

# PRFPARATION

June 28, 2020 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

## WORDS FOR REFLECTION

"The bodily resurrection of Jesus isn't a take-it-or-leave-it thing, as though some Christians are welcome to believe it and others are welcome not to believe it. Take it away, and the whole picture is totally different. Take it away, and Karl Marx was probably right to accuse Christianity of ignoring the problems of the material world. Take it away, and Sigmund Freud was probably right to say that Christianity is a wish-fulfillment religion. Take it away, and Friedrich Nietzsche was probably right to say that Christianity was a religion for wimps. Put it back, and you have a faith that can take on the postmodern world that looks to Marx, Freud and Nietzsche as its prophets."

-N.T. Wright

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Graciously hear us, Lord God; and grant that we, to whom you have given an earnest desire to pray, may by your mighty aid be defended and strengthened in all dangers and adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS

FIRST READING: Genesis 22:1-14

PSALM: Psalm 13

SECOND READING: Romans 6:12-23

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Scripture, the Call to Worship comes from God. We need to be called because it is not our natural response to come to God. God takes the initiative, moves LEADERtowards us with grace, and invites us to worship him.

## WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 79

Do not remember against us our former iniquities; let your compassion come speedily to meet us.

PEOPLE Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name.

LEADER Deliver us, and atone for our sins, for your name's sake!

Why should the nations say, PEOPLE "Where is their God?"

LEADER But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever;

PEOPLE From generation to generation we will recount your praise.

## **HYMN**

# O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Aaron Sensman · Arr. Dr. Seth Ward

O for a thousand tongues to sing My Great Redeemer's praise, The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!

Jesus! the Name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease; 'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.

My Gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim, To spread through all the earth abroad, The honors of Thy name.

He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin, He sets the pris'ner free; His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood avails for me.

Look unto Him, ye nations, own Your God, ye fallen race; Look, and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace.

O for a thousand tongues to sing My Great Redeemer's praise, The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!

Aware of God's holiness and our sinfulness, the Prayer of Confession invites us to honestly confess our sins. We are free to confess even our most grievous faults because no matter how deep our sin may be, God's grace in Jesus Christ is deeper still. Confession both acknowledges our need for grace and celebrates its abundant provision in Christ.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION

The Words of Assurance should be received with gratitude and joy because these words of Scripture assure us that God has promised to forgive and restore those who confess their sins through the finished work of Jesus Christ on our behalf.

# WORDS OF ASSURANCE

#### Acts 4:11-12

This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.

LEADER Hear and receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

## ALL Thanks be to God!

#### HYMN

## What a Beautiful Name

Ben Fielding · Brooke Ligertwood

You were the Word at the beginning, One with God the Lord Most High. Your hidden glory in creation Now revealed in You our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is, What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ my King. What a beautiful Name it is; nothing compares to this. What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

You didn't want Heaven without us, So Jesus, You, brought Heaven down. My sin was great, Your love was greater; What could separate us now?

What a wonderful Name it is, What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ my King. What a wonderful Name it is; nothing compares to this. What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Death could not hold You; the veil tore before You. You silenced the boast of sin and grave. The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory, For You are raised to life again. You have no rival; You have no equal. Now and forever, God You reign. Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory; Yours is the Name, above all names.

What a powerful Name it is, What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ my King. What a powerful Name it is; nothing can stand against. What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We regularly pray for needs in our congregation, our neighborhood and city, and the world. Please let the prayer ministry know of your prayer requests by visiting <a href="https://www.centralchurchnyc.org/prayerrequest">www.centralchurchnyc.org/prayerrequest</a>.

#### OFFERING

Please text centralchurchnyc to 77977 or visit our website in order to give electronically.

## THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth LM

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. Amen.

The Word of God is the primary means by which God speaks to us and the ultimate authority for what we believe and how we live. All Scripture passages are taken from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted.

### SCRIPTURE READING

#### Exodus 3:1-14

'Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 'And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. 'And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." 'When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 'Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." 'And he said, "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.

<sup>7</sup>Then the Lord said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, 8 and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of 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 place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 9And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup>Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" 12He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup>Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, "I am who I am." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I am has sent me to you."

LEADER The word of the Lord.

# ALL Thanks be to God!

The Spirit makes the reading and preaching of God's Word a powerful means of challenging, comforting, and strengthening God's people and awakening people to new faith.

#### **SERMON**

Life of Moses | What's In a Name?

Rev. Jason Harris

We sing the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray to our Heavenly Father.

## 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.

We begin our worship with God's gracious invitation, and we conclude with God's blessing, his good word. It is appropriate to look up and open our palms as we receive the Benediction to symbolize how Jesus Christ lifts our heads and to demonstrate our eagerness to receive God's blessing.

# BENEDICTION

God never draws us into relationship with himself without also sending us out into the world to be his representatives and ambassadors.

#### DISMISSAL

LEADER Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

# ALL Thanks be to God!