



GATHERING PRAYER:

Begin this Sunday's worship with a time of silence. Our lives are far noisier than wind, fire, or earthquake. In a great paradox, God speaks to us in sheer silence. Use this chance to listen as you pray.

Wellspring of eternal life, we come to you this day having drunk deeply the waters of anxiety and despair. Bring to us your living water. Quench our thirsting souls, for we offer this prayer in Your Name. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ Jesus laid aside his divinity and took on humanity so that we humans could share in his divinity. *"The Great Exchange" – Karl Barth/Martin Luther*
- ❖ In this simple but universal cry, "I thirst," John shows us that Jesus is one of us. Human life is not a mistake. Human bodies are not the creation of a lesser god. Our material hungers and thirsts are not illegitimate or somehow irreligious or beneath the dignity of the divine. *-Maurice A. Fetty*

PRAISE SONG: *Here at the Table (music at end of bulletin)*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: When we hunger

P: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."

L: When we thirst

P: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."

L: God who created the heavens and the earth hears our cries.

P: Lord, come and quench our thirst and heal our hunger. AMEN.

OUR CONFESSION:

God of living waters, we confess that we have often turned from you and wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt. Our thirst mounts daily, seeking to be quenched by your redeeming love. Yet, when that love is offered to us, we again turn

away, unable to truly believe that you would actually heal and love us. We have behaved in very unloving ways. We have chosen to ignore those in need or to deal only passively with them. Our hearts are not placed in service to others, but rather in self-serving motives. Heal us, merciful God. Wash us again in your living water. Help us be faithful servants. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance:

The waters of mercy and healing are poured over you. God is loving and faithful to those who come to God. Come, seek the loving presence and be healed. Amen.

THE CONFESSION RESPONSE: Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty, v.1-4
(music at end of bulletin)

THE LESSONS: Philippians 2:5-8

⁵⁻⁸ Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became *human!* Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

John 1:1-5,14-18

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life,^[a] and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it...

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,^[d] full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son,^[e] who is close to the Father's heart,^[f] who has made him known.

John 19:28-29

²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

MESSAGE: For All the Thirsty

MESSAGE RESPONSE: Why It Matters

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who 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 and ever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

Leader: Drink deeply of the waters of life, love and salvation and quench every thirst that plagues you, for the Lord is with you and working in and around you. Go in God's peace and share God's life-giving water with all whom you meet. **AMEN.**

All: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*
(music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Here at the Table



Christ is here, here at the ta - ble. Come gath - er and




lay life's bur - dens down, here at the ta - ble, at the ta -



ble where love and peace a - bound. Oh, oh, oh, oh.



Bring your hun - ger, bring your won - der,
Bring your sad - ness, bring your mad - ness,
Bring your yearn - ing, bring your turn - ing,



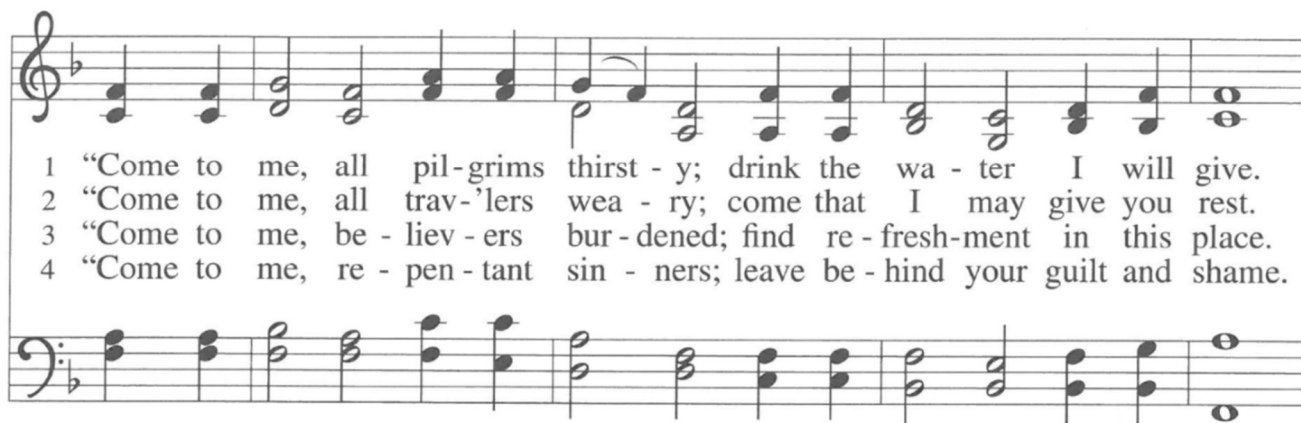
bring your thirst - ing heart. Bring your trou - bles,
bring your si - lent shame. Bring your sigh - ing,
bring your deep - est needs. Bring your doubt - ing,



