



12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2020

Prelude

My Jesus I Love Thee, Martha Main, YouTube

We are Called to Worship - Seek the living God, who rescues and saves us in times of trial. Seek the living God, who renews, transforms, and strengthens us in our hour of need.~

Gathering Prayer - God of mercy and compassion, hear our prayer. As you heard the cries of Moses in the river Nile, hear the cries of those who suffer injustice today. As you moved the heart of Pharaoh's daughter to save the young Hebrew child, move our hearts to save the lives of those who cannot help themselves. Bind us together into a village of love and support, that we might save your children from death and destruction. May the work of our hands and our worship today help build your kingdom here on earth. Amen.=

Song 1

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets, 24, YouTube

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

A Time of Prayer: *You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.*

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Special Music

Love Medley, Martha Main, YouTube

Song 2

How Great Thou Art, 51, YouTube

We Hear God's Word

Exodus 1:8-2:10 (NRSV)

8 Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

15 The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' ¹⁷But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?' ¹⁹The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' ²⁰So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²²Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.'

2 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her

maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. ‘This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,’ she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, ‘Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?’ ⁸Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Yes.’ So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.’ So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, ‘because’, she said, ‘I drew him out of the water.’

Meditation

Call the Midwife

Spiritual Practice of the Week



HOW MUCH
CAN IT HOLD?



Moses’ mother placed in that basket the most precious treasure in her life. The act of placing that tiny baby in that basket represented the fear that led her to take this great risk and also the hope that God would lead her baby to safety. Find a basket. Throughout the week write down your worries and cares, your hopes and dreams. Put them in that basket. See how much God can hold.

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Offertory

You’re invited to take out your checkbook in these moments. As you write out your offering, be prayerful with each letter and number. In times such as these, when money becomes tight and our economy is under strain, God invites us to be generous and give what we can. These are gifts we freely give, as we are able and as we are called.

We ask that you please mail in your offerings to our office.
Zion United Church of Christ
8916 E. Troy Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46239

You can now submit your offerings on our website through a secure PayPal donation button. Please know that PayPal receives a 2.2% processing fee and a \$0.30 transaction charge. You are able to set up reoccurring, monthly payments. Check it out on our website at www.zionuccindy.net/donate.

***The Doxology** (Please sing the version that is most meaningful to you)

Version 1

*Praise God from whom all blessings
flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

Version 2

*Praise God from whom all blessings
flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.
Amen.*

***We Give Thanks** (unison) – O God, maker of heaven and earth, you are our help in the midst of need and danger. Bless our gifts this day, that they may find their way to those who feel hopeless and without resource. May our gifts be a sign of your hope and love, and may the people we help find their way to safety. Amen.~

Song 3

Now Thank We All Our God, 14, YouTube

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing - May the Lord who made heaven and earth, the Christ who lived and died for all, and the Spirit who renews our minds and hearts abide with you and all God's people, now and forever. Go forth this day to love and serve the LORD. Amen.=

Postlude

Glorify Thy Name, Martha Main, YouTube