

*A Prayer for
When God Feels Distant*

O Lord, in the desert places of my heart,
when I feel alone and thirsty for Your presence,
draw near to me.

Remind me that You are the Living Water,
the One who knows me and loves me still.

Meet me at the well of Your grace,
and fill my soul anew.
Amen.

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Bethel United Methodist Church
355 Hampton Street, Walterboro, SC 29488
Reverend Tresco E Shannon

God Seems
Far Away

John 4:5-15

"But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst..."

Our Christian Worship of God
March 8, 2026
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

3rd Sunday in Lent

Liturgical Color: Purple

The Prelude

The Chiming of the Hour

The Call to Worship

“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”

Hopson

*The Hymn No. 89

“ Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

The Invocation

The Anthem

“I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked”

arr. Downing

*The Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

No 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into
heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence
he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the
holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. *universal**

*The Gloria Patri “**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it
was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

The Scripture Lesson

John 4:5-15

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Minister: Let us pray.

The Pastoral Prayer & 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.**

The Welcome and Announcements

The Children’s Church

(Children 3 years old through 5th grades dismiss to Children’s Church with Mrs. Jessica.)

The Offering

Offertory

“He Hideth My Soul”

arr. Hayes

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

**“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise Him, all
creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen”**

No 95

*The Hymn No. 127

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

The Sermon

“God Seems Far Away”

Rev. Tresco Shannon

The Prayer of Christian Discipleship

*The Hymn No. 591

“Rescue the Perishing”

*The Benediction, by the Minister

*The Choral Response and Recessional

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth,
the peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, children all are we. Let us
walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me; let this be the
moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: to take each moment
and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it
begin with me.**

*The Chiming of the Trinity

*The Postlude

*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able