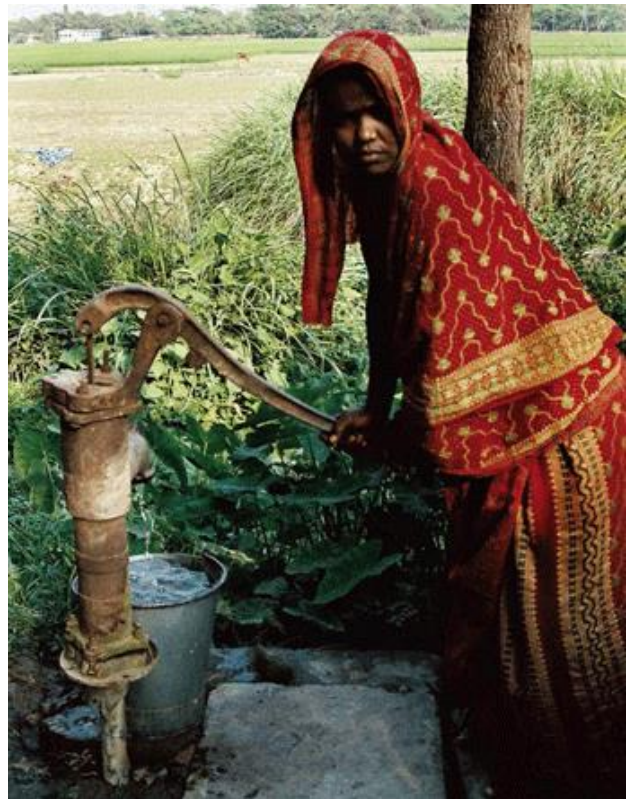


Today's Devotional is provided by Rev. Dr. Robin Hawley Gorsline

Give Me a Drink

Water is soft except when frozen;
hearts, too, locked into hate and fear,
blocked from openness by judgment,
anger, othering. Soft walls do not exist,
hot or cold, except for Hebrews
marching between watery walls
to escape Pharaoh.

Only way to overcome hardness
of a wall is to climb over, go around,
or cut a doorway through. When
people
want to keep others out they build a wall,
but it is not easy to wall up the river
that runs between them;
water still flows somewhere,
maybe even drowning those
who built the wall. Pharaoh knew
about
being overwhelmed by water.
Moses followed God's direction
to strike the rock at Horeb
so water flowed and people drank.



Jesus was thirsty, probably still is,
not for water, but for us,
wanting more connection.
So much life flows from times spent with him,

but so often I forget he sits nearby,
ready for me to hear him and respond.

I wonder how often he has said to me,
give me a drink, and I,
unlike the Samaritan woman at the well,
neither hear nor reply.

Is the wall around, or in, me
higher, harder, than the one
built by the enmity
between her people and his?