

JESUS AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN – John 4: 5-42

(A shortened reading for Children's liturgy of the Word)

Story teller:

Jesus came to a town called Samaria and went to a well for water, called Jacob's well. He was tired and hot, so he sat down near the well to rest. His disciples had gone into the town to buy some food.

At noon time a woman of Samaria came to get some water from the well.

Jesus:

Give me a drink.

Woman:

How can you, a Jew and a man, ask me for a drink?

Story teller:

Jews and Samaritans had nothing in common with each other; they did not respect each other as they should. And men and women who did not know each other did not speak in public.

Jesus:

If you knew how much God loved you, you would ask him for living water.

Woman:

Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his children?

Jesus:

Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. But whoever drinks the water I shall give will never be thirsty. The water I shall give will become like a spring of water, overflowing within them.

Woman:

Sir, give me this water so that I don't have to keep coming to this well to get water for my thirst.

Jesus:

Go, call your family and bring them here.

Woman:

I do not have any family. Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. My ancestors said that we have to worship on this side of the mountain.

Jesus:

Time is coming when people will worship everywhere. Worshipers will worship God in Spirit and truth.

Woman:

I know that the Messiah is coming. When he comes, he will tell us everything.

Jesus:

I am he, the one who is speaking with you.

Story teller:

At that moment the disciples returned and saw Jesus speaking with the woman. They asked him, "why are you talking with her?"

The woman left her water jar and went into the town. She began to tell all the people about Jesus and invited them to come to the well and listen to him.

Many of the Samaritans of the town began to believe in Jesus because of the word of the woman. Jesus stayed with them for two days.

After a while the people of the town told the woman that they no longer believed because of her words, but because of what they had seen and heard themselves. All the town believed that Jesus was the promised Messiah.

The Word of the Lord