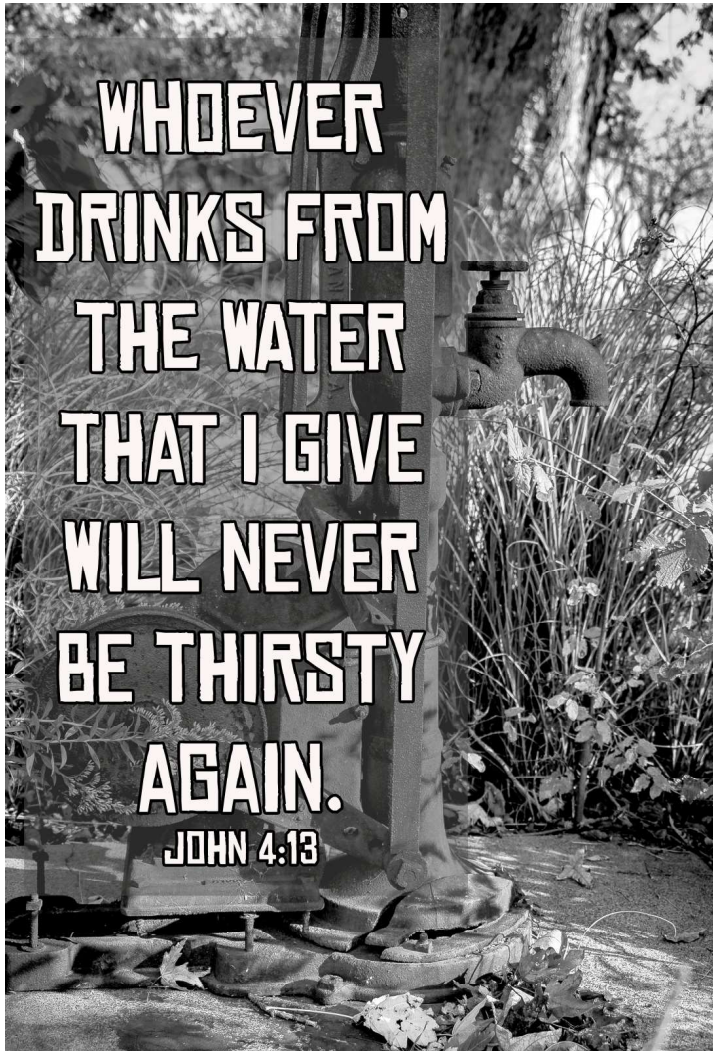


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Could she know the joy and wonder
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Living water, God's own mercy,
love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body;
one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator —
gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water
from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather,
sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given
in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing
from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
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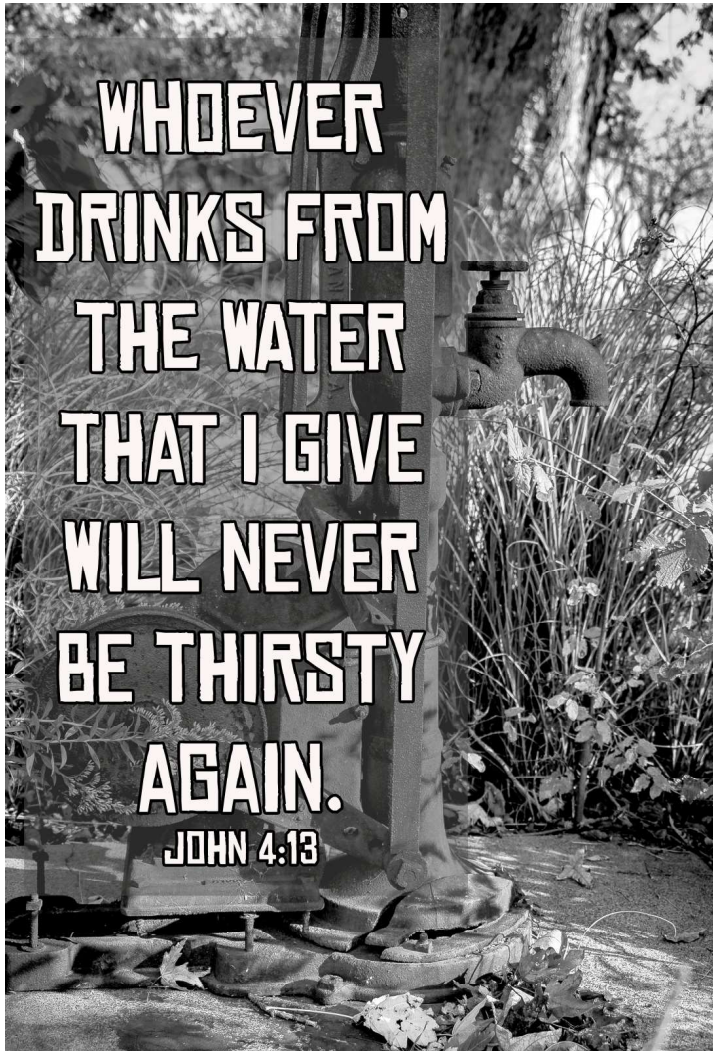


