



The 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Fill Our Hearts with Wondrous Love

Gathering—We are on holy ground. Come and experience God among us and within us.

Gathering Song

Holy Ground, 564

A Time of Prayer—God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God of Sarah, Rebekah, Leah, and Rachel, we gather before you this day on holy ground. May our worship help us to better understand your heart, O God—to see the world through your eyes and to hear the cries of your people with your ears. Move us, to act in faith and answer the call you have placed on our hearts. Hear now, our cries, God, as with lift up to you our joys and our sorrows...

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.

Choir

As the Deer

Exploring God's Word for All Ages

Holy Ground

We Hear God's Word—*Exodus 3:1-15 (NRSV)*

Collin Bennington

³Moses 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. ²There 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. ³Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' ⁴When 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.' ⁵Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' ⁶He 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.

7 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, ⁸and 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. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.’ ¹¹But Moses said to God, ‘Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?’ ¹²He 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.’

13 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?’ ¹⁴God 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.”’ ¹⁵God 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 for ever,
and this my title for all generations.

Meditation

Holy Encounters with the Heart of God

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past, 84

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation—God hears the cries of God’s people, and God calls Christ’s church to respond with compassion and care and kindness. God has placed on our hearts, here at Zion, a mission to serve and enrich God’s people. Let us bring to God our gifts this day that God might work through this ministry to accomplish God’s work in the world.

September Benevolence—Horizon House

Doxology

We Give Thanks—God, you have heard the cries of your people, and you know our every need. With gratitude we lift up the gifts that have been given

this day, entrusting them to your care that they might be used to do your work in this world.

Hymn

Great is Thy Faithfulness, 72

Benediction—Here, we have encountered God on this holy ground, and God has heard our cries this day. Like Moses, we leave this holy place knowing that the God of our ancestors goes with us. So, go forth, with God as your guide to serve and enrich the world around you. Amen.

Postlude

Prelude on Psalm 8