

**TIME OF REFLECTION**

“Waiting is not a waste.”

~Mark Vroegop (author *Dark Clouds, Deep Mercies*, pastor, president of TGC)

“In the waiting, in the searching  
In the healing, in the hurting  
Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces  
Every minute, every moment  
Where I’ve been or where I’m going  
Even when I didn’t know it  
Or couldn’t see it  
There was Jesus.”

~Zach Williams (Southern Rock artist), feat. Dolly Parton

“Waters never part, until our feet get wet.”

~Petra (Christian Rock group)

“Life doesn’t discriminate  
Between the sinners and the saints.  
It takes and it takes and it takes  
And we keep living anyway.  
We rise and we fall and we break.  
And we make our mistakes.  
And if there’s a reason I’m still alive  
When so many have died,  
Then I’m willing to  
Wait for it,  
Wait for it.”

~Leslie Odom Jr. as Aaron Burr in Lin Manuel-Miranda’s *Hamilton*

“The waiting is the hardest part.”

~Tom Petty (Rock artist, 1950-2017)

**SERMON** – “Something This Way Comes” – *Alasdair Groves*

**SERMON PASSAGE** – *Joshua 3:1-3, 3:9-4:3 (NIV)*

*Joshua 3*

<sup>1</sup>Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over. <sup>2</sup>After three days the officers went throughout the camp, <sup>3</sup>giving orders to the people: “When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it...”

<sup>9</sup>Joshua said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God. <sup>10</sup>This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites. <sup>11</sup>See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you. <sup>12</sup>Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. <sup>13</sup>And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.”

<sup>14</sup>So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant

went ahead of them. <sup>15</sup>Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, <sup>16</sup>the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup>The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

*Joshua 4*

<sup>1</sup>When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, <sup>2</sup>“Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, <sup>3</sup>and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.”