



**October 3, 2021, Worship**  
***Encouraging a Culture of Generosity***  
**St. Barnabas Lutheran Church, Cary, IL**

**Prelude**

Gloria Peetz

**Announcements**

**Generosity Chat**

Cindy Barth

**Call to Worship and Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**People of God: Amen.**

We gather together to worship the God of our fathers and mothers:

**People of God: the God of Abraham and Sarah, of Miriam and Moses.**

We gather together to worship the God who hears the cries of all people and comes to their aid,

**People of God: the God who meets us on holy ground and calls us to follow;**

the God who invites us to leave our selfish ways behind,

**People of God: to take up our cross and discover what it means to truly live.**

This is our God!

**People of God: Let us worship together.**

And now, centered for worship and trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Let us pray. Reconciling God,

**People of God: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy, we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

**People of God: Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. God of all people, you remembered your children who were enslaved in Egypt, and by the power of your name, you set them free. Remember us and free us from slavery to sin by the power of your name.

**People of God: Amen.**

## **Reading: Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17**

*Last week we heard about twin brothers Esau and Jacob. Jacob left home, married, and had children, including Joseph who was sold by his jealous brothers, ended up in Egypt, and saved the entire region from famine. Hundreds of years later, the Egyptians forgot what Joseph had done for them, and as his descendants, the Israelites, multiplied, the Egyptians grew to fear them. To ensure they dominated the Israelites, the Egyptians enslaved and oppressed them. Today we hear the call story of Moses, who as a baby had been spared from death by the Pharaoh's own daughter when she found him floating on the Nile River in a basket.*

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. God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then God said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." God said further, "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. Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from 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 country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" The LORD said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, " I AM WHO I AM." God said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ' I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to

Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

But Moses said to the LORD, "O my LORD, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." Then the LORD said to him, "Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak." But Moses said, "O my LORD, please send someone else." Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and he said, "What of your brother Aaron the Levite? I know that he can speak fluently; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs." The word of the Lord.

**People of God: Thanks be to God.**

### **Children's Sermon**

#### **Sermon**

Rev. Sarah Wilson

**Hymn** ELW #574 Here I am, Lord

Gloria Peetz and Valerie Svihlik

"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

#### *Refrain*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

"I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

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### **Prayers of the People**

Holy, holy, holy God, in calling forth creation from the void, revealing yourself in human flesh, and pouring forth your wisdom to guide us, you manifest your concern for your whole universe. You invite us, as your people, to gather the world's needs into our hearts and bring them before you.

*A brief silence.*

God of calling, bless all leaders of the church: council members, parish administrators, bishops, music directors, pastors, youth ministers, and all who say yes to your call. Grant them confidence that you use them to work your will and your Word in the world. Lord in your mercy,

**People of God: hear our prayer.**

God of mountains and valleys, bless shepherds, ranchers, farmers, and all who care for livestock and creation that there might be food enough for all. Lord in your mercy,

**People of God: hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, bless world leaders that they might better see and hear the cries and groans of the oppressed and respond with compassion and care. Lord in your mercy,

**People of God: hear our prayer.**

God of all tribes, bless people of every race and background that we might always seek out paths of reconciliation and peace. Lord in your mercy,

**People of God: hear our prayer.**

God who hears our cries, bless any who are suffering this day, especially Allen, Scott, Kathi, Frank, Audrey, Beth, Priscilla, Tom, Lorie, Dennis, Katie, Carol, Bill, Roger, David, Robert, John, the Vogt Family, Charlie, Pastor Kara, Carol, and those we name silently or aloud. May they know your power and trust in your holy name as the source of all wholeness. Lord in your mercy,

**People of God: hear our prayer.**

*Please offer your own prayers of joy or concern, ending with " Lord in your mercy "*

Holy, holy, holy God, fill us with strength and courage, with discernment and compassion, that we may be your instruments of justice and love in this world, that it may be on earth as it is in heaven.

**People of God: Amen.**

**The Peace** (*Please share peace by waving or showing the peace sign.*)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**People of God: And also with you**

**Offering** (*Please place your offerings in the plates as you leave worship.*)

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is

as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**People of God: Amen.**

### **Communion**

The Lord be with you.

**People of God: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People of God: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And now let us pray with confidence in the words that Jesus taught us:

**People of God: 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.**

### **Blessing**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**People of God: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn** ELW #413 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Almighty Gloria Peetz and Valerie Svihlik  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!  
Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Live in generosity.

**People of God: Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

Gloria Peetz

#### **Thank you to those serving us today**

Pastor: Rev. Sarah Wilson  
Worship Assistant: Marianne Barstow  
Music: Gloria Peetz  
Music Leader: Valerie Svihlik  
Usher: Bob Eccker  
Greeter: Jeanne Soberg  
Altar Guild: Marianne Barstow  
Sound Board: Sally Skalany  
AV Tech: Mark Gates  
Generosity Chatter: Cindy Barth  
Altar Flowers: Chuck and Marianne Barstow  
In celebration of their 32nd anniversary

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