

The First Baptist Church at Worship

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2011

10:30 AM

A guide to your meditation as you listen to the prelude, prepare your minds and hearts for worship, and sit amazed in the presence of the Lord:

Jesus has only two recorded encounters in which he is alone with a woman. In John 4 (the delicious meeting by Jacob's well with a Samaritan woman, he begins by bantering wittily with the five-time-married and now licentious woman; and in John 8 (the aftermath of his rescue of the adulterous woman threatened with stoning), his few words to her are perhaps those she would most want to hear. Indeed, the sunlit and laughing intensity of the well scene and the sudden stillness of the rescue scene are marked by a calm clarity of focus which is usually found only in first-rate plays when the dramatist's sympathy is deeply aroused. Yet neither of those encounters involves a dimension that throw obvious light forward on the recent and stilly hotly controversial hope of women to play more central roles in various branches of Christian worship. [Perhaps we rarely think with enough compassion about these two women, who after encountering Jesus, return to the world of men and stones, crosses and nails].

- Reynolds Price, *A Serious Way of Wondering*

The Gathering

THE PRELUDE

R. Alan Kimbrough, Organist

(We gather for personal and corporate reflection and prayer.)

Prelude in c minor J. S. Bach
Chorale Prelude on Parry's
"Why does azure deck the sky" C. V. Stanford
Requiem C. V. Stanford

In Praise to the Lord

CHORAL INTROIT

Chancel Choir

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days - #169

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#33 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*
CWM RHONDDA

William Williams, a Welshman became known as the "sweet singer of Wales." He traveled on horseback all over Wales preaching and singing the gospel. He wrote our opening hymn in 1745 poetically painting pictures of crystal fountains and cloudy pillars to be found in the Promised Land.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Jim Earnest

***Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being:
You have made us for yourself,
so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,
that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will,***

***no weakness keep us from doing it;
that in your light we may see clearly,
and in your service find perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#183 v.1 *In the Cross of Christ*
RATHBUN, alt.

**In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time:
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.**

*WELCOME & PASSING OF PEACE

Dr. Rodney Kennedy

*(Please register your attendance by filling out a YELLOW CARD
from the pew rack and placing it in the offering bag this morning.)*

We are invited to greet our nearest neighbors, extend our hand,
and greet one another in the name of Christ.

(Please be seated.)

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Vanessa Earnest

Reading & Proclaiming God's Word

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Zach Williamson

Exodus 17:3-7: 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 with 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?"

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE RESPONSIVE PSALTER

Zach Williamson, Leader

Psalm 95

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

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

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

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

L: 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!

P: 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!

L: 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.

All: 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."

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

Carried by Love Susan Boersma/David Lantz

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Mark Craig, Narrator

Rev. Marcus (*Jesus*) & Johnelle Kennedy (*Woman*)

John 4:5-26, 28-30, 39-42

Narrator: Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, 'Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John'—although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized—he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. 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

Jesus: 'Give me a drink.'

Woman: 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?'

Jesus: '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.'

Woman: '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: '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.'

Woman: 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus: 'Go, call your husband, and come back.'

Woman: 'I have no husband.'

Jesus: '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!'

Woman: 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.'

Jesus: '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 worshippers 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.'

Woman: 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ).

'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.'

Jesus: 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Narrator: 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 for 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 Saviour of the world.'

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

*FELLOWSHIP HYMN #631 *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*
DONNA

It is not unusual to find new words to old melodies but this hymn turns the table. George Matheson's well known verses, reminding us that God's love is with us continuously and forever, has been set to new music by Ralph Manuel. Listen to the Chancel Choir sing the first verse, and join in singing the remaining three verses.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. C. Roland Marcus

(Children in preK-grade 4 will be led downstairs for Sunday School. Younger Children preK-K will go to Room #4 and older children grades 1-4 will go to Room #3B. Parents should pick up their children after worship service.)

