

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Greeting: God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

Question of the Day:

Where did Moses see the burning bush? a) Horeb b) Haran c) Canaan d) Egypt

Hymn “How Great Is Our God”

Call to Worship

Why have we gathered on this holy day?

What has drawn us to this time and place?

We have been drawn to a flame burning here.

We sense the glory of God in this place.

God calls us to this time of worship.

Where we are standing is holy ground.

Out of a burning bush, God spoke to Moses.

In the rhythms of worship, God speaks to us.

Prayer of Invocation

Holy Spirit, who spoke to Moses from the burning bush, speak to us now in the reading and proclaiming of your word. Amen.

Scripture Reading Exodus 3:1-15 *The Message*

Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. He led the flock to the west end of the wilderness and came to the mountain of God, Horeb. The angel of GOD appeared to him in flames of fire blazing out of the middle of a bush. He looked. The bush was blazing away but it didn't burn up. Moses said, “What's going on here? I can't believe this! Amazing! Why doesn't the bush burn up?”

GOD saw that he had stopped to look. God called to him from out of the bush, “Moses! Moses!” He said, “Yes? I'm right here!”

God said, “Don't come any closer. Remove your sandals from your feet. You're standing on holy ground.” Then he said, “I am the God of your father. The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.” Moses hid his face, afraid to look at God.

GOD said, “I've taken a good, long look at the affliction of my people in Egypt. I've heard their cries for deliverance from their slave masters; I know all about their pain. And now I have come down to help them, pry them loose from the grip of Egypt, get them out of that country and bring them to a good land with wide-open spaces, a land lush with milk and honey, the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

“The Israelite cry for help has come to me, and I've seen for myself how cruelly they're being treated by the Egyptians. It's time for you to go back: I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the People of Israel, out of Egypt.”

Moses answered God, “But why me? What makes you think that I could ever go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

“I'll be with you,” God said. “And this will be the proof that I am the one who sent you: When you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will worship God right here at this very mountain.”

Then Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the People of Israel and tell them, ‘The God of your fathers sent me to you’; and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ What do I tell them?”

God said to Moses, “I-AM-WHO-I-AM. Tell the People of Israel, ‘I-AM sent me to you.’” God continued with Moses: “This is what you're to say to the Israelites: ‘GOD, the God of your

fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob sent me to you.’ This has always been my name, and this is how I always will be known.”

Response: *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Unison Prayer

O God, Source of all life, Creator of all worlds, we dare to call on you, to bow before you, to welcome your Word. We tremble to think what you might expect of us, for we remember what you expected of Moses. You sent him against the rulers of his people to win release from oppression. You sent him from the comfortable places he knew to plead for freedom amid threatening conditions. O God, what do you expect of us?

(Time to listen to God in silent prayer.)

Let us pray with Jesus:

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Answer to the Question of the Day

Time of Offering *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

Offering Prayer

Holy God of holy ground, like Moses, we question our fitness to serve heaven’s purposes on earth. Overcome our qualms with the assurance of your presence; bless these offerings that, through them, we may do your will; in the name of the triune One. Amen.

Message “Coming Upon the Holy” Rev. Joyce Rich

Commission and Blessing

Seek every day God’s presence.

God offers strength for every challenge we face.

Give thanks and call on God’s name.

We will open our eyes to see God’s daily miracles.

Praise God for all the wonders of this life. Amen. **And Amen.**

Hymn “They’ll Know We are Christians”

Announcements

Read For Next Week: Psalm 105:23-36; Exodus 12:1-4

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