



Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, July 23, 2023

Culmore
United Methodist Church

Welcome and
Good Morning!



Photo by Rose Lucas





Photo by Rose Lucas

Happy Birthday, Charity, Leticia, and Mirna

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.



How Jesus Heals

John 5: 6

Gusto mo bang gumaling?

癒されたいですか?

你想被治愈吗?

Do you want to be well?

Quieres ser sanado?

치유되고 싶니?

Apakah Anda ingin sembuh? Est-ce que tu veux être guéri?



Are you sure, sweetheart,
that you want to be well?...
Are you ready to be healed,
because **wholeness** is no
trifling matter.

—Toni Cade Bambara

Responsive Reading – Psalm 116, 53 (selected verses)

I love the LORD because he hears my voice.

Because he bends down to listen, I will pray as long
as I have breath.

The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of
compassion.

Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been
good to you.

I will trust in you, even when I am afraid.

For lo, you are with us always.

I will believe in your love.

For you love us with an everlasting love.

I will turn to you when in doubt.

For in you, Lord, are hid all the treasures
of wisdom and knowledge.



Art by Sue Carroll



I will pray as long as I have breath,
for you bend down to listen.

Opening Prayer

Dear God,

We don't want to stay crippled by the pool. We want to be healed of whatever is holding us down, holding us back from being whole. But change isn't easy, and *wholeness is no trifling matter*.

Lord, give us the strength and courage and determination to be made whole. We want to take up our mat and walk. *Amen*



Sheep Gate

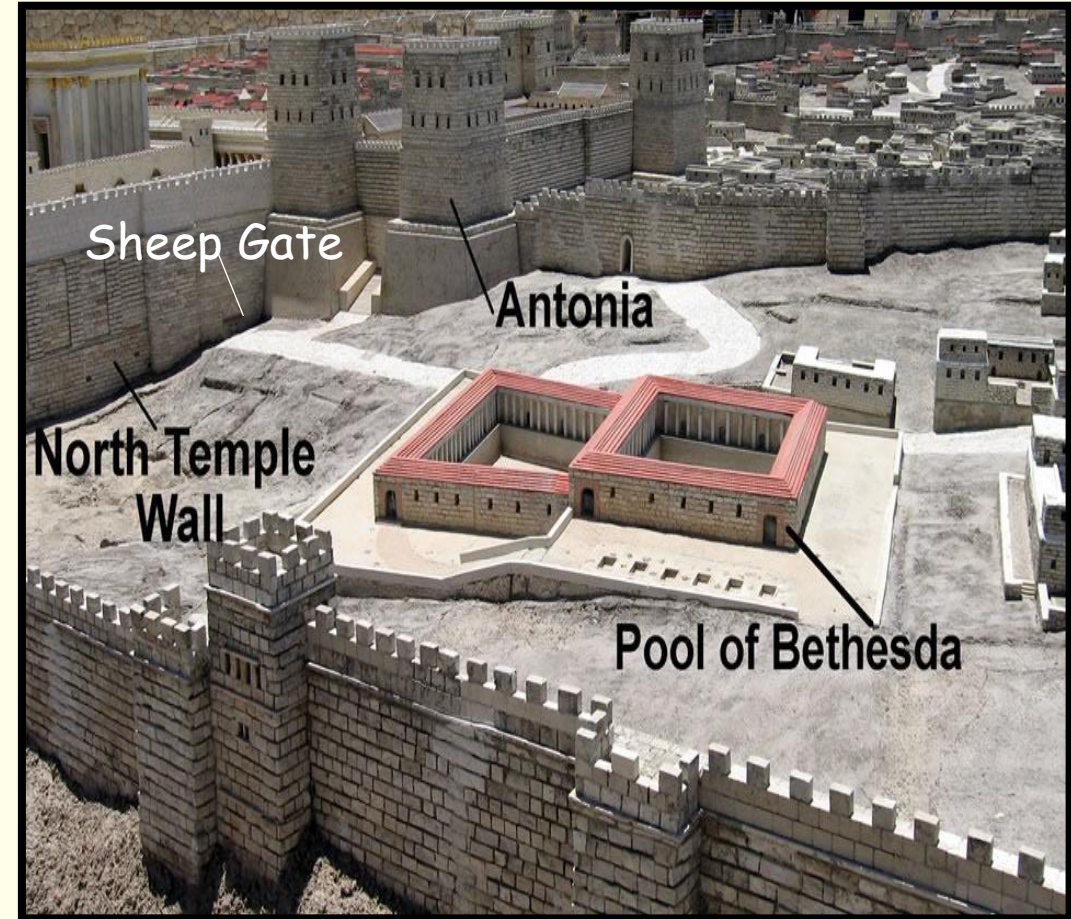
Antonia

North Temple
Wall

Pool of Bethesda

John 5: 1-9 (NIV translation)

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate, there is a pool, called **Bethesda** in Aramaic, and which is surrounded by 5 covered porticos.





Here a great number of disabled people use to lie
—the blind, lame, and paralyzed—
and they waited for the moving of the waters.



From time to time an angel of the Lord
would come down and stir up the waters.



The first one into the pool after each such disturbance would be cured of whatever disease they had.



After, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the feasts. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate, there is a pool named Bethesda in Hebrew, and which is surrounded by five colonnades. There lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed, and they came thither to be healed. For an angel of the Lord used to go down into the pool at certain seasons, and the water was troubled; and whosoever first stepped in after the troubling of the water was made whole. There lay one who had been ill for 38 years. Jesus saw him lying there, and asked him: “Do you want to be healed?”

He replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool, for when the water is stirred, while I am trying to get in, someone else goes before me.”

Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”

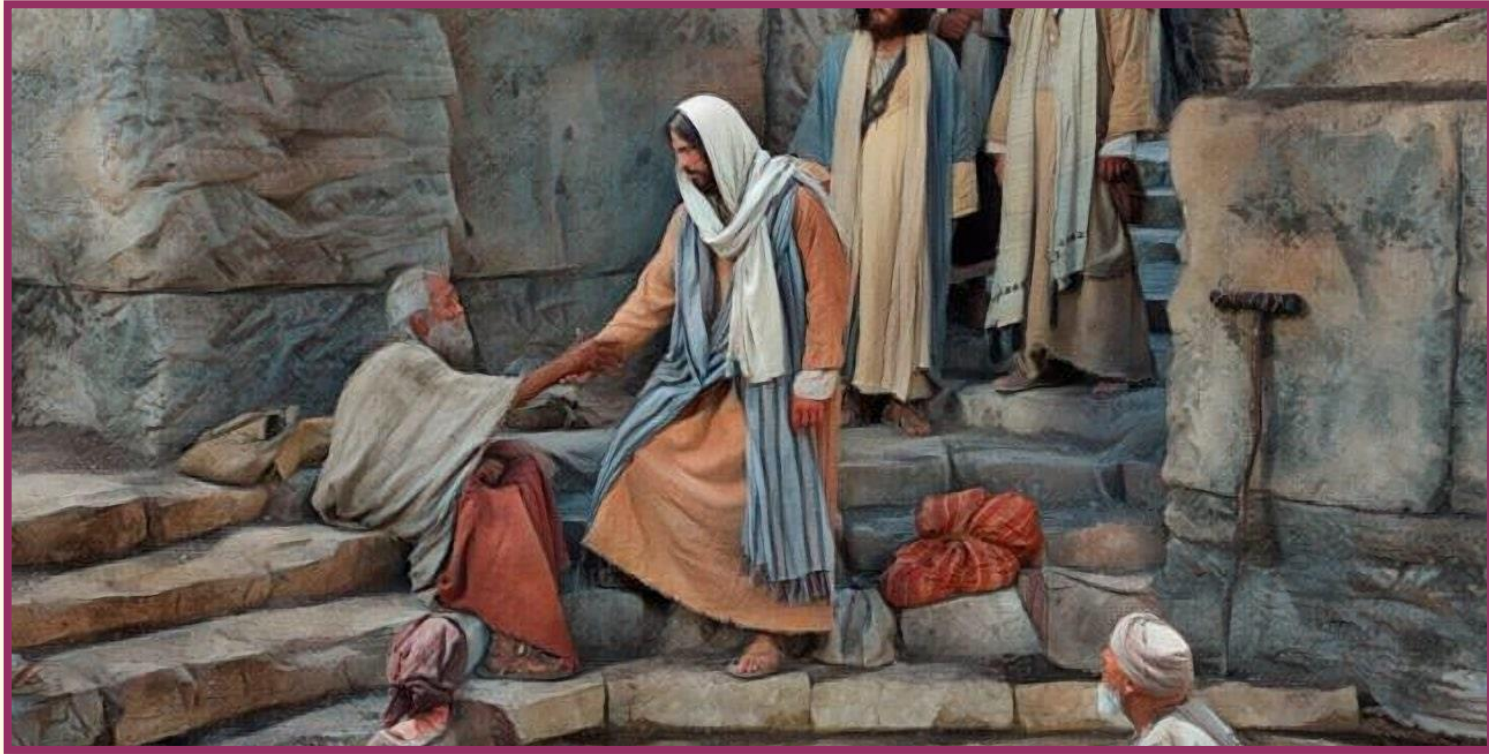
At once he was made well; he picked up his mat and walked.

