

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**October 3, 2021**  
**World Communion Sunday**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*adapted from Rev. MaryAnn R. Rennie*

Liturgist: This place for us is Holy Ground. The place where we sing songs of praise to the Lord, and repeat the stories of faith that inspire us to respond to Christ's love.

**Congregation: God called us here, in whispering winds and in burning flames, and with his presence disarms us of the barriers we have placed around us.**

L: Instead God meets us in our vulnerability, our humanity. Let us worship God.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*adapted from Rev. MaryAnn R. Rennie*

**Redeeming God, out of the flames of your creation, your voice calls, marking us as your own. Yet there are times when we choose to ignore your voice, and listen instead to our own needs and desires and those that challenge our faith from within the world. Forgive us for those times; when we have ignored the needs of others; when we have failed to place our feet upon your path; when we allow the earthly voice to distract us from your call.**

*We reflect in silence on the ways we have fallen short.*

**Loving Lord, in your forgiveness you offer again your invitation to know your love, to be loved, and to respond to your call. In hearing your voice may we find our place within your creation. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The blazing fire of God's presence refines us, but in mercy it does not destroy us. God does not repay evil for evil, but comes to deliver us and restore us to life. Beloved of God, your sins are forgiven; be at peace. **Amen, and thanks be to God.**

**GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

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*We encourage you to quietly reflect with joy on God's mercy as the music plays.*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God of abundant life, your grace is our daily bread. Nourish us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may grow in faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

*Exodus 2:23-25, 3:1-6*

After a long time the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned under their slavery, and cried out. Out of the slavery their cry for help rose up to God. God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

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

**ANTHEM**

*Bread of the World*

*Sue Poulos and Joyce Counts*

**SECOND READING**

*Exodus 3:7-15*

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**MESSAGE**

Rev. Ben Shaw

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### **THE CALL TO OFFERING**

*Per COVID-19 safety measures, we will not pass the offering plate for some time. As you feel called, you may leave your offering in the plate in the Gathering Room or donate online at [MPChurch.net](http://MPChurch.net).*

#### **DOXOLOGY**

*In place of singing aloud, we encourage you to ponder God's blessings in your life as the music plays.*

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

... And now hear as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 debts  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

#### **INVITATION TO TABLE**

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Praise to you, O God...we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Thank you, O God...great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God...now and forever. Amen.

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*As you are able, please wait to consume the bread and juice, that we might partake together.*

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

#### **HYMN**

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

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#### **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all this day, and unto your life eternal. Amen.

#### **POSTLUDE**