



July 26, 2020. The 8th Sunday after Pentecost. Part eight of “Unraveled” series.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude

Greeting

Call to Worship

One: Gracious God, we bring you the broken parts of ourselves.

All: Hem us in before and behind.

One: Creator God, we bring you the joyful parts of ourselves.

All: Weave us together in hope and praise.

One: God of new life, we bring you doubt and faith knotted up in our hearts.

All: Unravel our doubt. Weave faith into our hearts. Draw us together and point us toward you.

One: In hope and faith we pray. In hope and faith we worship.

All: Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Like the woman at the well, we so often are unraveled by shame. We carry shame for broken relationships. We carry shame for being unable to balance work and parenting, tithing and bills, productivity and Sabbath. We get stuck in a comparison game and in critical self-monologues, Consumed with the nagging feeling that we should be able to do more. Forgive us for forgetting that we are made in your image. Forgive us for forgetting that you see us and love us as we are. Unravel the shame that unravels us. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Words of Assurance and Passing of the Peace

Hymn #126 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Offering and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn “Our Shame Feels Like A Spiral” - See Attached

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

John 4:1-29

Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was making more disciples and baptizing more than John (2 although Jesus’ disciples were baptizing, not

Jesus himself). Therefore, he left Judea and went back to Galilee.

Jesus had to go through Samaria. He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, which was near the land Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there. Jesus was tired from his journey, so he sat down at the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me some water to drink.” His disciples had gone into the city to buy him some food.

The Samaritan woman asked, “Why do you, a Jewish man, ask for something to drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” (Jews and Samaritans didn’t associate with each other.)

Jesus responded, “If you recognized God’s gift and who is saying to you, ‘Give me some water to drink,’ you would be asking him and he would give you living water.”

The woman said to him, “Sir, you don’t have a bucket and the well is deep. Where would you get this living water? You aren’t greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave this well to us, and he drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.”

Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life.”

The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will never be thirsty and will never need to come here to draw water!”

Jesus said to her, “Go, get your husband, and come back here.”

The woman replied, “I don’t have a husband.”

“You are right to say, ‘I don’t have a husband,’” Jesus answered. “You’ve had five husbands, and the man you are with now isn’t your husband. You’ve spoken the truth.”

The woman said, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you and your people say that it is necessary to worship in Jerusalem.”

Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you and your people will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You and your people worship what you don’t know; we worship what we know because salvation is from the Jews. But the time is coming—and is here!—when true worshippers will worship in spirit and truth. The Father looks for those who worship him this way. God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth.”

The woman said, “I know that the Messiah is coming, the one who is called the Christ. When he comes, he will teach everything to us.”

Jesus said to her, “I Am—the one who speaks with you.”

Just then, Jesus’ disciples arrived and were shocked that he was talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?” The woman put down her water jar and went into the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who has told me everything I’ve done! Could this man be the Christ?”

Sermon

“Samaritan Woman”

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Blessing

Postlude

Our Shame Feels Like a Spiral

A Hymn Inspired by John 4:1-29

Text: Stephen M. Fearing, 2019

Tune: LLANGLOFFAN

Meter: 7.6.7.6 D

Music: Welsh folk melody; Llwybrau Moliant, 1872

Piano

Our shame feels like a spi - ral, a ne - ver end - ing depth.
When we com - pare each o - ther, it seeks to tear a - part.
O, Lord, you see us tru - ly, as child - ren whom you love.
Help us, dear God, un - ra - vel the shame that weighs us down,

4

Pno.

Our past weighs down our pre - sent; we're burd - ened by its breadth.
When we spew words of judg - ment, it breaks our hag - gard hearts.
Let's end our sham - ing cul - ture through wis - dom from a - bove.
and give us Je - sus' cour - age to spread your grace a - round!

8

Pno.

We feel our - selves un - ra - veled, un - worth - y, and un - done;
Some - times we're shamed for mo - res that haunt us from the past.
In - stead of judg - ing o - thers by stand - ards we cre - ate,
To - ge - ther we can flour - ish and heal the deep di - vides.

12

Pno.

ex - haust - ed from the gaunt - let and judged by ev - ery - one.
And o - ther times we're judged for the sins that we've a - massed.
help us see them as you do, as folks to cel - e - brate!
We pray, O Lord, to lead us with you, our faith - ful guide!



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WEEKLY GPS

GROW

PRAY

STUDY

Coming Next:

"Unraveled"

Aug 2	Thomas Questions	John 20:19-29
Aug 9	Moses's Mother Relinquishes	Exodus 1:22, 2:10
Aug 16	Job Laments	Job 28:12-28

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK: John 4:23

"The time is coming—and is here—when true worshippers will worship in spirit and truth."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	John 4:30-45
Tuesday	John 12:1-11
Wednesday	John 13:1-9
Thursday	John 11:1-16
Friday	John 14:1-11
Saturday	John 20:11-18

CARING CONVERSATIONS or REFLECTIONS

- ◇ **Thinking about this week's story:** The Samaritan Woman at the well, after realizing that Jesus was a prophet, asked the most important question that addressed the division between the Jews and Samaritans. If you had a similar opportunity, what would be your question?

Two Rivers Connections

**Subscribe to the Two Rivers e-newsletter by going to
<http://tworiversumc.org/subscribe>**

This week's Connections Schedule:

Sunday 10:30-11:30—Adult Sunday School

Monday 12:00-1:00 — Bible Study

Wednesday 12:00-12:30—Devotion and Prayer

Thursday 7:30-8:30—Pub Theology*

Zoom Room ID: 961-006-728

Zoom Password: 029397

Phone Number: 312-626-6799

***Pub Theology has a different Zoom code.**