“Do you want to be healed?”



"Sir," the invalid replied, " I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me."

At once the man was made well; he picked up his mat and walked.

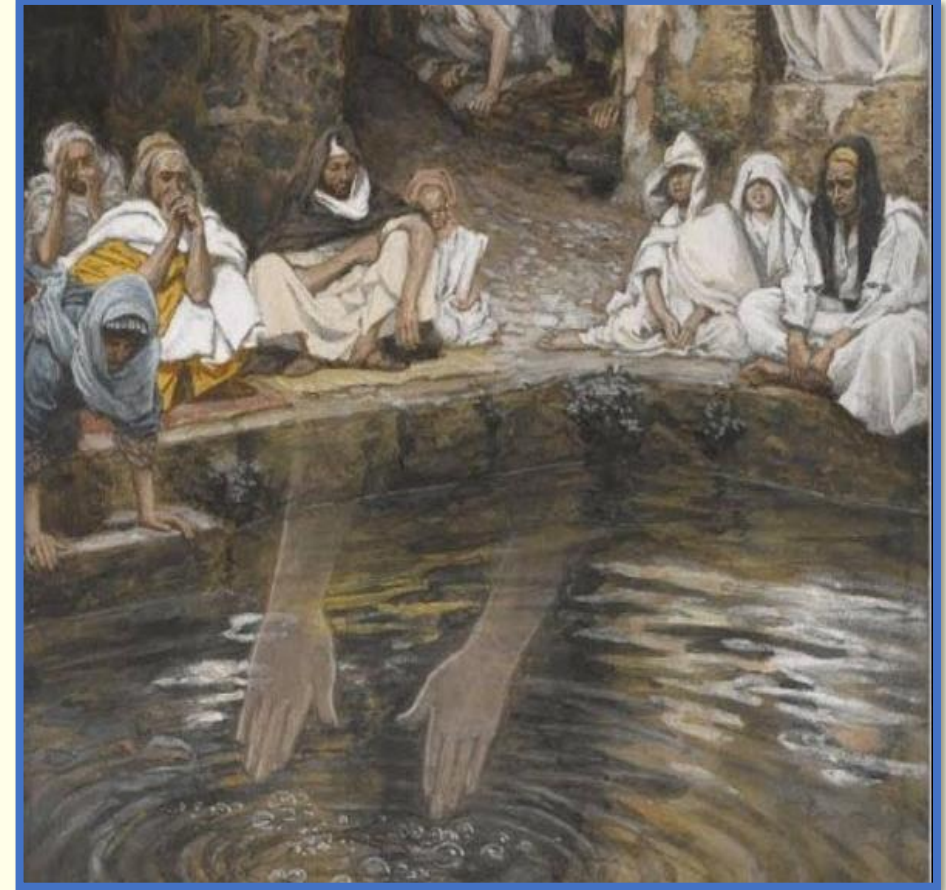


Then Jesus said to him, "*Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.*"

At once the man was made well; he picked up his mat and walked.

John 5: 4

...and they waited for the moving of the waters. From time to time an angel of the Lord would come down and stir up the waters.





Do you want to be healed?

