



My eyes fill with tears whenever I get to the part of the Passion story where Jesus says through parched lips, “I thirst.” He had been imprisoned overnight, beaten brutally and pierced with nails. Dehydrated from the loss of blood, he was experiencing an intense, painful thirst, impossible to imagine. He was in excruciating pain and could have shouted something else. In his situation, wouldn’t we have begged someone to get us down, stop the agony? Many men who were crucified apparently cursed the crowd so viciously that their tongues were cut out to silence them. But Jesus had just stunned the crowd by his gentleness when he forgave his tormentors!

I think of Mary beneath the cross, remembering the times Jesus asked for a drink of water as a boy. Recalling how she quenched his thirst with her own milk, when he was an infant. She must have wept, realizing she couldn’t help him now, even though his need was so great. She couldn’t relieve his pain, she couldn’t wipe the blood from his face and she couldn’t put a cup of water to his lips.

Jesus offers a water to all of us that those who drink the water...will never thirst; the water Jesus gives will “become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” It is this love he offered his disciples when he said, “Whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

Some people pursue riches and power, while others chase beauty and youth. Everything we thirst for on earth ultimately fails us. Beauty fades, riches disappoint, power corrupts. Promises are broken and gentle hearts are crushed.

A baby in a manger, crying for milk; girls in a courtyard, calling for a drink; a mother beneath the cross, weeping. And everywhere, the longing for something meaningful, something changeless, something that will nourish our souls forever. Only Christ can quench our thirst for something deeper, which is an endless spring of living water, an eternal stream of love.

In Our Prayers

Thomas Pruitt
Zeb Carter
Juanita (Abby’s Mother)
Tim Taylor
Linda Fry
Vernon Bartlett

Pam Aldrich
Terry Nash
Vance Wendelburg
Dennis Rosenbaum
Brenda Reno
Marsha Dryden

Merry Lynn Weatherby
Jack Bailey
Marvin Miller
Lupe Hudson
Nolan Adams
Orvalee Aldrich

Upcoming Events

Youth Group [Tonight]

The Youth Group will meet tonight at 7 PM at Carl & Janet's Home.

Ladies Bible Study and Bible Hour [Wednesday]

We will have our ladies' Bible study at 9:30 AM on Wednesday morning, and our kids' Bible hour Wednesday evening at 6 PM.

Potluck and Graduation Reception [Today]

Please plan to stay and join us after worship for our monthly potluck fellowship meal. Following the meal, we will celebrate Dominic Rogers and Jorja Blakeslee on their upcoming graduation!

Young Family Ministry [Next Sunday]

We will have our young family ministry next Sunday evening starting at 5 PM here at the church building. Dinner is included and childcare is provided.

Silver Maple Camp [Coming Soon]

Registration for Silver Maple Camp is open and the early bird registration specials are coming up soon. If you'd like to register you can talk to Zeb if you need help. Zeb directs the early session which starts on Sunday, June 1

Save the Date:

June 1-7 - SMC Early Session
June 8 - Young Family Ministry (Stafford)
July 6-12 - SMC First Session
July 13 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)
July 13-19 - SMC Second Session

July 20-26 - SMC Third Session

Birthdays

Trent Sallee - May 8

Worship Order

Welcome Table & Greeters: Darrel & Shannon Bauer

Song Leader: Gary Hornbaker

Sound System: Zoey Carter

Gathering: #63 - I Will Call Upon the Lord

Welcome: Chris Mansel

Scripture Reading: Jerry Kinnamon (John 4:25-26)

Shepherd's Prayer: Tom Turner

Song: #68 - Give Thanks

Song: #176 - Lamb of God

Communion: Chris Stott (Stan Aldrich, Gatlin Reed, Chris Mansel)

Song: #909 - There's a Fountain Free

Lesson: Zeb Carter

Song: #902 - Nothing but the Blood (vs. 1)

Closing Prayer: JW Like



Giving Link

Sundays: Bible classes for all ages @ 10:00 am
Worship service for everyone @ 11:00 am
Elders: Tom Turner, Richard Brensing, Terry Sallee, Carl Feril
Deacons: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril, Zachary Marks
Minister: Zeborah Carter