

**Sunday, July 5, 2020**

**Greeting:** God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

**Question of the Day:**

Abraham's hometown was: a) Damascus b) Bethlehem c) Capernaum d) Haran

**Hymn** "Softly and Tenderly"

**Call to Worship**

Come with joy and gladness to praise and honor God.

Come to the refreshing waters that God provides.

**God is gracious and merciful and full of compassion.**

**All creation joins us in giving thanks.**

God upholds all who are falling.

**God raises us up when we are bowed down.**

God invites us to rest and be renewed.

**We have come to find rest for our souls.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

**We come together, gracious God, because we have heard your invitation. We sense that you alone know the burdens we carry. You understand our weariness. Sometimes our journey seems long and without respite. We long for the refreshment you provide us as we come to worship you. The anticipation of this rest and nourishment fills us with renewed joy and gladness. We thank you, God, that your revelation comes to us, not because we are worthy, but because we are open to your word. By your Holy Spirit open our hearts to receive all you offer. Amen.**

**Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 *The Message***

The servant said, "I'm the servant of Abraham. GOD has blessed my master – he's a great man; GOD has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, servants and maidservants, camels and donkeys. And then to top it off, Sarah, my master's wife, gave him a son in her old age and he has passed everything on to his son. My master made me promise, 'Don't get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites in whose land I live. No, go to my father's home, back to my family, and get a wife for my son there.' . . .

"Well, when I came this very day to the spring, I prayed, 'GOD, God of my master Abraham, make things turn out well in this task I've been given. I'm standing at this well. When a young woman comes here to draw water and I say to her, Please, give me a sip of water from your jug, and she says, Not only will I give you a drink, I'll also water your camels – let that woman be the wife GOD has picked out for my master's son.'

"I had barely finished offering this prayer, when Rebekah arrived, her jug on her shoulder. She went to the spring and drew water and I said, 'Please, can I have a drink?' She didn't hesitate. She held out her jug and said, 'Drink; and when you're finished I'll also water your camels.' I drank, and she watered the camels. I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel whose parents were Nahor and Milcah.' I gave her a ring for her nose, bracelets for her arms, and bowed in worship to GOD. I praised GOD, the God of my master Abraham who had led me straight to the door of my master's family to get a wife for his son.

"Now, tell me what you are going to do. If you plan to respond with a generous yes, tell me. But if not, tell me plainly so I can figure out what to do next." . . .

She said, "I'm ready to go."

So they sent them off, their sister Rebekah with her nurse, and Abraham's servant with his men. And they blessed Rebekah saying,

You're our sister – live bountifully! And your children, triumphantly!

Rebekah and her young maids mounted the camels and followed the man. The servant took Rebekah and set off for home.

Isaac was living in the Negev. He had just come back from a visit to Beer Lahi Roi. In the evening he went out into the field; while meditating he looked up and saw camels coming. When Rebekah looked up and saw Isaac, she got down from her camel and asked the servant, "Who is that man out in the field coming toward us?"

"That is my master."

She took her veil and covered herself.

After the servant told Isaac the whole story of the trip, Isaac took Rebekah into the tent of his mother Sarah. He married Rebekah and she became his wife and he loved her. So Isaac took comfort after his mother's death.

**Response:** *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

### **Time of Prayer**

**How Is It With Your Soul?**

**Unison Prayer**

**O Lord, when Rebekah's family asked whether she would yield her life to your purposes, she answered, "I will. I'm ready." Help us to follow Rebekah's example and meet the daily challenge of yielding our life to your purposes with a ready willingness. Make us your bold and faithful people, willing to go forward in faith wherever you would lead us.**

*(Time of silent prayer.)*

Let us join together with Jesus to pray:

**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. Amen.**

### **Answer to the Question of the Day**

**Time of Offering** *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

**Offering Prayer**

**O God, we give thanks for all your works. Accept our grateful hearts, along with our gifts. As you are faithful to us, O God, may we be faithful in all things, seeking always to live by your gracious will. Amen.**

**Message** "At This Well" Rev. Joyce Rich

### **Blessing**

We encounter God in unexpected places. **God surprises us in the life and witness of people.** God offers us rest and renewal. **We are thankful and refreshed.**

Amen. **And Amen.**

**Hymn** "Covenant Prayer"

**Announcements; Readings For Next Week:** Genesis 25:19-34; Romans 8:1-11

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