



# LENT

Gethsemane  
Carl Bloch (1880)



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## Third Sunday of Lent March 23, 2014

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### Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak  
760-758-4100 x100  
michaelt@stmoside.org

#### Woman at the Well

*I share with you this prayer from an anonymous source which is based on today's Gospel:*

O Jesus,  
Image of the invisible God,  
Word made flesh,  
tired stranger,  
waiting in the noonday lull  
at Jacob's well.

Are we all  
the woman with her waterjar,  
bent on the chores of the moment,  
angry memories in our bones,  
our thirst for God,  
hidden in the business of the day?

Do you meet us gently too,  
hardly recognized,  
quietly leading our thoughts  
towards the deeper waters,  
where our souls find rest?

Probing too,  
uncovering secrets  
we would rather forget.  
"Lord, you have probed me,  
You know when I sit and when I stand,  
You know my thoughts from afar."

Is the woman,  
sure and strong,  
our reflection:  
sure but unsure,

strong but so weak,  
seeking but afraid to find  
our Savior so close by?

O Jesus,  
only faith can help us see.  
Earthy, cautious eyes  
miss treasure in the field  
in water and the bread  
in faces known too well.  
Only faith can help us see.

"If you knew what God gives"  
You tell the woman.  
No cleverness knows  
Or merit buys that gift.  
Living water is your gift.  
You alone show us what God gives.

Say to our hearts:  
"Come to the waters."  
Make us thirst again,  
and ask, and seek, till we find.  
How can we know  
whose flesh and blood we are?  
Or what it means to be born again?  
Unless you help our unbelief

O Jesus,  
Who led the woman to believe,  
lead us.

*Fr. Mike*