

Ormond Uniting Church



Christ and the Samaritan Woman (Jn. 4: 4 - 27).
Miniature from a 13th c. Gospels

Lent 3

March 8, 2026

Minister: Rev Dr Ji Zhang

Music: Peter Hurley

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE 聚集敬拜

Call to worship

Acknowledgement of Country

1 Hymn: 155 How great thou art

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION 忏悔祷告

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD 敬听圣言

1st Scripture Reading: Psalm 诗篇 95

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

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

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

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

Therefore in my anger I swore, "They shall not enter my rest."

2nd Scripture Reading: John 约翰福音 4:5-42

So he 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." 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." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" 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." Just 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?"

Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"

This is the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

2 Hymn: 203 Fairest Lord Jesus

Sermon: the Samaritan Woman

3 Hymn: 655 O Let the Son of God enfold you (V1, 2, repeat 1)

Announcements and concerns of the church

Prayer of the People

Christ meets us at the watering places of life
inviting us into relationship,
telling us the things He knows of us,
revealing truths that change our lives.

Around the well of your grace, O God,
are those who thirst for friendship and love;

Help us to offer them

the living water of community and connectedness;

Around the well of your life, O God,
are those who thirst for joy and safety;

Help us to offer them

the living water of playfulness and protection;

Around the well of your mercy, O God,
are those who thirst for wholeness and peace;

Help us to offer them

the living water of comfort, healing and welcome;

Around the well of your presence, O God,
are those who thirst for meaning and connection;

Help us to offer them

the living water of service and worship;

And so we pray for women who feel powerless, whose lives are blighted by corruption, violence, poverty, and oppression in all its forms. We pray for these women whose faces we may never see and whose stories we may never hear.

Keep them safe, and let them be freed to survive and prosper.

We pray for girls and women deprived of education. Encourage those who provide opportunities for learning.

Protect them from those who seek to keep them uneducated.

Lord, we pray for the end of gender disparities and discrimination in all its forms.

Help us to work for a world where every woman and girl has equal opportunities to fulfill their full potential.

We pray for women in the workplace.

May they be treated with honour and dignity, and benefit from fair financial opportunities.

We acknowledge the role of women in our families and societies, those who have nurtured, taught, loved, and protected us.

May your Spirit bless their well being and loving actions.

We pray for all women who suffer from the pain of war, abuse, and conflict, especially those in the conflict in the Middle East. **May your presence, peace and hope renew their spirits and love for those they encounter.**

May the life we have found in you,
be the gift we share
with all who hunger and thirst,
with all who are outcast and rejected,
with all who have too little or too much,
with all who are wounded or ashamed,
and, through us, may this corner of the world overflow
with the living water of your Spirit.

In Jesus' Name. **Amen.** (Sacredise & others adapted)

The Lord's Prayer...

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE 差遣信徒

The Peace

4 Hymn: 153 God is love let heaven adore him

Benediction

You can find a copy of today's sermon along with other congregational information on the church website.

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NEWS & NOTICES