

Midweek Lenten Service

March 15, 2023

Will you give me a drink?



“Wet Stones” by Carmelle Beaugelin

Artist's Statement

On a recent search to remedy dull kitchen knives, I found myself learning about wet stones. Sharpening a knife used to be called “whetting,” so to sharpen a blade was to “whet” it. Stones used for sharpening were called “whetstones,” or a “wet rock.” Natural whetstones are typically formed of quartz, but today can be formed into pumice stones from all kinds of materials. This interesting play on the words “wet” and “stone” led me to ask of this Exodus narrative, “In focusing on their perceived lack, how had the Hebrews’ trust in God begun to dull?”

In Exodus 17 we find the first encounter involving the Hebrews where a perceived lack of water, a necessary resource for survival, is in question. When collective despair and the threat of abandoning the journey to God’s promised land is aroused, God aids Moses in providing water from rocks along the way. This fear of scarcity dulled the once sharpened faith of the community to the extent that they longed for their former life in Egypt where water was abundant but sipped under the oppression of slavery. How is it that seeking freedom could cost so much?

Like the Hebrews in the wilderness, our fear of scarcity may cause us to struggle in our confidence in God’s provision as we seek our own promises along our life’s journey. In seeking to quench our thirst, like the figures in this image, perhaps we may find the provision of God in the grace of relief and from unexpected places that sharpen our faith.

—Carmelle Beaugelin

Holden Evening Prayer

The Liturgy is found in the Holden Evening Prayer worship booklet.
(Please place the booklet in the small basket after the service)

Please stand as you are comfortable, where indicated with an asterisk ()*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

* SERVICE OF LIGHT	<u>p. 2</u>
PSALMODY	<u>p. 3</u>

POEM: anything and everything

I'd give you a drink,
a warm cup of tea with lemon and mint,
a confetti cannon, roses from the garden,
my favorite sweatshirt, a bed to lay in,
homemade bread, a hand to hold.

I'd give you my full attention.
I'd give you my phone,
and say, put your number in.
I'd give you the melody line,
a standing ovation,
a sense of security.

I'd give you anything and everything
if it made you believe
that you were enough.

Written by: Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

READING: Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But 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?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The 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. ⁶I 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. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Light shines in the darkness
And the darkness has not overcome it.

FAITH STORY: Leah Morrell

SONG: *we all come thirsty*

1. We all come thirsty to the well
To seek the living water
With wounds and pasts we'd rather hide
But letting our hearts soften

2. Through differences our hands can reach
To care and hold each other
There are no strangers for they are
Our siblings, sisters, brothers

3. We care for God's community
Our mutual aid shared freely
To all we give as we receive
With grace and loving deeply

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* THE ANNUNCIATION AND MAGNIFICAT	<u>p. 7</u>
* LITANY AND PRAYERS	<u>p. 8</u>
* THE PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER	<u>p. 9</u>
* FINAL BLESSING.....	<u>p. 9</u>
* DISMISSAL AND SHARING OF PEACE	

WORSHIP LEADERS:

CANTOR: Kristen Tarsala
ACCOMPANIST: Aria Thomé

TONIGHT'S OFFERING – An offering plate has been placed in the narthex for your convivence. This year, our midweek offerings will go to support Lutheran Disaster Response and their efforts to help those in Turkey and Syria.