

# The Well

an ordinary place
where extraordinary
things happen

STSA.CHURCH/THEWELL



# LETTER TO DIOGNETUS

#### UNTOLD STORIES - PART 2

"Most excellent Diognetus: I can see that you deeply desire to learn how Christians worship their God. You have so carefully and earnestly asked your questions about them: What is it about the God they believe in, and the form

of religion they observe, that lets them look down upon the world and despise death? Why do they reject the Greek gods and the Jewish superstitions alike? What about the affection they all have for each other? And why has this new group and their practices come to life only now, and not long ago?" Diognetus, 1
STARTING POINT: WHAT'S THE QUESTION?
QUESTION: What is Christianity? What do you believe?
ANSWER: Christianity is something radically
[Christians] "display to us their wonderful and confessedly striking method of life. They dwell in their own countries, but simply as sojourners. As citizens, they share in all things with others, and yet endure all things as if foreigners. Every foreign land is to them as their native country, and every land of their birth as a land of strangers. They marry, as do all [others]; they beget children; but they do not destroy their offspring. They have a common table, but not a common bed. They are in the flesh, but they do not live after the flesh. They pass their days on earth, but they are citizens of heaven." Diognetus 5
"What the soul is in the body, Christians are in the world." Diognetus 6
QUESTION: What's with all the love?

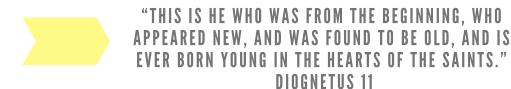
ANSWER: We love	because we ARE loved	

"This [messenger] He sent to them. Was it then, as one might conceive, for the purpose of exercising tyranny, or of inspiring fear and terror? By no means, but under the influence of clemency and meekness. As a king sends his son, who is also a king, so sent He Him; as God He sent Him; as to men He sent Him; as a Saviour He sent Him, and as seeking to persuade, not to compel us; for violence has no place in the character of God. As calling us He sent Him, not as vengefully pursuing us; as loving us He sent Him, not as judging us." Diognetus 7

QUESTION: Why the delay? Why did God wait so long?

ANSWER: Delay teaches \_\_\_\_\_\_.

"He Himself took on Him the burden of our iniquities, He gave His own Son as a ransom for us, the holy One for transgressors, the blameless One for the wicked, the righteous One for the unrighteous, the incorruptible One for the corruptible, the immortal One for those who are mortal... O sweet exchange! O unsearchable operation! O benefits surpassing all expectation! ... Having therefore convinced us in the former time that our nature was unable to attain to life, and having now revealed the Saviour who is able to save even those things which it was [formerly] impossible to save, by both these facts He desired to lead us to trust in His kindness, to esteem Him our Nourisher, Father, Teacher, Counsellor, Healer, our Wisdom, Light, Honour, Glory, Power, and Life, so that we should not be anxious concerning clothing and food." Diognetus 9





## Welcome

Whether
you're just
visiting or
looking to
stay, it's
great to
have you
with us!

#### COFFEE'S ON US

Enjoy a hot cup of coffee and snacks.

#### WE'D LOVE TO MEET YOU

Stop by the Connection Table so we can get to know each other.

#### FILL YOUR BUCKET

The Well starts with a time of praise followed by an inspiring message.

# Calendar

\*Christmas schedule on app>calendar

- 12/11 YOUNG ADULT DISCUSSION: WOMEN
- 12/12 YOUNG ADULT DISCUSSION: MEN
- 12/16 LITURGY/WELL/SUNDAY SCHOOL AT WILLIAMSBURG M.S. (ENTRY #14)
- 12/22 DIVINE LITURGY AT CUMC

### Contact

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