

**Fourth Sunday of Advent – Love
Jesus Comes to the Woman at the Well – John 4:1-26**

Jesus' coming breaks down barriers

Cultural barriers

To say that Jews and Samaritans didn't like each other would be putting it mildly. They despised each other.

Gender barriers

The culture didn't have a particularly positive view of women.

Social barriers

Her lifestyle had made her an outcast.

Jesus' coming offers us life

¹³ "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Jesus' coming reveals God to us

...true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth. ²⁵ The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." ²⁶ Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

He includes the excluded

Because part of the message of Christmas is that Jesus doesn't come just for the good people, the nice people, the well behaved and clean people. He also came for the outcast and the outsider as well.