

### Third Sunday in Lent

#### Exodus 17:1-7 (ESV)

17 All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

#### Romans 5:1-8 (ESV)

5 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. <sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

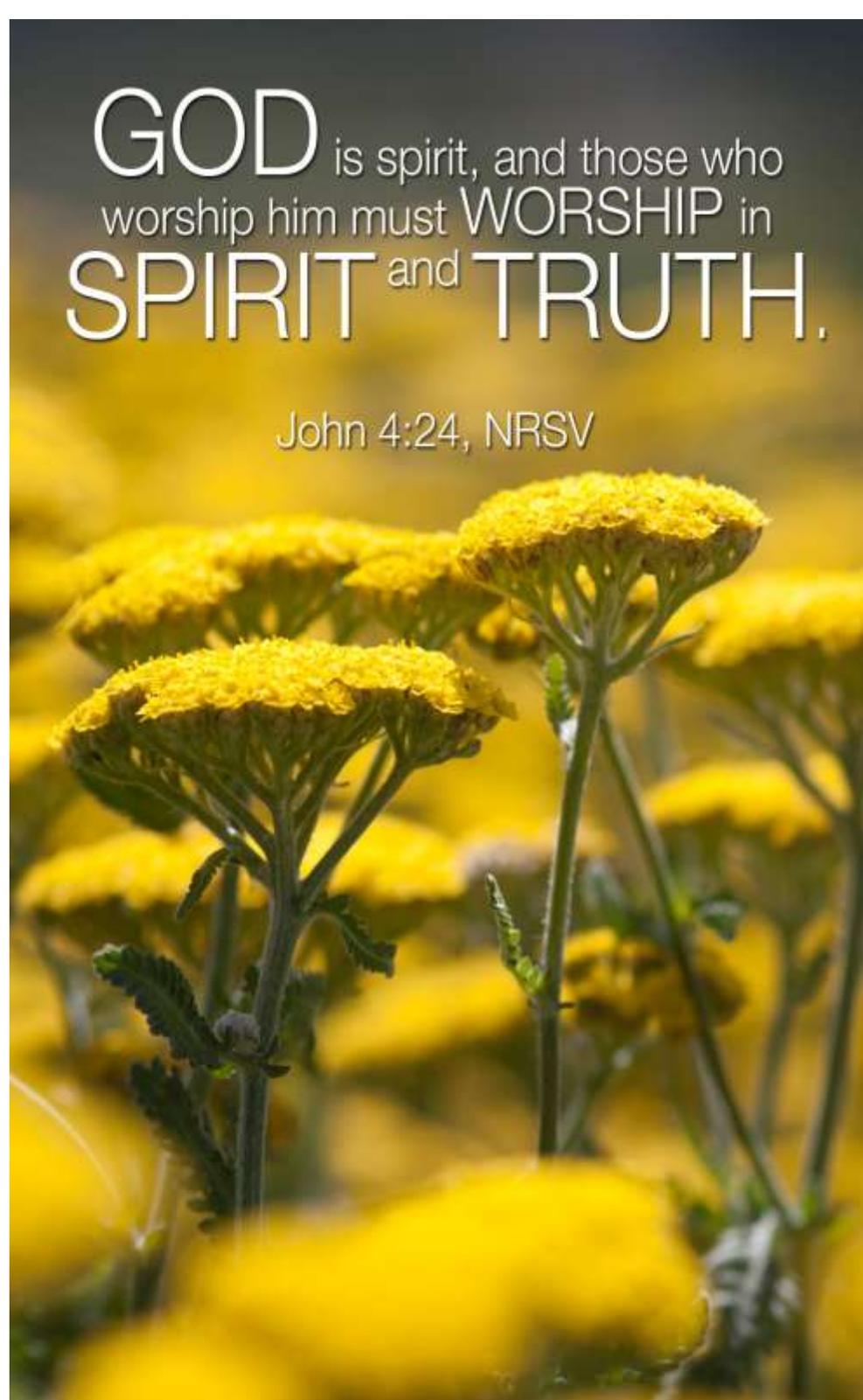
#### John 4:5-30, 39-42 (ESV)

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was

sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.<sup>7</sup>A woman from Samaria came to sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup>(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup>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."<sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"<sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."<sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."<sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."<sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true."<sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet."<sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship."<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father."<sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.<sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.<sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."<sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things."<sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

GOD is spirit, and those who  
worship him must WORSHIP in  
SPIRIT and TRUTH.

