

Welcome to St. John's

Fall Sermon Series: *Great Tyrants of the Old Testament*
Part 2, Pharaoh



The Season after Pentecost

September 23, 2018 | 11 am

St. John's Lutheran Church
Salisbury NC

Welcome to St. John's!

*For more information about today's worship, please refer to the pew card found in the hymnal.
The congregation's responses are in **bold**.*



Gathering

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

Prelude

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Robert J. Powell

Prayers of Confession, *turning to face the cross of Christ.*

As we gather for worship, we make the sign of the cross as a reminder of our 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.

Eternal God, **in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.**

From The Book of Common Worship (Presbyterian, 1993)

God's Promise of Forgiveness

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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. O God, at the beginning of this new week, we commit and commend ourselves to you. Be the goal of our pilgrimage, and our rest by the way. Give us refuge from the turmoil of worldly distractions, that our hearts might find rest in you. Accept our praise, O God, and fill us with your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please be seated

Faith Life Moment

Jonathan Williams, Consecration Sunday

Response

Take My Life, That I May Be

PATMOS

**Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.**



Word

First Reading

Exodus 1:8-14,22

The Israelites are oppressed

⁸Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰Come, 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." ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴and 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.

²²Pharaoh then 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 Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

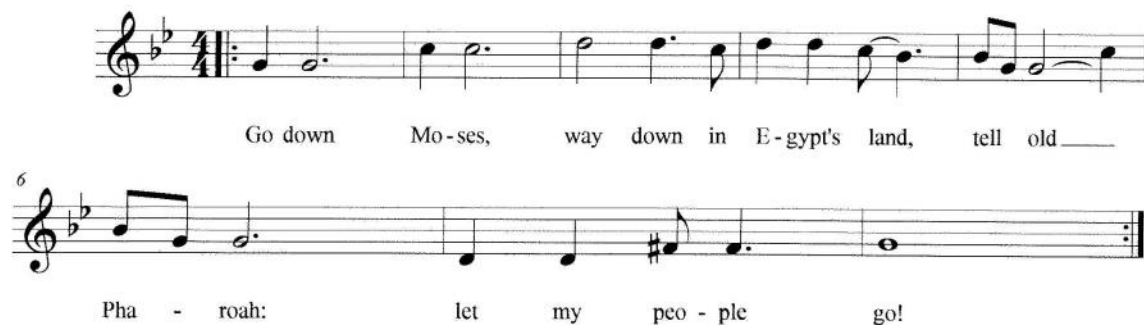
Our second reading follows the first by several decades. Moses is now the established leader of the Israelites who, after 400 years of slavery in Egypt, have been granted freedom ... until the Pharaoh changes his mind.

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

Response

Let My People Go

African American Spiritual



The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13-15

The Holy Family escapes to Egypt

In the months following Jesus' birth, magi bearing gifts visited Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. It was a time of great anxiety because of King Herod's brutality. Today's reading picks up after the magi return to their homes.

¹³Now after the magi had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

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

Sermon

Pastor Rhodes Woolly

Please stand

Hymn 878

Soli Deo Gloria

SOLI DEO GLORIA

Apostles' Creed

Gathered as God's people across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

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.**

Prayers of Intercession. *Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***
The congregation is invited to offer up the names of those they want added to the prayers.



Meal

Sharing the Peace of Christ The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated

Collection of our tithes and offerings and preparation of the Lord's Table

*For thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will extend peace like a river,
and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream. Isaiah 62:12*

I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river, soothing river, calmly flow.
When the world closes in, feel the stillness within.
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean in my soul.
I've got love like an ocean, endless ocean, deep and full.
When you're lost and alone, let God's grace bring you home.
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.
When your hope nearly dies, just remember, once again you shall rise!
I've got joy like a fountain, love like an ocean, peace like a river in my soul.

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

Let us pray. Merciful Father,
**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our
time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the
sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. ... and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer, *followed by 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.**

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated

Distribution of Holy Communion, *see pew card for instructions.*

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God, p. 154; in the front of the red ELW

493 *Taste and See (Refrain only)*

496 *One Bread, One Body*

208 *Praise to You, O God of Mercy*

Prayer and Blessing



Sending

God sends us out to help advance his kingdom

Benediction

The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

May God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn 756

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

MELITA

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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