

Order of Worship: Sunday, January 23, 2022

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Prelude

O Worship the King (arr. J. Trivette)
Gaye Herndon, organ

Welcome

Rev. Kandace Brooks

Opening Prayer

Our task this day is to cross the sea.
Our task today is to say "no" to self-reliance, and lean into the promises of God.
Our task if we chose it, is to say "yes" to life and faith.
Our task is to give that same opportunity to others -
Let us cross the sea together! Amen.

Opening Hymn

He Leadeth Me (UMH 128)

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed (UMH 881)

Gloria Patri

Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Rev. Becky Rokitowski

Anthem

Children's Message

Scripture

Exodus 14: 10-14

Introduction to the reading: Following the tenth plague, Pharaoh allowed Moses and Aaron to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. After their departure, Pharaoh hardened his heart and sent his army after the Israelites, who were encamped near the Red Sea. Pharaoh recognized that the location of the Israelite encampment caused them to be trapped because the sea blocked their retreat.

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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? ¹² 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." ¹³ **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. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."**

Sermon

LIBERATION: Why is it so Hard?

Closing Hymn

And Can it Be (UMH 363, vs. 1, 4, 5)

Closing Prayer

Let us go out from here as workers in God's upside-down kingdom,
where the last are first and the first are last,
where needs are met in miraculous ways, and there is grace enough for all!
And may the blessing of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit surround us, sustain us, and liberate us in the coming days. Amen.

Postlude

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (arr. P. Dickens)