

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 18, 2020



Messiah Lutheran Church

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Our Lenten Series:

HOW GOD FIXED WHAT WE BROKE

WEDNESDAYS February 26, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 9

GOOD FRIDAY - April 10

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY - April 5

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER SUNDAY - April 12

THE PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE INVOCATION

HYMN: "When Israel Was in Egypt's Land" vs 1,2,4,6

670 When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land,
2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do,
3 The pillar of cloud shall clear the way, let my peo-ple go;
4 As Is - rael stood by the wa - ter - side,
5 When they had reached the oth - er shore,
6 Oh, let us all from bond-age flee,

op - pressed so hard they could not stand,
to lead the childr'n of Is - rael through,
a fire by night, a shade by day, let my peo-ple go.
at God's com-mand it did di - vide,
they sang the song of tri - umph o'er,
and let us all in Christ be free,

Refrain
Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land,

tell old Pha - raoh: let my peo-ple go.

⁶ Then Joseph died, and all his brothers, and that whole generation.

⁷ But the Israelites were fruitful and prolific; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.⁸ Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹ He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰ Come, 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.” ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³ The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴ and 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.” ¹⁷ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸ So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” ¹⁹ The 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.” ²⁰ So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²² Then 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.”

THE PSALM: *Psalms 103:1-13*

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—**

³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,

⁴ **who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

⁵ who satisfies you with good as long as you live^[a]
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶ **The LORD works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,

his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸ **The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰ **He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹² **as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

SECOND READING

Exodus 2:1-15a

² Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³ When 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. ⁴ His 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. ⁶ When 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. ⁷ Then 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?” ⁸ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹ Pharaoh’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. ¹⁰ When 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.”

¹¹ One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and saw their forced labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his kinsfolk. ¹² He looked this way and that, and seeing no one he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ When he went out the next day, he saw two Hebrews fighting; and he said to the one who was in the wrong, “Why do you strike your fellow Hebrew?” ¹⁴ He answered, “Who made you a ruler and judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid and thought, “Surely the thing is known.” ¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh.

We've got to get out of this place. We've got to find our way home.
We weren't born to be slaves. Set us free, why don't you, Lord?

Good Joseph's long gone, now life in Egypt is no fun.
Have mercy, O Lord: Your chosen ones are dying in the sun.
We're hopeless, helpless. What future can there be?
Send a savior, Lord, my God, to set your children free. *Refrain.*

A leader, me? Mercy! No! This whole idea was not mine,
A baby pulled from the river. Yeah, my life in the palace was fine.
But saving Israel from bondage? God, I've got no gifts for that call.
Our stubborn Lord wouldn't listen, said He'd be with me through it all.

First plagues, and then promises, again, again, Pharaoh lied.
God's chosen, slaves in the hot fields, "Mercy, Lord, mercy, mercy", they cried.
Next Passover and the Lamb's blood, then Egyptian children were dead.
Out! Out! Moses and your tribe. Go take all your things, Pharaoh pled.

We finally got out of that place. We started on our way home.
But the desert's too harsh, why'd you set us free, O Lord?
These are God's chosen race. With stiff neck and chiseled face.
Now they wrestle with the Lord, save them from themselves, O Lord.

MEDITATION

OFFERTORY: "The Doxology"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Response:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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 and ever. Amen.**

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat - ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who

to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom
vour - us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They
fear it; For God him - self fights by our side With

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

Has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
In bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
Goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way,

He arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
They can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE