



*Moses by jbrown67*

*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."*

*Exodus 14:26*

## **“We Can’t Stay Here”**

A four week sermon series on Moses

September 24, 2017 at 11 am  
St. John’s Lutheran Church, Salisbury NC



# Welcome to St. John's!

*Part of this morning's liturgy may also be found at the front section of this hymnal, where noted in your bulletin. Occasionally you will be invited to turn to a hymn in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship. The congregation's responses are in bold.*

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!** We hope that you will feel a warm sense of welcome today. If you are without a church home, we invite you to become a part of the ministry of St. John's. Please complete the Friendship Pad found on the pew so that we might get to know one another better. For more information, visit our website at [stjohns-salisbury.org](http://stjohns-salisbury.org).

**HOLY COMMUNION** is offered on the first and third Sundays at the 11 am service, on the second and fourth Sundays at the 8:30 am service, and on the first Sundays at the 9:27 am service. All baptized and communing Christians are welcome to the Table to receive God's gift of grace through his body and blood. Those not communing are invited forward for a spoken blessing. Following the ushers' instructions, proceed down the aisle to the front of the church.

**SMALL CHILDREN** are always welcome at worship, although a nursery for infants through age 5 is provided in the lower level of the Sanctuary building for your convenience. Please ask an usher to direct you to the nursery.

**AS WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**, please feel welcome and invited to greet your neighbors and enjoy this time together. As the prelude begins, let us be silent and prepare ourselves for worship. Be mindful that this is a worship service. Please turn off all electronic devices. The use of cameras, iPads and other picture-taking technologies should be limited to before or after the service. Thanks for being considerate of others regarding flashes and ringtones. May the Spirit of God fill this place and lead us into the wonder of his Presence.

**ST JOHN'S IS FULLY ACCESSIBLE** to those with physical restrictions. An elevator to the sanctuary is located along the side entrance of the church. Hearing aids and audio loops are available at the 11 am service. Large print bulletins are available at the 11 am service. Our ushers will be glad to assist you.

# Gathering

**Welcome** *Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew.*

**Prelude**

*Day by Day*  
Rosemary Kinard, piano

arr. by Craig Courtney

**Prayers of Confession.** *Please stand, turning towards the cross of Christ.*

*As we gather for worship, you are invited to make the sign of the cross as a sign of your baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

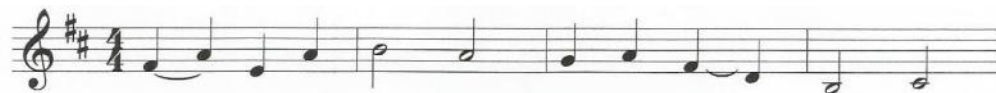
Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Kyrie.** *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace.*



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Lord have mer - cy.



Chris - te e - lei - son, Christ have - mer - cy.

Setting by Rob Durocher. © 2017 D-Clef Music

## God's Promise of Forgiveness

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

### Entrance Hymn 533

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

UNSER HERRSCHER

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### Faith Life Moment

Troy Buechler, Consecration Sunday

## Word

### Preaching Text:

Exodus 14:10-14,26-29

*Crossing the Red Sea*

<sup>10</sup>As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. <sup>11</sup>They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? <sup>12</sup>Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." <sup>13</sup>But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. <sup>14</sup>The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

<sup>26</sup>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." <sup>27</sup>So 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. <sup>28</sup>The 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. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**



Sing un-to thLord! Sing un-to the Lord. Sing, for he has tri-umph-ed glo-rious-ly

Setting by Rob Durocher. © 2017 D-Clef Music

**Second Reading:** Psalm 105:1,26-45

*Remembering the Exodus*

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

<sup>26</sup> He sent his servant Moses, and Aaron whom he had chosen.

<sup>27</sup> They performed his signs among them, and miracles in the land of Ham.

<sup>28</sup> He sent darkness, and made the land dark; they rebelled against his words.

<sup>29</sup> He turned their waters into blood, and caused their fish to die.

<sup>30</sup> Their land swarmed with frogs, even in the chambers of their kings.

<sup>31</sup> He spoke, and there came swarms of flies, and gnats throughout their country.

<sup>32</sup> He gave them hail for rain, and lightning that flashed through their land.

<sup>33</sup> He struck their vines and fig trees, and shattered the trees of their country.

<sup>34</sup> He spoke, and the locusts came, and young locusts without number;

<sup>35</sup> they devoured all the vegetation in their land, and ate up the fruit of their ground.

<sup>36</sup> He struck down all the firstborn in their land, the first issue of all their strength.

<sup>37</sup> Then he brought Israel out with silver and gold, and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled. **RESPONSE**

<sup>38</sup> Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had fallen upon it.

<sup>39</sup> He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night.

<sup>40</sup> They asked, and he brought quails, and gave them food from heaven in abundance.

<sup>41</sup> He opened the rock, and water gushed out, it flowed through the desert like a river.

<sup>42</sup> For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.

<sup>43</sup> So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing.

<sup>44</sup> He gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples,

<sup>45</sup> that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws.

Praise the LORD! **RESPONSE**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Worship** *During the singing of the response, children are invited to Children's Worship, returning after the sermon.*

<sup>17</sup>On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" <sup>18</sup>He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" <sup>19</sup>So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>26</sup>While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

<sup>30</sup>When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

Pastor Rhodes Woolly

**Hymn 796**

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

**Apostles' Creed.** *The three paragraphs of the Creed express our belief in the three-fold nature of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## Collection of our Tithes and Offerings

### Offertory Anthem

*Be Not Afraid*  
From Isaiah 43:1-4

Setting by Craig Courtney

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you; be not afraid: I have called you by name.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
when you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you;  
when you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;  
You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

My love for you is everlasting, my love for you shall have no end.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
when you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you;  
when you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;  
You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

**Offertory Hymn.** *As the gifts are presented the congregation stands and sings.*

**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.**

**Prayers of Intercession.** *Each petition ends: 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.**

*Please stand*

### Prayer and Blessing

# Sending

## Benediction

Sending Hymn 546

*To Be Your Presence*

ENGELBERG

Dismissal      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

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