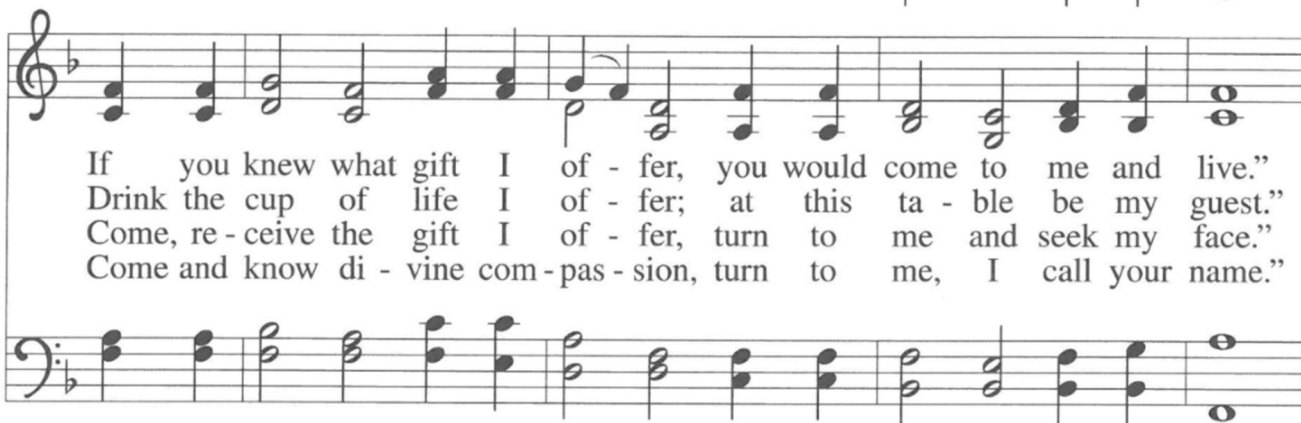
bring your strug - gles, bring all that you are.
bring your cry - ing, bring all of your pain.
bring your shout - ing, bring all to be freed.

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

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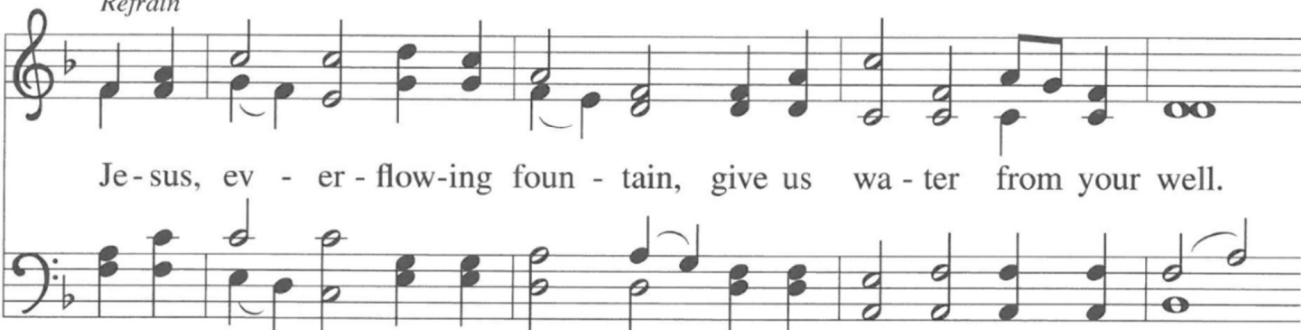


1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.

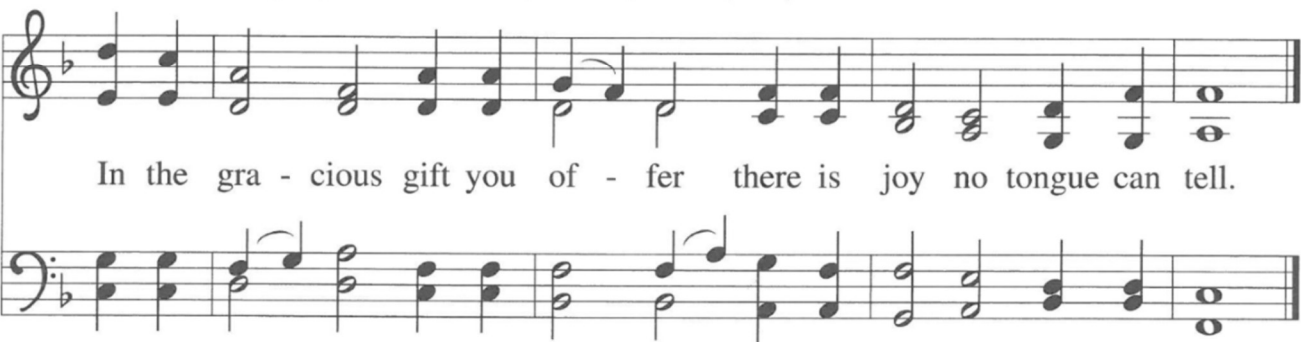


If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS

KINGSFOLD



1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's



rest; Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up -
give The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down, and
light; Look un - to me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy



on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I was, So
drink, and live." I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of
day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I found In



wea - ry, worn and sad; I found in him a
that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was quenched, my
him my star, my sun; And in that light of



rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

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