

LWML *Texas* District

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Meditation

Where Do You Worship?

A recent conversation began with pleasantries, and after some time the conversation turned to “where do you worship?” One mentioned their church, and the other turned up their nose spouting all the things that were wrong there.

Not surprisingly, this is like something common during Jesus’ day. Back in the days of the divided kingdom of Israel, Assyria took over the Northern Kingdom and settled it with people from other conquered lands (2 Kings 17:24–29). They began to worship the Lord in Samaria only after an attack of lions led the king of Assyria to bring a priest of God back to the land to establish worship of Yahweh again. This worship continued well into the time of Jesus.

The Samaritan woman at the well, asks Jesus a question, “*Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.*” Jesus said to her, “*Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.*” The woman said to him, “*I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When He comes, He will tell us all things.*” Jesus said to her, “*I who speak to you am he*” (John 4:19–26).

Thinking about today, where is the right place to worship? We are all sinful people in need of a Savior. Where do we meet Him? We meet Him where His Word is preached in truth and filled with God’s Spirit. We experience His love through the amazing mysteries of the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion. We worship Him through loving our neighbors and our corporate worship together in His house. We are all broken, sinful people desiring to worship the Triune God in Spirit and Truth.

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