John 4:24, NRSV



**March 8, 2026**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Zion Lutheran Church, 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626  
[www.zionhemlock.org](http://www.zionhemlock.org) ~ Church Office 642-5909

✠ **In the Name of Jesus** ✠

**As We Gather** ~ We Worship the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Spirit and Truth of His Gospel. Though the Lord had brought them out of Egypt, “all the congregation of the people of Israel” grumbled against Him because “there was no water for the people to drink” (Ex. 17:1). Despite their quarreling, the Lord graciously provided for them. He did not strike the people for their sins, but by the hand of Moses He struck the rock instead and brought forth water for the people. In the same way, living water flows from the pierced side of Christ at “about the sixth hour” (John 4:6, 19:14), when He is lifted up on the cross for the sins of the world. He is “the gift of God” (John 4:10), the well from which the Holy Spirit is poured out and becomes in His people “a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:14). By this grace in which we stand, being at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, we “worship the Father in spirit and truth” (John 4:23). “We rejoice in hope of the glory of God” because “God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Rom. 5:2, 5).

ORDER OF SERVICE Service of Prayer and Preaching	260
OPENING HYMN “ <i>Jesus Sinners Doth Receive</i> ”	609
HYMN “ <i>Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way</i> ”	857
SERMON HYMN “ <i>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty</i> ”	790
SERMON “ <i>Worship</i> ”	John 4:5-26
HYMN “ <i>Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise</i> ”	802
CLOSING HYMN “ <i>Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer</i> ”	918

<b>Pastor</b>	Larry Warsinski
<b>Organist</b>	Fletcher Wernholm
<b>A/V</b>	Paul Bohn
<b>Elder/Reader</b>	Dick Bluemer
<b>Ushers</b>	Dick Bluemer and Bruce Tessin
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Mark and Judy Hingston

**Our Measure of Love and Gifts**

**Attendance last week** 47 Midweek Lent 22 *Needed for The Lord’s Work at Zion* \$4,729 ~ *Received for the Lord’s Work* \$3,754; Capital Projects \$160; God’s Helping Hands \$340.

**Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday:** March 8- Don Beach (his 82<sup>nd</sup>); March 9- Mike Rohn; March 10- Tom Garner; March 13- Pam Gilbert.

**Today’s Memory Verse** ~ “He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.” 1 John 2:2

**Voters’ meeting** will be held immediately following the service in the church March 15, 2026. All confirmed members age 18 and over are encouraged to attend.

**If God Had Voicemail** ~ Have you ever wondered what would happen if God used voicemail to handle all our prayers? Let’s imagine it for a moment.

I had just finished gossiping and wanted to confess, so I got ready to pray—or rather, to “call.” Immediately, a voice answered:

“You’ve reached the throne room of Heaven, the Prayer Department. All of our representatives are currently assisting other callers. Your call is important to us, and we want to help you. Please stay on the line, and your request will be answered in the order it was received.”

Soft music plays. Then another message comes on: “Listen carefully to the following options and press the appropriate number.

Press 1 for prayer for a loved one.

Press 2 for prayer for your church.

Press 3 to give thanks.

Press 4 to confess sins.

Press 5 for salvation.

Press 6 for physical needs.

To repeat this menu, press 9.”

Since I had a sin to confess, I pressed 4.

Another voice responded cheerfully:

“We’re so glad to help you with your confession of sins. Please select from the following options:

If you cursed, press 1.

If you yelled at your spouse or another family member, press 2.

If you gossiped, press 3...”

The list went on and on.

About then I decided to hang up and keep on gossiping. But then I remembered what the Bible says about God and how he attends to our needs. He doesn’t route our prayers through a heavenly call center or put us on hold. We don’t get busy signals, menus or automated voices.

Instead, our Father listens instantly, personally, and lovingly. Instead of a voice mail system, he says, “Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.” (Isaiah 65:24, KJV)