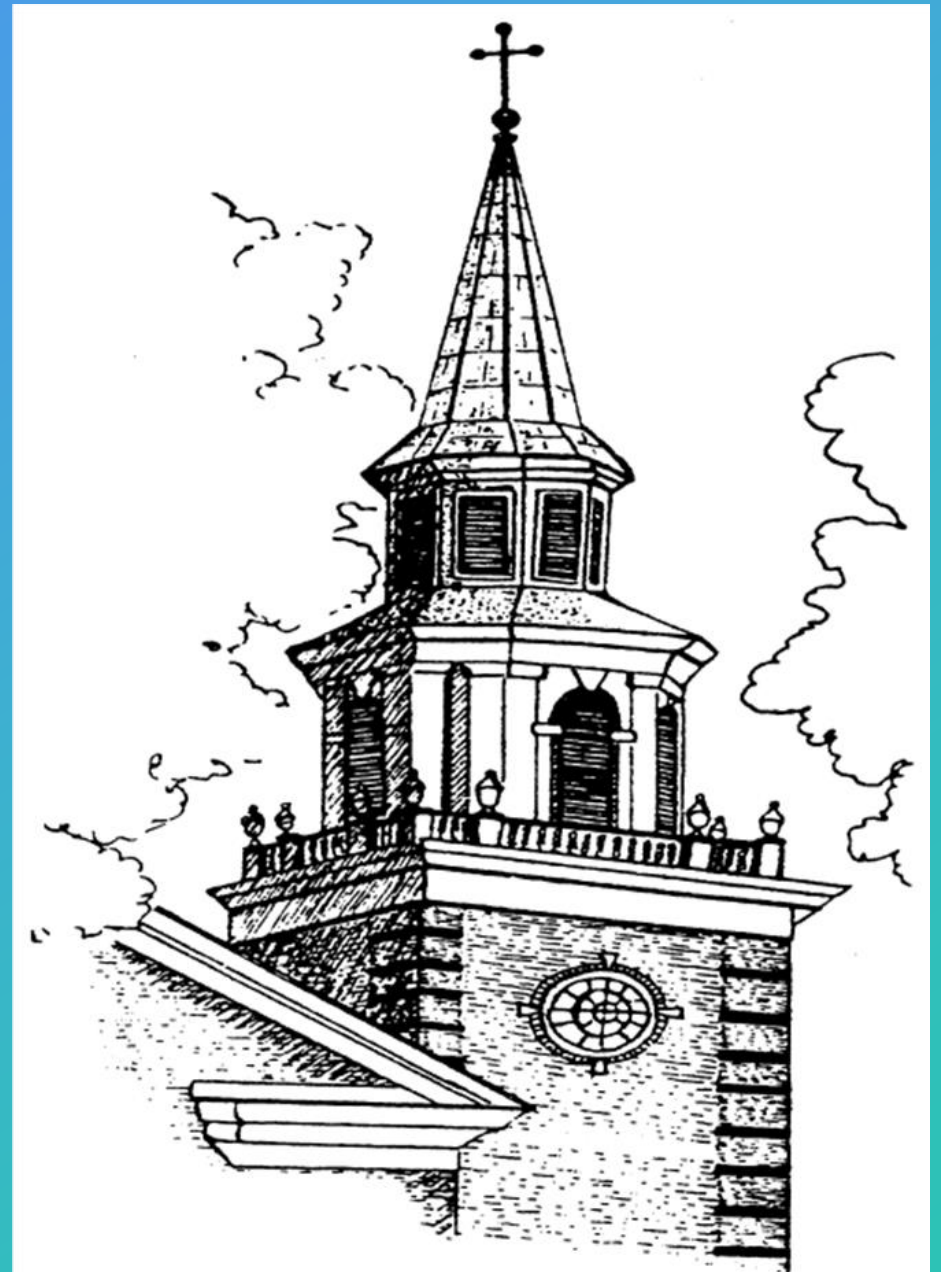


Centenary United Methodist Church

August 23, 2020

12th Sunday after Pentecost



Opening Prayer



Opening Voluntary

George Stone

Bidding Lesson

Exodus 1:8 – 2:10

Carol Quinn

1:8 Now a new king arose over
Egypt, who did not know
Joseph.

