

GO IN HIS POWER

THE BLESSING:

**(Name), † child of God...
God walks with you, and
He will not leave you to wander alone.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Ancient of Days

SHOW HIS LOVE

Living Water Fellowship

7th Sunday after Pentecost – 16th July 2023

COME TO JESUS

OPENING SONGS: Even So Come
I Give You My Heart

WELCOME & PRAYER:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Exodus 13:17 – 14:4

¹⁷ When Pharaoh finally let the people go, God did not lead them along the main road that runs through Philistine territory, even though that was the shortest route to the Promised Land. God said, "If the people are faced with a battle, they might change their minds & return to Egypt." ¹⁸ So God led them in a roundabout way through the wilderness toward the Red Sea. Thus the Israelites left Egypt like an army ready for battle. ¹⁹ Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the sons of Israel swear to do this. He said, "God will certainly come to help you. When he does, you must take my bones with you from this place."

²⁰ The Israelites left Succoth & camped at Etham on the edge of the wilderness. ²¹ The Lord went ahead of them. He guided them during the day with a pillar of cloud, & he provided light at night with a pillar of fire. This allowed them to travel by day or by night.

²² The Lord did not remove the pillar of cloud or pillar of fire from its place in front of the people.

^{14:1} Then the Lord gave these instructions to Moses: ² "Order the Israelites to turn back & camp by Pi-hahiroth between Migdol & the sea. Camp there along the shore, across from Baal-zephon. ³ Then Pharaoh will think, 'The Israelites are confused. They are trapped in the wilderness!' ⁴ Once again I will harden Pharaoh's heart, & he will chase after you. I have planned this in order to display my glory through Pharaoh & his whole army. After this the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord!" So the Israelites camped there as they were told.

OFFERING SONG: Good & Gracious King

BIBLE READING: Exodus 14:5-31

⁵ When word reached the king of Egypt that the Israelites had fled, Pharaoh & his officials changed their minds. "What have we done, letting all those Israelite slaves get away?" they asked. ⁶ So Pharaoh harnessed his chariot & called up his troops. ⁷ He took with him 600 of Egypt's best chariots, along with the rest of the chariots of Egypt, each with its commander. ⁸ The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, so he chased after the people of Israel, who had left with fists raised in defiance. ⁹ The Egyptians chased after them with all the forces in Pharaoh's army—all his horses and chariots, his

charioteers, & his troops. The Egyptians caught up with the people of Israel as they were camped beside the shore near Pi-hahiroth, across from Baal-zephon.

¹⁰ As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up & panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the Lord, ¹¹ & they said to Moses, “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren’t there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt?” ¹² Didn’t we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, ‘Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It’s better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!’”

¹³ But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still & watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. ¹⁴ The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.”

¹⁵ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! ¹⁶ Pick up your staff & raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷ I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, & they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh & his troops, his chariots, & his charioteers. ¹⁸ When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory & know that I am the Lord!”

¹⁹ Then the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the rear of the camp. The pillar of cloud also moved from the front & stood behind them. ²⁰ The cloud settled between the Egyptian & Israelite camps. As darkness fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians & Israelites did not approach each other all night.

²¹ Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, & the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. ²² So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side! ²³ Then the Egyptians—all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, & charioteers—chased them into the middle of the sea. ²⁴ But just before dawn the Lord looked down on the Egyptian army from the pillar of fire & cloud, & he threw their forces into total confusion. ²⁵ He twisted their chariot wheels, making their chariots difficult to drive. “Let’s get out of here—away from these Israelites!” the Egyptians shouted. “The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt!”

²⁶ When all the Israelites had reached the other side, the Lord said to Moses, “Raise your hand over the sea again. Then the waters will rush back & cover the Egyptians & their chariots & charioteers.” ²⁷ So as the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand over the sea, & the water rushed back into its usual place. The Egyptians tried to escape, but the Lord swept them into the sea. ²⁸ Then the waters returned & covered all the chariots & charioteers—the entire army of Pharaoh. Of all the Egyptians who had chased the Israelites into the sea, not a single one survived.

²⁹ But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, as the water stood up like a wall on both sides. ³⁰ That is how the Lord rescued Israel from the hand of the Egyptians that day. The Israelites saw the bodies of the Egyptians washed up

on the seashore. ³¹ When the people of Israel saw the mighty power that the Lord had unleashed against the Egyptians, they were filled with awe before him. They put their faith in the Lord & in his servant Moses.

THE MESSAGE: *A JOURNEY OF PROMISE: WALKING IN THE PROMISE*

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

Preparation:

Since we have been raised with Christ Jesus, let us set our minds on heavenly things, not on the things that are on earth. Let’s pray...

Gracious God, in our wanderings & selfish desiring we often forsake fellowship with our families, our friends, & our neighbors; we neglect our communion with you, choosing worldly pleasures over truth, justice, & righteousness. In a world of plenty, we hoard our earthly blessings while others lack. Free us from such bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives. Amen.

Christ gave to the church the bread of heaven, his flesh & blood, for our forgiveness, life & salvation. Paul records that gracious gift with these words:

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.” In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it.” For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes again.

Lord Jesus have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. Wash the sinfulness out of us, & help us to live as your children bringing honour to you. We seek your unfailing Lordship & ask for your prevailing joy in our lives. Amen.

Hear the good news: every lost sheep is worthy of rescue, every lost coin is missed, sought, found & rejoiced over, & every lost child is welcomed home with rejoicing in heaven. Amen.

Worship during Communion:

VIDEO – CHRIST BE ALL AROUND ME (All Sons & Daughters)- CCL Licence 384660