

Waters of Life

Nothing can awaken in us such varied moods as water. Watching the turbulent waters of swift rapids gives a sense of elation or of fierceness. As we sit beside the forest pool, we enjoy quiet and peace. As we walk beside a flowing stream, we are impressed with a feeling of purity and freshness.

The scriptures often speak of water, as they portray the spiritual life of man. No more beautiful image of peace and joy has been used than that in the words of the twenty-third Psalm: "He leads me beside the still waters."

Our Lord Jesus also made many references to water during his ministry. Addressing the crowd at the feast of the tabernacles, Christ said, "if a man is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him" (John 7:37, 38).

Here Christ stood before the people and offered water for the thirsty soul. His invitation was given to anyone who thirsted: "Do not go to the idols of your imagination, thirsty ones, whether they be of wood or stone, or whether they be the idols of lust, of riches, of power, of glory; but come to me and drink." Of this water Christ also said, "But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to everlasting life" (John 4:14).

How appropriate were Christ's words on this occasion, when the people were commemorating their journey in the desert. For in the wilderness Moses struck the rock and waters gushed out to quench the thirst of the Israelites. And Christ was that rock, from whom waters of life would pour to satisfy the needs of all those who would drink freely.

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream:
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.*

*And let the one who is
thirsty come; let the
one who desires take
the water of life
without price.*

Revelation 22:17

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THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 4

“All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 230

“Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Exodus 20:1-17

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father: We acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, asking you, through your grace, to relieve our distress. Remind us of your compassion, O Father of mercies. Remind us of all the benefits that are ours in Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. We also ask that you grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness, which are pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Matthew 11:28-29 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 415

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor!

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 598

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Sermon Text

Isaiah 31

Sermon

EGYPT OR THE LORD

THE LORD'S TABLE

*Hymn of Preparation # 421

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Celebrating the Supper

*Hymn of Response # 455

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 10:00am. Adult Sunday School class. We are studying the book of Colossians.

Today. We remember the Lord's death in the Communion service during morning worship. Our Communion service is open to those who have been, or are now, communicant members of an evangelical church.

Today, 12:30pm. A potluck luncheon will be held in the church. All are welcome.

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. We are studying the book of Deuteronomy. Our Bible study at the church begins with dinner at 7:00pm, followed by a time of study at 7:30pm. For information on attending the study via Zoom, please send an email to Pastor Wayne at wforkner86@mac.com.

Friday, May 23-Monday, May 26. Sierra Christian Conference Association Memorial Day Weekend conference. Pastor Nathaniel Vroom will speak on “Nicodemus: A Disciple in the Shadows?” See the pamphlet on the sanctuary table for more information and a registration form. No registrations are accepted after May 15.