



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2023
THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I
8:00 A.M.

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation	The Book of Common Prayer, p. 323
The Collect for Purity	p. 323
Gloria	p. 324
The Collect of the Day	p. 181

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: Exodus 3:1–15 The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 49

Commentary: Although Moses was raised in Pharaoh's palace, he never forgot his Hebrew roots. However, Moses' early and misguided attempt to help his brethren resulted in forty years' exile from his kinsmen and the land of his birth (see Exodus 2:11-25). In this passage, the Angel of the Lord is clearly not a messenger but God Himself. God explained to Moses the reason for this revelation: He had heard the cries of His people and now intended to deliver them. During his years as a shepherd in Midian, Moses had become genuinely humble and he distrusted his fitness and ability to lead. Moses still needed to learn that success in God's service did not depend on natural talent but on trust in, and obedience to, the Lord, who is sovereign and unchanging. The God who had been and always will be is the God who equips those He calls to serve.

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 he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He 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?" He 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." He 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.

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

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:21–28

NRSV, p. 896

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Jay Sidebotham

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People

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Confession of Sin

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The Peace

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Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer II

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Sanctus

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The Lord's Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread

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Prayer of Humble Access

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The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers available upon request

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

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The Blessing

The Dismissal

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Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Jay Sidebotham

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paul Ingle and William Hale.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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