

Prelude

Rest. Refocus. Put away worldly cares. Welcome the Lord.

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

When Israel was in Egypt's land--Let my people go.
Oppressed so hard they could not stand--Let my people go.

Refrain:

Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land.
Tell old Pharaoh: Let my people go!

The Lord told Moses what to do--Let my people go,
To lead the Hebrew children through--Let my people go.

As Israel stood by the waterside--Let my people go,
At God's command it did divide--Let my people go.

When they had reached the other shore--Let my people go,
They let the song of triumph soar--Let my people go.

Lord, help us all from bondage flee--Let my people go,
And let us all in Christ be free--Let my people go.

Welcome

P: The Lord be with you!
C: And also with you!
P: We are Gathered by God--
C: To Share the Love of Jesus!

Prayer for Blessing on the Word

P: Let us pray. Lord our God:
C: We gather in Your house to hear Your Word and call on You in prayer and praise. Bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a Word of power and peace. By Your Word, gather those not yet Your own and grow those who have already come to faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, from the lip to the life, and from one life to another, that as You have promised, Your Word will not return to You empty, but it will accomplish the holy purposes for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord; Amen.

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise; Triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine, Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

Invocation - WTB06 Moses

P: We make our beginning in the name of God--
C: the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob,
P: who has surely seen the affliction of His people,
C: who has come down to deliver them,
P: whose name is I AM WHO I AM,
C: who is to be remembered throughout all generations.
P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;
C: Amen.

Confession & Absolution - WTB06 Moses

P: When God called out to Moses from the burning bush, Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Since we have sinned against God, we cannot come into His presence as we are, and our many sins should make us turn away from Him in shame.

C: Have mercy and forgive us, almighty Creator.

P: When God called Moses to free His people, Moses asked to know God's name. My brothers and sisters, we have known and borne the name of God since our Baptism, but in many ways we have failed to acknowledge Him as Lord in our daily living.

C: Have mercy and forgive us, gracious Savior.

P: When God told Moses to go Pharaoh, he could only say, "Who am I that I should go?" Likewise, we have downplayed and deferred our holy call to serve the Lord, and we have put our personal desires ahead of God and those He would have us serve.

C: Have mercy and forgive us, strengthening Spirit.

P: We keep a time of silence for reflection and personal confession of our sins:

P: As surely as God sent Moses to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to free us from our slavery to sin! And as Israel sang and shouted their praise to God by the Red Sea, we now worship Him here in this place, and one day will sing our praise eternity!

P: As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Peace - WTB06 Moses

P: The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

C: He made known His ways to Moses, His saving acts to the people of Israel.

P: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

C: He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever.

P: He does not deal with us according to our sins,

C: Nor does He repay us according to our iniquities.

P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

C: so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;

P: as far as the east is from the west,
C: so far He removes our transgressions from us.
P: The peace of the Lord be with you all!
C: And also with you!

I Will Follow

Where You go, I'll go. Where You stay, I'll stay.
When You move, I'll move. I will follow.

All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure-
I will trust in You alone.
Higher than my sight, high above my life-
I will trust in You alone.

Refrain:

Where You go, I'll go. Where You stay, I'll stay.
When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.
Whom You love, I'll love. How You serve, I'll serve.
If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah,
I will follow You, yeah.

Light into the world, Light into my life-
I will live for You alone.
You're the One I seek, Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone.

In You there's life everlasting,
In You there's freedom for my soul,
In You there's joy, unending joy-
And I will follow!

Kyrie - WTB06 Moses

P: For the peace that comes from knowing the grace of God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the great I AM, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace in realizing that we have been freed from slavery in sin to look toward the promised land of heaven, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace and assurance that God calls us to work for Him and promises to accompany us to accomplish His will, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

Prayer of the Day - WTB06 Moses

P: The Lord be with you;
C: And also with you.
P: Let us pray together:

C: Lord of heaven and earth, in Jesus You came down and freed us so that we may be able to serve You in peace and joy. May Your kingdom come to us, and Your will be done through us until You graciously bring into Your presence eternally; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever; Amen.

Readings from Holy Scripture

Old Testament - WTB06 Moses

33:1 The Lord said to Moses, "Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your offspring I will give it.' 33:3 Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people."

33:4 When the people heard this disastrous word, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments.

33:5 For the Lord had said to Moses, "Say to the people of Israel, 'You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do with you.'"

33:7 Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting.

33:8 Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. 33:9 When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and He would speak with Moses. 33:10 And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance, all the people would rise up and worship, each at his own tent door. 33:11 Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.

33:12 Moses said to the Lord, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people,' but You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' 33:13 Now therefore, if I have found favor in Your sight, please show me Your ways, that I may know You in order to find favor in Your sight. Consider too that this nation is Your people."

33:14 And He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." 33:15 And he said to Him, "If Your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. 33:16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not in Your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and Your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?" 33:17 And the Lord said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."