CALL TO PRAYER #388 *Rain Down*
RAIN DOWN

**Rain down, rain down, rain down Your love on Your people.
Rain down, rain down, rain down Your love, God of life.**

PASTORAL PRAYER Dr. Rodney Kennedy
THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Debts & Debtors*)

THE SERMON Dr. Rodney Kennedy
"A Little Talk with Jesus"

The Response of God's People

THE OFFERTORY Debbie Lindley
O Love That Will Not Let Me Go arr. Page

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #665 v.1 *Because I Have Been Given Much*
SEMINARY

**Because I have been given much, I, too, must give;
because of Thy great bounty, Lord, each day I live,
I shall divide my gifts from Thee with every person that I see
who has the need of help from me.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER Zach Williamson

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

(Persons wishing to join First Baptist Church are invited to come forward while the organist plays the first verse of the recessional hymn. You may join First Baptist Church by confession of faith, transfer of letter, or statement of faith. The pastor will greet you as you come forward this morning.)

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #184 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*
ST. CHRISTOPHER

Elizabeth Clephane was ill and frail throughout most of her thirty-nine years but that did not stop her from helping those around her who were in need. As a good Scottish Presbyterian, she studied her Bible which is evident in this hymn written in 1868.

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL Dr. Rodney Kennedy

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #512 *We Go In Peace*
EDWARDS

**We go in peace, we go in love, we go with grace and mercy
from the Lord above to tell the world this very thing:
that Jesus Christ is Lord and King,
Jesus Christ is Lord and King!**

*POSTLUDE R. Alan Kimbrough
Fugue in c minor J. S. Bach



At the close of today's service, the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the Chapel, located in the Beaver Wing. Immediately following the Lord's Supper, a Service of Healing will be held in the Chapel. The service consists of prayers for healing and wholeness, with anointing and laying on of hands. All are invited.



Worship Notes

The woman at the well in Samaria offers such a picture of the sheer compassion of Jesus. Chances are the woman at the well is completely bereft of all female companionship. She comes to the well at noon - alone. The other women of the village came to the well early in the morning - for conversation, for recreation, for gossip, to complain about their husbands. In a community of outsiders, people excluded from the people of God, this woman was an outsider to them. She was triply an outsider: a woman, a Samaritan, and a Samaritan woman excluded by her own people. Does the church need a season of Lent to consider all the ways that we create outsiders? Should we repent of all the ways we have excluded people from our little groups as far back as elementary school? More importantly, can we feel the total lack of judgment in the words of Jesus: "You have been married five times and the man you now live with is not your husband." The church has a sorry record in all matters sexual, and this story at least forces it into the open where repentance is a possibility.

Prayer for the Armed Forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



*The pink roses on the altar today are given by
Tim and Luann Meador in remembrance of Luann's sister,
Loraine Sheets, who lost her battle with breast cancer
three years go on March 31, 2008.*

(Please see insert for announcements.)

First Baptist Church of Dayton

3rd Sunday in Lent



"Jesus and the Samaritan Woman" by Rembrandt, 1658

Our Mission Statement:

*To celebrate God's love as a community of believers
in Jesus Christ through worship, education,
fellowship, and outreach to others.*

Dr. Rodney Wallace Kennedy, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Jason Alspaugh, *Associate Pastor Children & Youth*
Rev. C. Roland Marcus, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. James Earnest, *Assistant Pastor of Visitation*
Rev. C. Donald Thrash, *Assistant Pastor of Visitation*
Ray Landis, *Music Director*
Gregory Land, *Organist*
R. Alan Kimbrough, *Organist*
Debbie Lindley, *Pianist*
Linda Mullins, *Financial Secretary*
Linda Blair, *Church Secretary*
Jerry Cook, *Custodian*

111 W. Monument Avenue
Dayton OH 45402
937-222-4691
Fax: 937-222-0649

fbccdayton.org
www.fbccdayton.org