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*The Third Sunday
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March 15, 2020

Worship and Grow Today

*Traditional Worship
8 am*

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Learn More About Us
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Contact Our Staff

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tarrahsv@gmail.com*

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(Please pass your Attendance/Prayer Concern slips to the center aisle.)

THE MORNING PRELUDE, CALL OF THE BELL

Seeking God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP *(From Psalm 95)*

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the HOLY ONE, our Maker!

Yes! God is our God, and we are God's people:

O that today we would listen for the Lord's voice!

Let us not harden our hearts, as they did in the wilderness,

When our ancestors tested our Liberator,

requiring proof of God's faithfulness,

even though they had witnessed miracles!

For forty years God contended with that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."

Today, Holy One, we have learned from their struggles.

Today, we re-dedicate our hearts to you

and strain our ears to hear your voice.

Speak now, Still-Speaking God, for your people are listening!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of grace and truth,

we come to your house today to worship you.

We bring all of ourselves to you,

all of the good, the bad, and the ugly.

We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves

to your transforming power and gentle, loving care.

Blessing, glory, and honor are yours alone.

Thank you for the many ways your Spirit

breaks into our lives and into this troubled world.

We offer this prayer in the name of the One

whose name is above every name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

Pew Booklet, pp. 12-13

Asking God's Forgiveness

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Responsively

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people. For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives to our own hands alone,

Forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected,

Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused,

Show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom, for each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us,

Direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence, and our indifference to the suffering round us,

Forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace;

Remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion.

For Christ's sake we pray. Amen.

People of God, bring your confession to our Creator during this time of sacred silence...

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Responding With Our Prayers

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR WORSHIPING FAMILY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And with you also.

Let us pray....

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer

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RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer"

Hymnal, No. 501

Responding With Our Gifts

MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Hymnal, No. 551

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great Provider, bless these offerings and multiply them according to your will.

May they restore hope and wholeness to those who benefit from them.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Responding With Faithful Service in the World

BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Once a Woman Seeking Water"

Bulletin, p. 6

POSTLUDE



Once a Woman Seeking Water
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
(Tune, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken")

Once a woman seeking water
at a well not far from home
Met a thirsty, waiting stranger
from a people not her own.
Would she give a drink of water
and respond to human need?
Could she know the joy and wonder
she, the giver, would receive?

She drew water for the thirsty;
Jesus offered something more:
Living water, God's own mercy,
love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body;
one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator —
gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water
from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather,
sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given
in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing
from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends,
In the ones we call our partners — no more strangers, now our friends.

Words Copyright © 2012 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.



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We'll hear from a man whom Mark tells us that Jesus not only loved, but also asked to follow him—after selling what he had and giving the money to the poor. Jesus' promised "treasure in heaven" didn't sound nearly as secure as money in the bank. So, Mark says, the man "went away grieving." What would we have done, had we been in his place—as, in fact, we so often are? Special music will be from a dulcimer trio. Be sure to come early for our soup and sandwich supper, from 5:30-6:30 pm in the dining hall.

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Thirst Voices
John 4:5-42

Third Sunday in Lent
Amistad Sunday

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On this Amistad Sunday, we remember those who thirsted for justice aboard the slave ship Amistad. We remember how women, children and men were stolen from their homes, were loaded like cargo onto a ship, were mocked and tortured. We remember the horrors of that terrible voyage and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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We remember and give thanks for these, our ancestors in faith who fought for freedom from sea and land. We celebrate their courage and we honor their dedication. We join them here and now as we say with one voice that never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

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If you're a visitor with us today, we hope you'll come again!*

Date _____

Your Name _____

- Member Visitor Child/Youth Looking for a Church Home
 Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

We want to know
what you think!
Please include
comments, suggestions,
or other feedback below:



Welcome to Worship!