9 The king said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we.

10 Come, let us deal shrewdly with the Israelites, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.”

11 Therefore the Egyptians set taskmasters over them to oppress the Israelites with forced labor. The Egyptian people built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh.

12 But the more the
Israelites were oppressed,
the more they multiplied
and spread, so that the
Egyptians came to dread
the Israelites.

13 The Egyptians became
ruthless in imposing tasks on
the Israelites,

14 and made the Israelites' lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. The Egyptians were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on the Israelites.

15 The king of Egypt said to the midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah,

16 “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.”

17 But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the Hebrew boys live.

18 So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?”

19 The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.”

20 So God dealt well with
the midwives; and the
people multiplied and
became very strong.

21 And because the
midwives feared God, he
gave them families.

22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

2:1 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.

2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months.

3 When the Levite woman could hide the baby no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed the basket among the reeds on the bank of the river.

4 The baby's sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.

6 When Pharaoh's daughter opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children." she said.

7 Then the baby's sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you."

8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother.

9 Pharaoh's daughter said to the child's mother, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it.

10 When the child grew up, the child's mother brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, who took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Service of Word and Prayer **9:30 a.m.**

*Welcome Back to In-Person
Worship!*



Call to Worship

From Psalm 124

Call:

In uncertain times, the Lord
keeps us, protects us, and
abundantly provides for us!
So, let the redeemed of the
Lord say,

Response:

God is on our side!

Call:

When we feel trapped and backed into a corner, the Lord provides an escape! So, let the redeemed of the Lord say,

Response:

We praise you O Lord,
for you are the creator
of all things and the
author of our salvation.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 16:13-20

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

14 And the disciples said to Jesus, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

15 Jesus said to the disciples,
“But who do you say that I
am?”

16 Simon Peter answered,
“You are the Messiah, the
Son of the living God.”

17 And Jesus answered him,
“Blessed are you, Simon son
of Jonah! For flesh and
blood has not revealed this to
you, but my Father in heaven.

18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

20 Then Jesus sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Poem
by Charles Wesley

See How Great a Flame Aspires
No. 131, Wesley Hymns

See how great a flame
aspires,

Kindled by a spark of
grace!

Jesus' love the nations
fires,

Sets the kingdoms on a
blaze.

To bring fire on earth
He came;

Kindled in some hearts
it is;

O that all might catch
the flame,

All partake the glorious
bliss!

Sons of God, your Saviour
praise!

He the door hath opened
wide;

He hath giv'n the word
of grace;

Jesus' word is glorified.

Jesus, mighty to redeem,

He alone the work hath
wrought;

Worthy is the work of Him,

Him who spake a world
from naught.

Sermon

Rev. John W. Cole II

“WHO DO **YOU** SAY
I AM”

Prayer of the People

The Lord's Prayer



The Offering



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Statement of Faith

Based Upon

Romans 12:1-8

August 23, 2020

Call:

Who owns you? Are you owned by debt, addiction, sexual identity, codependency, political sensitivities, consumerism; are you owned by your car or your pet? Do you amend your life or parse God's word to accommodate the spirits and relationships of the world?

Witness:

**No! No one and nothing
possesses us. We are not our
own. We cannot surrender
to this world something that
we do not own.**

Call:

*Well then, to whom do you
belong?*

Witness:

We are members of the body of Christ, the church. We are many, but all members of the one body. Transformed by mercy and grace, we are committed to God and we belong to each other.

Call:

How are you gifted? Does everyone have the same gift? Is one gift better than the other?

All:

There are as many different gifts as members; all gifts are uniquely necessary.

Together we have gifts of prophecy, service, teaching,

All (cont'd):

**encouragement, abundance,
leadership, mercy, and many
more. We share our gifts
with each other and offer our
whole lives as a living
sacrifice to God. Amen.**



Announcements



Postlude

George Stone

Benediction