

Sunday, September 6, 2020 Labor Day Weekend

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

Question of the Day:

How many plagues did God bring upon Egypt? a) 7 b) 8 c) 9 d) 10

Call to Worship

Tell the whole congregation of God's people:

This is a time of God's appearing.

This is the moment for faithful response.

Prayer of Invocation

Almighty God, may your Holy Spirit be with us to open our minds to greater understanding and our hearts to your compassionate love. Amen.

Gift of Music "Fugue in D" *William Selby*

Psalm 105:23-36 NRSV

Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.

And the LORD made his people very fruitful, and made them stronger than their foes,
whose hearts he then turned to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants.

He sent his servant Moses, and Aaron whom he had chosen.

They performed his signs among them, and miracles in the land of Ham.

He sent darkness, and made the land dark; they rebelled against his words.

He turned their waters into blood, and caused their fish to die.

Their land swarmed with frogs, even in the chambers of their kings.

He spoke, and there came swarms of flies,
and gnats throughout their country.

He gave them hail for rain, and lightning that flashed through their land.

He struck their vines and fig trees, and shattered the trees of their country.

He spoke, and the locusts came, and young locusts without number;
they devoured all the vegetation in their land,
and ate up the fruit of their ground.

He struck down all the firstborn in their land,
the first issue of all their strength.

Exodus 12:1-14 The Message

GOD said to Moses and Aaron while still in Egypt, "This month is to be the first month of the year for you. Address the whole community of Israel; tell them that on the tenth of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one lamb to a house. If the family is too small for a lamb, then share it with a close neighbor, depending on the number of persons involved. Be mindful of how much each person will eat. Your lamb must be a healthy male, one year old; you can select it from either the sheep or the goats. Keep it penned until the fourteenth day of this month and then slaughter it – the entire community of Israel will do this – at dusk. Then take some of the blood and smear it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which you will eat it. You are to eat the meat, roasted in the fire, that night, along with bread, made without yeast, and bitter herbs. Don't eat any of it raw or boiled in water; make sure it's roasted – the whole animal, head, legs, and innards. Don't leave any of it until morning; if there are leftovers, burn them in the fire.

"And here is how you are to eat it. Be fully dressed with your sandals on and your stick in your hand. Eat in a hurry; it's the Passover to GOD.

“I will go through the land of Egypt on this night and strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, whether human or animal, and bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am GOD. The blood will serve as a sign on the houses where you live. When I see the blood I will pass over you – no disaster will touch you when I strike the land of Egypt.

“This will be a memorial day for you; you will celebrate it as a festival to GOD down through the generations, a fixed festival celebration to be observed always.”

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

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Prayer of Intercession

All-knowing God, you know our needs before we name them in prayer.

**All-caring God, you care enough to hear our prayers anyway,
knowing that all we need is your love.**

All-loving God, hear now these prayers that name the needs of your people:

Your people need health (*name aloud or silently those who need healing*)

Your people need peace (*name aloud or silently where peace is needed*)

Your people need hope (*name aloud or silently where hope is needed*)

Your people need blessing (*name aloud or silently where blessing is needed*)

Your whole creation needs your powerful presence.

All-powerful God, the need is so great; we rejoice that you are greater.

Hear us as we 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

May these offerings help to free your people, O God, from bondage to sin. Amen.

Gifts of Music “Alla Marcia (Victory)” *Carl Willhelm Kern*

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” *Arranged by Robert Cundick*

“Jerusalem” *C. Hubert H. Parry*

“Blessed Assurance” *Arranged by Lee Kersten*

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” *Arranged by Lee Kersten*

Benediction

The grace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen. **And Amen.**

Announcements; Read For Next Week: Exodus 14:19—15:11, 20-21; Romans 14:7-12