Pastor
Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarrah Vaupel

Organist
Julie Daab

Ushers
Carol Prunty, Keith Reuss

Acolyte
Logan Gallagher

Please pray for these churches, pastors, and friends:

Hospitalized

Ralph Kinzinger	Mercy Hospital South
Sue Kosarek	St. Elizabeth's
Sue Zaring	Memorial East

From the Illinois South Conference:

St. Paul, Nashville
Rev. Beverly Kahle, Pastor

Zion, New Baden
Rev. Jan Dashner, Interim Pastor

Members and friends of St. John's:

Chris Volner
 Norma Volner
 Debbie and Rick Volner
 Christine and Robert Volner, Delilah and Waylon
 Zach Volner
 April and James Wade
 Alec Wade
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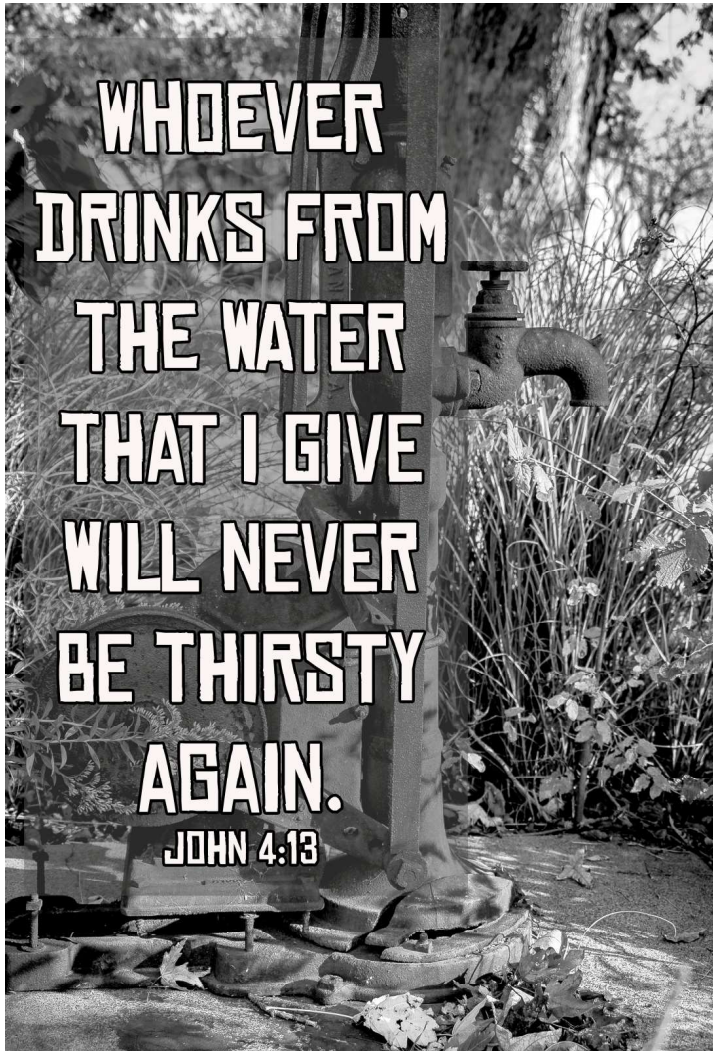


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MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY

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 Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

We want to know
what you think!
Please include
comments, suggestions,
or other feedback below:



Welcome to Worship!



