



# Sunset Hills United Presbyterian Church

900 Country Club Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
shupchurch.org

10:15 am WORSHIP  
May 3, 2020

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

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## IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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*God is not finished with us because we're in the wilderness; in fact, God is often most profoundly at work in us during the wilderness seasons of our lives.*

- Adam Hamilton, Pastor and Theologian

*We have no choice. Sadness was as dangerous as panthers and bears. The wilderness needs your whole attention.*

- Laura Ingalls Wilder, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Pioneer

## ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

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Prelude

Announcements

Prayer of Preparation

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Tori Vernacchio

Leader: God calls us as God calls Moses!

**People: When life is easy, when life is hard; when life is joyful, when life is overwhelming - God is with us.**

Leader: Praise be to God!

Hymn: *Nearer My God to Thee* (Piano Solo by Ryan Gracey)

\*Call to Confession (based on Exodus 2)

We can't always see God. We can't always hear God. But God is there, ready with mercy, ready with grace, ready to forgive. Let us confess our sin to God together using the prayer of confession as found printed in the bulletin.

\*Unison Prayer of Confession (based on Exodus 2)

**Life does not always work out as we'd like, Triune God. Even when we do everything right, things fall apart. We are sent into the wilderness. Forgive us, Lord, for the discouragement we experience in these times. Have mercy on our hopelessness. Go easy on our often misplaced anger. Restore us to a vision that makes room for You.**

(Silent Confession)

**In Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Beloved in Christ, our God is great in faithfulness. Give thanks to the Lord for our sins are forgiven.

**People: Hallelujah! Praise be to God!**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

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Gospel Reading: Exodus 1:22; 2:1-23

<sup>22</sup> 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."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup> The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

<sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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?" <sup>8</sup> Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses,<sup>[a]</sup> "because," she said, "I drew him out<sup>[b]</sup> of the water."

<sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> He looked this way and that, and seeing no one he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. <sup>13</sup> 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?" <sup>14</sup> 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." <sup>15</sup> When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses.

But Moses fled from Pharaoh. He settled in the land of Midian, and sat down by a well. <sup>16</sup> The priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. <sup>17</sup> But some shepherds came and drove them away. Moses got up and came to their defense and watered their flock. <sup>18</sup> When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come back so soon today?" <sup>19</sup> They said, "An Egyptian helped us against the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock." <sup>20</sup> He said to his daughters, "Where is he? Why did you leave the man? Invite him to break bread." <sup>21</sup> Moses agreed to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah in marriage. <sup>22</sup> She bore a son, and he named him Gershom; for he said, "I have been an alien<sup>[c]</sup> residing in a foreign land."

<sup>23</sup> 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.

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: *Bushwhacking with Moses*

Rev. Laura Strauss

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

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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.**

Hymn: *Go Down Moses*

Minute for Mission

Jody Colby, Elder

Joys, Concerns, & Testimonies

Pastoral Prayer

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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\*Prayer of Dedication

### Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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 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.**

The Words of Institution  
The Sharing of the Bread  
The Sharing of the Cup  
The Prayer of Thanksgiving

### **DEPARTING TO SERVE**

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\*Benediction

*\*If you are able to do so, please stand.*

**Happy Birthday** to Jenn Kennedy (5<sup>th</sup>), Rosalie Pillitteri (5<sup>th</sup>), David Greenfield (6<sup>th</sup>) & Christopher Tang (8<sup>th</sup>)!

**Stephen Ministers** offer caring, Christian friendship and concerned listening to people when they need it the most. SHUP has five (5) trained Stephen Ministers; Evelyn Lape, Karen Heim, Carole McCullough, Laura Flaus & Ginny Bowman. If you would like to talk to a Stephen Minister, please contact Evelyn Lape at 412-531-9856.

**Hospital visits** by Pastor Laura can be scheduled through the church office. If you or someone you know is having surgery or is in the hospital, please let us know so that Pastor Laura can be there to visit and pray with you and your loved ones.

### **PRAYER LIST**

**May** - Nevee

**April** - Laurel Baker, Mia Boccardi, the family of Katie Nelson, Lynne Blanning, Don & Christa Tang, Ruth Lerch, Cara, Nancy Harty

**Ongoing** - Nancy Brumfield, Eneless Frank, Mya Kelly, Joanna, Dick & Phyllis Moore, Patti Patterson, Becca, our Mission Co-Workers: Rev. Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar and their children; Cindy Anna Flor & Nathan who serve at the U.S.-Mexico Border, our sister church, Litchenza CCAP in Malawi, Africa, Pabatso Makhalanyaane, Bill Newman