DANGER



Do not hold
the wrong end
of a chainsaw



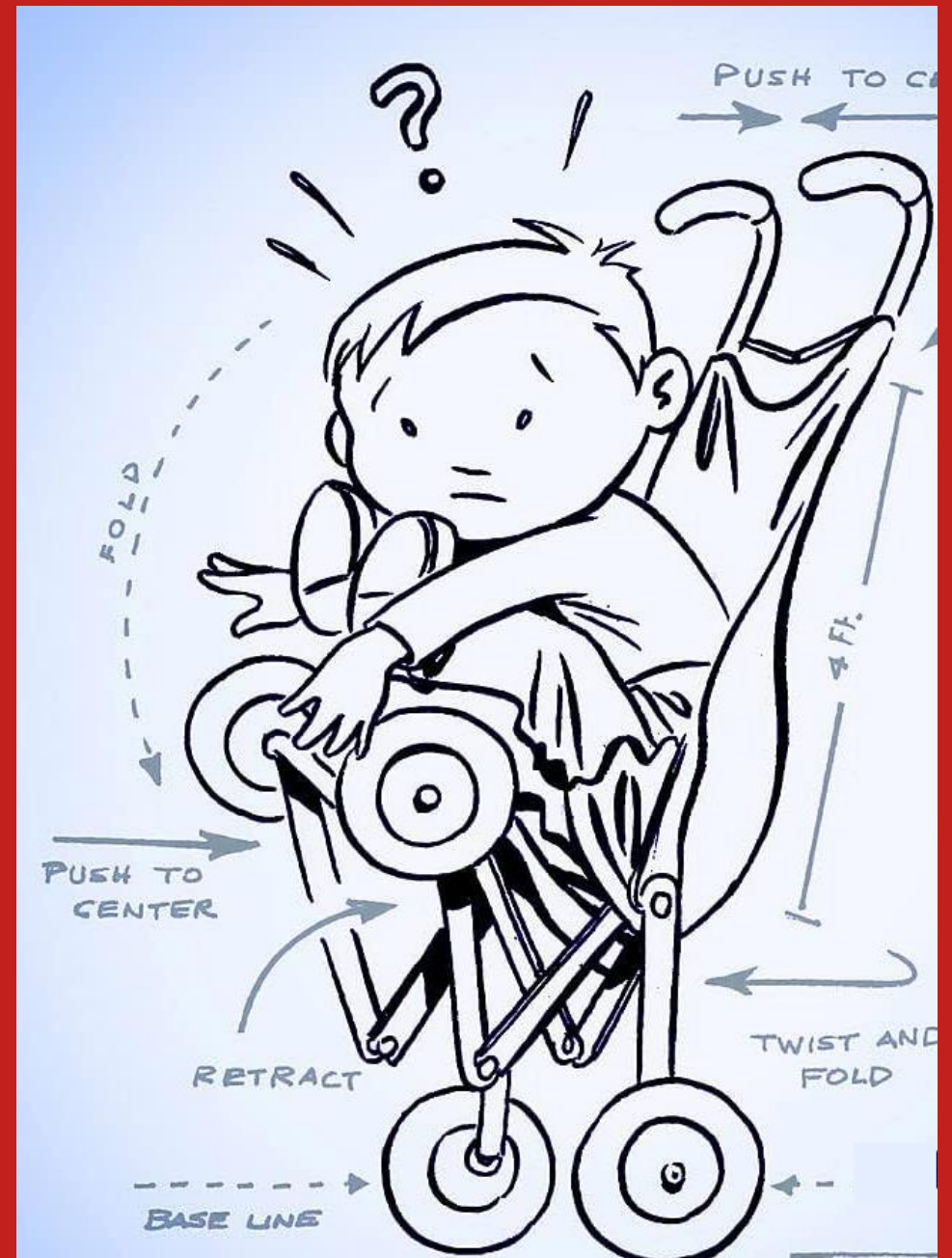
⚠ CAUTION

**NOT INTENDED
FOR
HIGHWAY USE**



! NOTICE

**DO NOT ALLOW
CHILDREN TO
PLAY IN THE
DISHWASHER**





Do you want to be healed?

Just because we're sitting
next to the healing waters
doesn't mean we want to be healed.







Just because we're sitting
next to the healing waters
doesn't mean we want to be healed.



He Will Carry You

There is no problem too big God cannot solve it
There is no mountain too tall He cannot move it
There is no storm too dark God cannot calm it
There is no sorrow too deep He cannot soothe it.



If He carried the weight of the world upon His shoulders
I know my brother that He will carry you.
If He carried the weight of the world upon His shoulders
I know my sister that He will carry you.



He said, "Come unto me all who are weary, and I will give you rest."

Community Prayer

Dear God, sometimes we're not sure we really want to be healed.

Maybe we've given up hoping, or maybe we're stuck and can't shake free.

Maybe we don't want to do the work to be made whole, for healing is no trifling matter.

Lord, we know You are the God who heals, but we also have a part to play. Give us the courage to say YES to your healing. We want to be made whole. **Amen**

Offering and Doxology

UM Hymnal 95



We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.



Doxology - UM Hymnal 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Benediction

Art by Sue Carroll

Fires

I remember how You told me that life may not be easy

And everything that I need You've already given me.

I remember how You told me I can trust You completely

So why am I doubting when You proved that You'd fight for me.

You've walked me through fires, pulled me from flames

If You're in this with me I won't be afraid.

When the smoke billows higher, and it feels like I can barely breathe

I'll walk through these fires because You're walking with me.