33:18 Moses said, "Please show me Your glory." 33:19 And He said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name--'The Lord.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 33:20 But," He said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." 33:21 And the Lord said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, 33:22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 33:23 Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle - WTB06 Moses

Hebrews 3:1-6

3:1 Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, 3:2 who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. 3:3 For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses--as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. 3:4 (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)

3:5 Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, 3:6 but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are His house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel - WTB06 Moses

Luke 9:28-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

9:28 Now about eight days after these sayings He took with Him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. 9:29 And as He was praying, the appearance of His face was altered, and His clothing became dazzling white.

9:30 And behold, two men were talking with Him, Moses and Elijah, 9:31 who appeared in glory and spoke of His departure, which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

9:32 Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw Jesus' glory and the two men who stood with Him. 9:33 And as the men were parting from Him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents, one for You and one for Moses and one for Elijah" -- not knowing what he said.

9:34 As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. 9:35 And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to Him!" 9:36 And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

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

All who dwell in deepest 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?"

"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, 'til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Sermon Title

"In the Presence of Greatness"

Exodus #1

Israel Goes through the Wilderness to the Promised Land

Exodus #2

Jesus Goes through the Cross to the Empty Tomb

Exodus #3

The Church Goes through 2020 to . . .

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

When the darkness appears And the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

Apostles' Creed

P: Baptized into Christ Jesus and living together in trust and hope, we confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

C: And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church--the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

spalutheran.org/give

Offertory Prayer - WTB06 Moses

P: Let us pray together: God of law and God of grace,

C: When we consider the commandments You gave through Moses, we hang our heads. You ask so little of us, and yet we fall so short, putting other gods before You. Free us from the idols that consume us: the love of money, work, pleasure, and prestige, so that we may serve You freely, joyfully, and without fear. As we lay our gifts at Your altar today, we thank You for Your love, which never fails; through Jesus Christ, our Lord; Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Email requests to prayer@spalutheran.org

Prayers - WTB06 Moses

P: Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in the faith and for all people in their various circumstances, confident that God graciously hears us on account of Christ, saying:

C: We praise the name of the Lord!

I: Eternal Lord, You called to Moses from the burning bush to lead Your people to freedom. You gave him Your name and promised to go with him. Now as You send us out into the world with Your name upon us from our Baptism, we pray: Come with us, and work through us to accomplish Your gracious will. Confident that You go before us and follow us, placing Your hand of blessing on us,

C: We praise the name of the Lord!

P: Heavenly Father, You saw the afflictions of Your people in Egypt. Look in mercy and remember all who are oppressed by harsh governments, denied their human rights by corrupt courts, or cast aside by uncaring cultures. Move us to remember them, and to use the privilege of our voices and abilities to come to their aid, visit, relieve, strengthen, and free them. Knowing Your answers are better than our prayers,

C: We praise the name of the Lord!

I: Lord Jesus, hear the prayers of all who have been displaced from their homes and protect those who must journey to seek refuge from oppression and danger. We pray for those who are charged to keep order and peace at borders, and ask You to guide our leaders in wisdom to make laws that are just and fair for the immigrants who seek a new home and life among us. Confident that You can bring good out of every circumstance,

C: We praise the name of the Lord!

P: King of Kings, bless our nation with peace and harmony, particularly as we approach the time of national election. In these anxious days, when division and opposition are on every hand, lead us to

recall that our citizenship is in heaven, and that we are ambassadors of Christ. Hopeful that we may be examples of the peace that passes human understanding,

C: We praise the name of the Lord!

I: O Holy Spirit, You knew the sufferings of the Israelites in Moses' day. Hear us as we pray for all who are struggling with illnesses of body, mind, or spirit, especially these that we remember before You aloud and in silence. . . Equip and bless those who are called to serve them in their time of need.

Anticipating the contentment and health that await them in Your gracious plans,

C: We praise the name of the Lord.

P: Lord Jesus, Your people have awaited Your return since Your ascension. During this time when lawlessness and rebellion are rampant in this fallen world, give us comfort and hope, protection and encouragement. Looking forward to joining those who have gone before and now live in Your presence,

C: We praise the name of the Lord!

I: Lord of the nations, Pharaoh did not know You in Moses' day, and today whole nations have not heard our Savior's name. Open doors of opportunity for laypeople and pastors so that the Gospel may be proclaimed. Trusting that growth will come to the Church by Your will,

C: We praise the name of the Lord!

P: These prayers, O Lord, and all the other things for which we should have prayed we commend to You, trusting that You will lead and guide us on our way, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who remembers us in His kingdom, and has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Benediction - WTB06 Moses

P: Now may the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the great I AM—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you and keep you in His grace both now and forever.

C: Amen.

'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.

'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past And hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.

'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Sending

P: We are Gathered by God

C: to Share the Love of Jesus!

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Farewell

Farewell & God's Blessings!