



15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2020

Prelude

In Heavenly Love Abiding, Martha Main, YouTube

We are Called to Worship - Give praise to God! Praise the Lord, for it is God who saves. It is God who forgives. It is God who delivers. Give thanks and praise to the Lord! =

Gathering Prayer - Compassionate-One, Lover-of-Goodness, Patience-with-Sinners, draw near to us. Surround us with confidence in your good news: that you love us as parents love their children; that your mercy is boundless and generous, that you beckon us always and will wait forever as we find our way back to you. Open our hearts to receive your compassion; and then show us how to forgive, so that we may be vessels of resurrection hope in our troubled world. In Jesus' name. Amen.+

Song 1

In the Midst of New Dimensions, 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.

Song 2

Go Down, Moses, YouTube

We Hear God's Word

Exodus 14:19-31 (NRSV)

19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.'

26 Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Meditation

The North Star

Spiritual Practice of the Week



In our scripture reading, God led Moses and God's people in a pillar of cloud and bright light. It was this pillar of light that would lead them through the wilderness, a sign of God's presence among them. Look for God's light this week. Look to the heavens above and the earth below. Look to the faces of strangers at the grocery store and pictures of your loved ones. Look for the light—that remind of God's presence among us. Where is God's light leading you this week?

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** – Merciful God, transform this offering into hope and joy for a troubled world. Receive the blessings we return to you this day, and transform our ministries into instruments of your grace. Through our giving may places of sorrow and mourning know the sound of love and laughter. Through our living, mold us into your people—a people of promise and hope, a people who live and die in the Lord.~

Song 3

Step by Step, 494, YouTube

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing - As you go forth from this place, plunge into the waters of life unafraid, for God goes with us. Move forward in life with purpose and passion, for Christ is our guide and guardian. Live as people of powerful hope, for the Spirit renews us each and every day. Go forth this day to love and serve the LORD. Amen.~

Postlude

In Christ There is No East or West, Martha Main, YouTube

Worship Notes: ~Abingdon Worship Annual. =Feasting on the Word Worship Companion. +UCC Worship Ways