



Sunday Worship

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 23, 2020

WELCOME

MUSIC *All Creatures of Our God and King*
 Violin: Sarah Coyl

OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, we tell your story today as a conspiracy of hearts;
 The defiant midwives,
 the laboring women,
 the daughter of power
 and the daughter of poverty
 join forces to protect the children of Israel
 and so set the stage for liberation.
 Meet us here today and show us the gifts we have
 to offer in the service of your kingdom--
 resilience, clear-sightedness, courage, compassion—
 setting the stage for a Just World for All.
 In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING **Exodus 1:8-2:10**

SERMON “Power, Resistance, Liberation” **Pastor Jim**

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC *And Can It Be* Violin: Sarah Coyl

BENEDICTION

Courageous Women

Based on Exodus 1:8—2:10

Narrator: When Egypt got a new king, he didn't know all that Joseph did for Egypt. So, he told his people...

King: There are too many Hebrews here. They're getting so powerful they might fight for our enemies if we ever go to war.

Narrator: The Egyptians turned the Hebrews into slaves and tried to wear them out. They made them build two cities, but the Hebrew families kept growing. Finally, the king called Shiphrah and Puah, two midwives who helped the Hebrew women give birth. He told the midwives...

King: If a Hebrew woman has a baby girl, the girl can live. But, if she has a baby boy, you must kill him.

Narrator: The midwives believed in God, so didn't kill the baby boys. The king called them again and said...

King: Why do you let the boys live?

Shiphrah: Hebrew women have their babies faster than Egyptian women.

Puah: So, by the time we get there, the babies are born!

Narrator: God blessed Shiphrah and Puah with their own babies. But the Hebrew families kept growing, so the king commanded everyone in Egypt...

King: When a Hebrew woman has a baby, the girls can live. But throw the boys in the Nile River!

Narrator: A man and woman from the Levi tribe married, and she had a baby boy. She hid him at home for three months, but when she couldn't hide him any longer, she put him in a waterproof basket and hid it in the grass by the Nile River. His older sister watched from a distance, then one of the king's daughters came to bathe and saw the basket. She sent a servant for it, and when the princess opened the basket, the baby's crying made her sad. She said...

Egyptian Princess: This must be a Hebrew baby.

Narrator: The baby's older sister approached her and asked...

Sister: Would you like a Hebrew woman to look after this baby for you?

Egyptian Princess: Oh, yes! Can you find one?

Narrator: So the girl brought the baby's mother and the princess said...

Egyptian Princess: I will pay you to take care of this child for me.

Narrator: The baby's mother took him home and cared for him. When he was old enough, she returned him to the princess, who adopted him and gave him the name Moses – which means "pulled out" – because she pulled him out of the water.

Lesson Opening

Ask: What are some examples of times you've needed protection?

Ask: Who or what protected you?

Say: Our main point for our lesson today is: "we can trust God to protect us."

Ask: When has God protected you? What kinds of things does God protect us from?

Say: Our story is about God protecting a helpless little baby. We will learn that we are a lot like the baby in the story, totally dependent on God to rescue us from danger, and especially from sin.

Tell the Story of Baby Moses

Moses' story begins long before he was even born. Jacob and his 12 sons had settled in the nation of Egypt. Pharaoh had given them some of the best land, so their family had prospered. Eventually Jacob and all of his sons died, but their families continued to grow. After a while a new man became Pharaoh, one who didn't know Joseph. He saw that the Israelites were becoming numerous and he got scared. He thought for sure the people would grow in number and eventually be able to overpower him! So he came up with an evil plan.

Pharaoh's evil plan was to have all the Hebrew baby boys killed. If there were no baby boys, they wouldn't grow into strong men who could take over Egypt. That was Pharaoh's way of thinking anyway. But you know what? God is bigger than Pharaoh, and stronger too! God had a plan to save a very special baby boy named Moses, who would later grow up to be a great leader of the Hebrew people.

When Moses was born his mother saw that he was a very fine baby, and she hid him from Pharaoh for three whole months. Can you imagine trying to hide a baby for that long?

When Moses' mother could no longer keep him hidden she found a reed basket and coated the inside with tar so it wouldn't leak. She placed Moses in the basket and set him afloat on the Nile River. His big sister Miriam stood on the bank to see what would happen to him.

Ask: What sort of dangers might there have been for baby Moses in the river? (*Alligators, currents, big waves, etc.*)

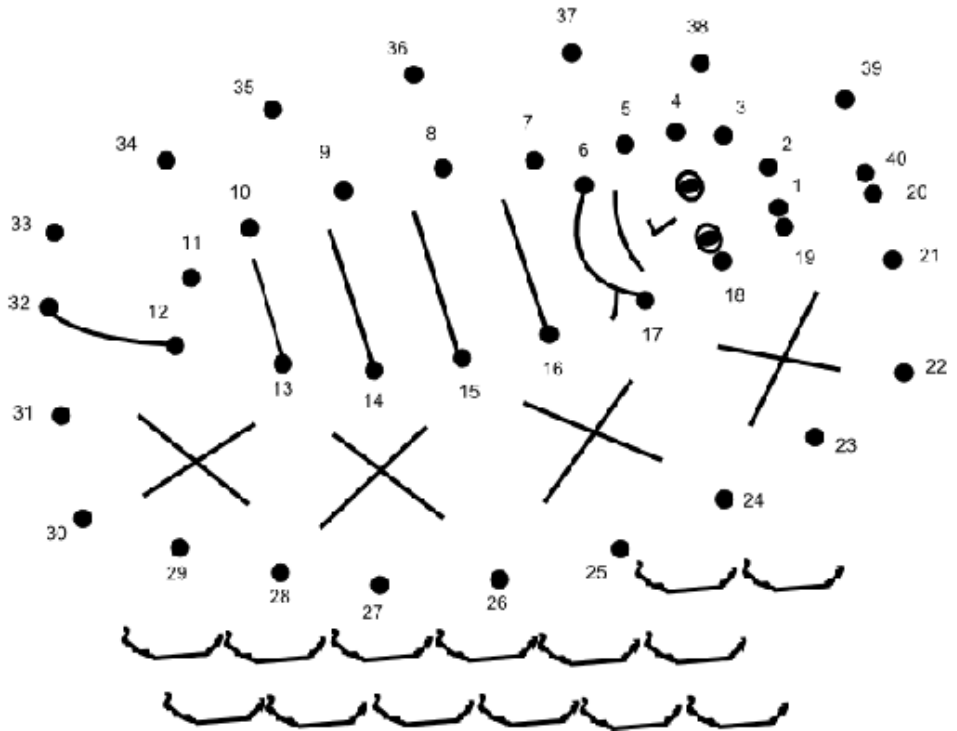
Exodus 1:8-2:10

⁸ Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. ⁹ "Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become far too numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country."¹¹ So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³ and worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁴ They made their lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labor the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly.

Bible Puzzle
Baby Moses Dot-to-Dot

Moses' mother Jochebed protected him from the people who wanted to hurt him.

Connect the dots to see where she put him.



How does God protect you?