Pastor
Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarrah Vaupel

Organist
Julie Daab

Ushers
Carol Prunty, Keith Reuss

Acolyte
Logan Gallagher

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Hospitalized

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Sue Kosarek	St. Elizabeth's
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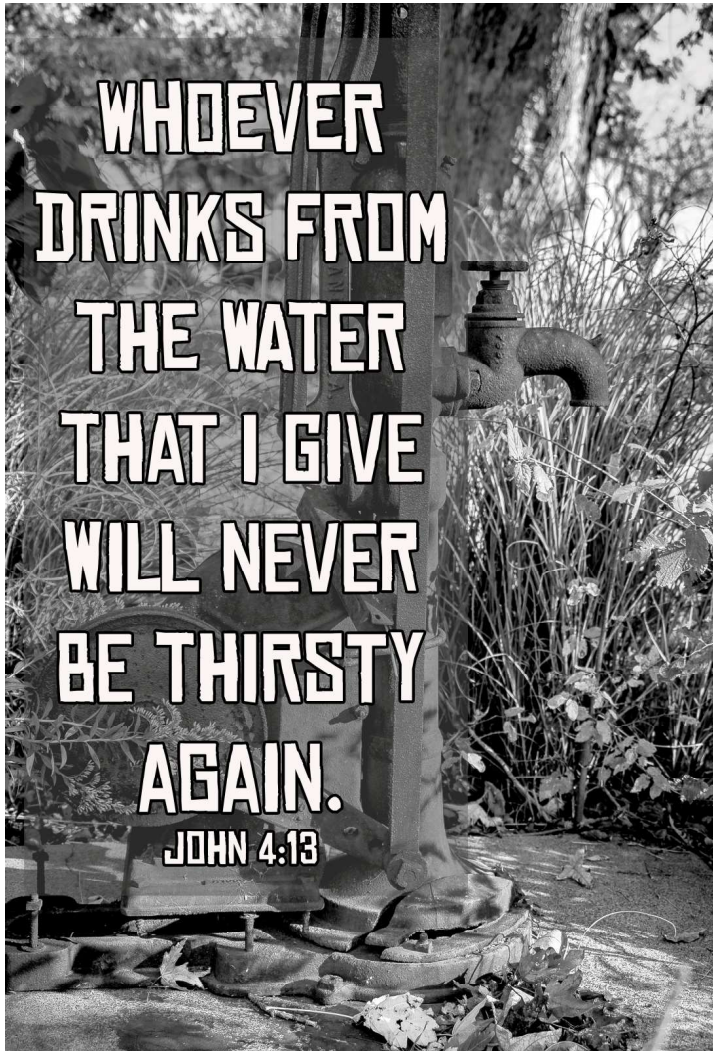
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|--|---|
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Yes! God is our God, and we are God's people:

O that today we would listen for the Lord's voice!

Let us not harden our hearts, as they did in the wilderness,

When our ancestors tested our Liberator,

requiring proof of God's faithfulness,

even though they had witnessed miracles!

For forty years God contended with that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."

Today, Holy One, we have learned from their struggles.

Today, we re-dedicate our hearts to you

and strain our ears to hear your voice.

Speak now, Still-Speaking God, for your people are listening!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of grace and truth,

we come to your house today to worship you.

We bring all of ourselves to you,

all of the good, the bad, and the ugly.

We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves

to your transforming power and gentle, loving care.

Blessing, glory, and honor are yours alone.

Thank you for the many ways your Spirit

breaks into our lives and into this troubled world.

We offer this prayer in the name of the One

whose name is above every name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

Pew Booklet, pp. 12-13

Asking God's Forgiveness

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Responsively

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people. For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives to our own hands alone,

Forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected,

Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused,

Show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom, for each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us,

Direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence, and our indifference to the suffering round us,

Forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace;

Remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion.

For Christ's sake we pray. Amen.

People of God, bring your confession to our Creator during this time of sacred silence...

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

Passing the Peace

Hymnal, No. 493

Hearing God's Word

THE MORNING COLLECT

The words that we hear from the Gospel of John illustrate something that is often overlooked, Lord Jesus.

Break our hearts open, Divine Creator, so that the life and story of your beloved Samaritan woman can be uplifted and fall freshly upon our hearts. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 4:5-42

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE SERMON

"Anyone Else Catch That?!?"

*OUR UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH

Responding With Our Prayers

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR WORSHIPING FAMILY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And with you also.

Let us pray....

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

Together, Words on Screen

RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer"

Hymnal, No. 501

Responding With Our Gifts

MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Hymnal, No. 551

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great Provider, bless these offerings and multiply them according to your will.

May they restore hope and wholeness to those who benefit from them.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Responding With Faithful Service in the World

BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Once a Woman Seeking Water"

Bulletin, p. 6

POSTLUDE



Once a Woman Seeking Water
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
(Tune, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken")

Once a woman seeking water
at a well not far from home
Met a thirsty, waiting stranger
from a people not her own.
Would she give a drink of water
and respond to human need?
Could she know the joy and wonder
she, the giver, would receive?

She drew water for the thirsty;
Jesus offered something more:
Living water, God's own mercy,
love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body;
one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator —
gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water
from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather,
sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given
in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing
from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends,
In the ones we call our partners — no more strangers, now our friends.

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• **Lenten Worship This Wednesday, 7 pm**

We'll hear from a man whom Mark tells us that Jesus not only loved, but also asked to follow him—after selling what he had and giving the money to the poor. Jesus' promised "treasure in heaven" didn't sound nearly as secure as money in the bank. So, Mark says, the man "went away grieving." What would we have done, had we been in his place—as, in fact, we so often are? Special music will be from a dulcimer trio. Be sure to come early for our soup and sandwich supper, from 5:30-6:30 pm in the dining hall.

• ***CESNA's annual Soup Supper fundraiser*** will be held this Thursday, March 19, from 4-7 pm at the Community Hall. Please come support this shared community ministry!

• ***A week from tomorrow, on March 23, everyone is invited down to the Bullpen*** to watch the film, "Places In the Heart," and then share in a discussion led by Student Pastor Tarrah. The movie will start at 6 pm; feel free to come early to eat dinner, or to eat while the film is being shown.

Thirst Voices
John 4:5-42

Third Sunday in Lent
Amistad Sunday

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

On this Amistad Sunday, we remember those who thirsted for justice aboard the slave ship Amistad. We remember how women, children and men were stolen from their homes, were loaded like cargo onto a ship, were mocked and tortured. We remember the horrors of that terrible voyage and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

We remember how those imprisoned aboard the Amistad were strangers to each other, and did not even speak the same language, yet still worked together to plan and execute an escape. We remember how the prisoners took control of the ship. We remember how the ship Amistad was then captured a second time, and how those children of God were imprisoned once again, this time on American soil. We remember the indignity of imprisonment and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

We remember how a legal battle then began, to send those imprisoned on the Amistad home to the African soil from which they had been stolen. We remember those, many of them our ancestors in faith, who worked for justice both from within and outside of prison bars. We remember those who have fought for freedom from unjust confinement and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

We remember and give thanks for these, our ancestors in faith who fought for freedom from sea and land. We celebrate their courage and we honor their dedication. We join them here and now as we say with one voice that never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry, now and forever. Amen.

Find out more about the Amistad case of 1839 at the National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/amistad>

*Please fill out this slip, noting prayer concerns on the back.
Legible handwriting or printing is much appreciated!
If you're a visitor with us today, we hope you'll come again!*

Date _____

Your Name _____

- Member Visitor Child/Youth Looking for a Church Home
 Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

We want to know
what you think!
Please include
comments, suggestions,
or other feedback below:



Welcome to Worship!



Pastor
Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarrah Vaupel

Organist
Julie Daab

Ushers
Carol Prunty, Keith Reuss

Acolyte
Logan Gallagher

Please pray for these churches, pastors, and friends:

Hospitalized

Ralph Kinzinger	Mercy Hospital South
Sue Kosarek	St. Elizabeth's
Sue Zaring	Memorial East

From the Illinois South Conference:

St. Paul, Nashville
Rev. Beverly Kahle, Pastor

Zion, New Baden
Rev. Jan Dashner, Interim Pastor

Members and friends of St. John's:

Chris Volner
 Norma Volner
 Debbie and Rick Volner
 Christine and Robert Volner, Delilah and Waylon
 Zach Volner
 April and James Wade
 Alec Wade
 Jeremy Wade
 Dorothy Vielweber-Wagner
 Fred Werner
 SueAnn Werner
 Gene and Jan Whaley
 Teresa Wheelehan, Peyton and Hailey Houser

Low-cost, Christian counseling is available through Family Care Ministries.

Contact Pastor Koch or the church office to schedule an appointment.
All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Prayer Joys and Concerns

Please pray for:

- Mention this joy/concern during morning prayers.
- Please pray for this joy/concern silently.



Sign me up for the following:

- Prayer Partners
- "Doughnut time" helper

I'm interested in these opportunities to serve and grow:

- Usher
- Teach Sunday School
- Youth group volunteer
- Attend Bible study
- Serve on a committee
- Join "Prayer Partners"