

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Musical Director: Lynda-Jean Coffin, B.A, B.Ed., Music

September 27th, 2020 11:00 am
JOURNEYING THROUGH THE EXODUS

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. Let us pause to remember that in this region we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the Wabanaki peoples—predominantly the lands of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Dr. Burke. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

"I will love you forever" is easy to swear to.

"I will love you at 4:15 pm next Tuesday" - Is that still as easy?"

W.H. Auden

THE GATHERING

*Please rise in body or in spirit for sections marked with an asterisk.

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: May the Joy of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us worship together!

OPENING PRAYER:

Leader: God of Moses, Miriam and Aaron, God of rock and water,

People: God made known to us in Jesus,

Leader: we gather together, opening ourselves to you, with all of our questions and thirsts, our grumblings and our fears.

People: In your holy story, where will we see ourselves? Where will we find our church?

Leader: And how will we recognize you, in our time and place? As the ancients asked, so do we still:

People: Are you with us, O God? Still us that we might listen.

Strengthen us with your promise that wherever we go, you are with us always.

Leader: And now we pray together as Jesus taught, saying:

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, the power and the glory,

For ever and ever. Amen.

MUSIC

THE WORD OF GOD

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 17: 1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, ‘Give us water to drink.’

Moses said to them, ‘Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?’ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people

complained against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?’

So Moses cried out to the Lord, ‘What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.’

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.’

Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, ‘Is the Lord among us or not?’

SERMON: *Grumbling, Part 2: Same Song, Second Verse....*

MUSIC

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A TIME OF PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING: