**Additional Prayers for Those Preparing for Baptism or Confirmation**

During Sundays, for the period of baptism preparation, the congregation may periodically call inquirers forward for a time of blessing and prayer. From time to time, those who are preparing for confirmation may also be invited into a time of blessing. These prayers may be adapted around the lectionary or Bible readings for the day. An example of such a prayer follows:

On the third Sunday of Lent, year A, when the gospel lesson is John 4:5-42.
*(A pastor or lay leader may invite the inquirer forward and lead the congregation in a blessing.)*

As the woman who met Jesus at the well,
let those who seek baptism and their sponsors come forward for a blessing.

*(The leader may invite the congregation to hold out their hands, palms out, toward the inquirers in the posture for blessing. Sponsors may place their hands on the shoulders of the inquirers. The leader prays the following or a similar prayer:)*

O God, who in Jesus opened yourself
to the curious heart of a Samaritan woman,
who drew out the truths of a woman’s life,
and who became Living Water to her,
visit us again.
Bless *(names of inquirers/confirmands).*
Encourage their seeking, questioning,
and their devotion.
Offer them your Wisdom and Word.
Fill them with your Spirit.
Bring them to your Living Water.
We praise you, O God,
who chooses us and
meets us on this holy day.
In the name of the living Christ,
Amen.

*(A song such as “This Is My Child” from Sing Prayer Sing Praise! may be sung as inquirers return to their place for worship.)*