



# ST. BARNABAS CHURCH HUNKER-DOWN-HOME PARTY LINE PRESS

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## Excerpt from Bishop Curry's Opening Address to the House of Bishops 3/10/20

Allow me to begin with the words and wisdom of slaves, who in their time were well acquainted with sorrow, hardship, and uncertainty. In one of their spirituals they may well be giving us some advice. They said, and I quote:

*Walk together children  
And don't you get weary  
Cause there's a great camp meeting  
in the promised land*

In this particular moment, when we are all affected by the coronavirus and its collateral effects and impacts, whether directly or indirectly, whether physically, emotionally, spiritually, or economically, we are all affected. The truth is we are all in this together. We did not choose it this way. But we are.

We've been in this together whether we were aware of it, or wanted to acknowledge it, or not.

We're in this together. We're actually part of each other for good or ill. We are a human family. We may be a dysfunctional human family; but we are family. And the truth is, God made us this way. God made us for God and for each other. And we are at our best when we are one with our God and one with each other.

## This Sunday Worship

Lessons can be found at:

[http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearA\\_RCL/Lent/ALent3\\_RCL.html](http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/Lent/ALent3_RCL.html)

**Bishop Michael Curry will be preaching at the National Cathedral - catch it live at 8AM our time or later on YouTube.com**

**at:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUGZLwnLhUU&feature=youtu.be>



### Michael Plekon's Mini-Homily for this Sunday

#### Third Sunday in Lent

This year we face everything we take as normal being changed because of the Corona virus. It is a real threat to our health and lives, thus as a community, we stay a community in prayer and in conversation with each other by phone and email, even if we cannot gather to celebrate the Eucharist. And this Sunday we have another "close encounter" between Jesus and a woman from the Samaritan town of Sychar, where Jacob's the patriarch's well,

was located. The Eastern Church has long called her Photini—“the one who brings light.” It is John 4: 5-42. (You can access the readings for each day online. Go to <http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/> and the Book of Common Prayer: <https://www.bcponline.org/>

When you have the text in front of you, you can see it is a back and forth between the two. She is respected by Jesus, who exchanges with Photini as a rabbi should with a good student or colleague. He breaks the barriers between observant Jews and the supposed heretic Samaritans. Jesus honors those who love God and want to better follow what God says. Photini does! She offers to draw him fresh, cold water from the well on a hot desert day at noon. But when he offers her the “living water” that he brings, that he is, she says, “Give it to me.” She knows a good, no great thing, when she sees it. She becomes an apostle, a missionary even before the rest of Jesus’ disciples who are back in town rustling up some lunch. After recognizing that Jesus is the promised one, the one whose every word is God’s life and love, she runs back to town to tell all her neighbors. By the way, though Jesus learns she has been through five marriages, he never condemns her. (Besides there are legitimate reasons why she went through so much, and likely she is not at fault in any of this.)



We have in Photini an image of what we are called to be—messengers of God’s good news. Like her, we can even in this fearful time, bring light, no better, BE light. We have a great opportunity in the midst of restricted living, “self-quarantine,” and “social distancing.” We can rediscover the simple good things in life—books, music, film, and conversation, even if not in person. We are the illumination of our town. Let us share the light, driving out fear and isolation. Jesus is the light of the world, we sing at the Easter Vigil and vespers, the light no darkness can overcome. Jesus shined through Photini. Jesus shine through us. Amen.

**REMINDER - DEAR ONES, AS WE ARE NOT GATHERING FOR SERVICES, YOU MAY MAIL IN YOUR PLEDGES OR PLATE OFFERINGS. THIS WILL KEEP US AFLOAT DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.**

## Goodbye to BYOB for this Year And Many Thanks for a fabulous season!

The music and the soups were sensational! We regularly had over 60 people coming to delight in the concerts, and also in the yummy soups. The patio would be full of people engaging in lively conversation with one another.

Standing ovation for **Jan Naragon** who recruited the performers and performed herself, and for **Tom and Angela Cassidy** who set up and took down all the tables and chairs and bought beautiful, brightly colored, and sponge-washable table clothes, **and** joyfully served the soups and washed dishes!! Also, many thanks and satisfied tummies to all of the soup chefs!



What a ministry of uplifting joy it has been!

*We're a family that faces things together.  
We're disciples who grow through trials.  
God's servants who care for the hurting.  
Witnesses who share the good news.  
Worshippers who look to God.*

(from email from Purpose Driven Church)

