

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30am • August 24, 2025

Mission Statement: As a community of faith, we welcome all who seek understanding. • As a community of hope, we offer friendship and comfort to those in need. • As a community of love, we provide caring support and shared fellowship to all.

WE ARE A COMMUNITY CHURCH. OUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND MEMBERS COME FROM MANY PLACES AND MULTIPLE FAITH TRADITIONS. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO FIND A SPIRITUAL SANCTUARY HERE.

— WELCOME —

CENTERING MUSIC

Sharon Novak

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 103

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, who forgives our iniquities.

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul, who heals our diseases, who redeems our lives.

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy,

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul, who satisfies us with good as long as we live.

People: The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

One: God's ways were made known to Moses, God's acts to the people of Israel.

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

*SONG #537 *God of the Ages* (v 1&2) *Sharon Novak*

— PRAYING —

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

LORD'S PRAYER: 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and glory forever. *Amen.*

*SONG #207 *Simple Gifts* *Sharon Novak*

— REFLECTING —

SCRIPTURE *Exodus 3 & 4 (excerpts)*

REFLECTION *FIVE REASONS TO SAY NO,
FIVE CHANCES
TO SAY YES*

Rev Gail Doktor

*SONG #497 *When Israel Was in
Egypt's Land* *Sharon Novak*

— OFFERING —

*SONG #44 *Doxology* *Sharon Novak*

PRAYER of DEDICATION

— CLOSING —

*BENEDICTION

May the love of God live in us today, may the love of God live in us today.

May the warmth we feel within us show in all we do and say.

May the love of God live in us today.

May the peace of God be with us today,

May the peace of God be with us today.

May it guide us and protect us as we go our separate ways.

May the peace of God be with us, May the love of God live in us,

May the love of God shine through us today.

PRAYERS for PEOPLE:

Focus this week: Alexis, Ann C., Bob G., Bunny C, Cindi, David, Dave & Beth, Dawson W., Deb L., Haisley, Huntley, Irene, Jenn, Jess, Judy, Kailee, Karen, Larry, Linda, Nancy, Rob, Ruth, Steve, Tom, Tyler, Val. For those who grieve.

Continuing: Alice, Annie, Arden, Barbara, Bilo, Bob, Bruce, Cal, Cameron, Carl, Corey, Dean, David, Dawson S., Deb W., Don, Ed, Emmie, George, Karen, Kevin, Jan, Jean, Jim H., Joe, Joan, John, John H., Joyce, Jonathan, Judy, Karen, Kim, Kathy, Ian, Laurie, Marcia, Matteo, Maureen, Mary, Meg, Michelle, Parker, Petros, Phaedra, Robert G., Sally, Sam, Sarah, Sascha, Spencer Elizabeth, Tom, Tony, Rob, Robert, Val, Wayne, Lori's niece & nephew.

PRAYERS for PLACES: For places with which we have partnership, including Chikanga Church in Mutare, Zimbabwe and communities in Honduras. For places hurt by natural disaster & human-caused conflict.

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Image by Marc Chagall

**JACKSON COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC
JACKSON, NH**

EXODUS 3: Moses at the Burning Bush — Moses ... led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. ² 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. ³ Then Moses said, *“I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up.”*

⁴ ... God called to him out of the bush, *“Moses, Moses!”*

And he said, *“Here I am.”*

⁵ Then the Lord said, *“Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. ⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ... I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey ... ¹⁰ Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”*

¹¹ But Moses said to God, *“Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”*

¹² The Lord 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 serve God on this mountain.”*

The Divine Name Revealed — ¹³ 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?”*

¹⁴ God said to Moses, *“I am who I am.”* The Lord said further, *“Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’ ... assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘The Lord ... has appeared to me, saying: ... I will bring you up out of the misery of Egypt, to ... a land flowing with milk and honey.’ ¹⁸ They will listen to your voice, and you ... shall go to the king of Egypt ... I know, however, that the king of Egypt will not let you go except by a mighty hand. ²⁰ So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all my wonders that I will perform in it; after that he will let you go...”*

EXODUS 4: Moses’s Miraculous Power — Then Moses answered, *“But look, they may not believe me or listen to me but say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you.’”*

² The Lord said to him, *“What is that in your hand?”*

He said, *“A staff.”*

³ And the Lord said, *“Throw it on the ground.”* ... and it became a snake, and Moses drew back from it. ⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, *“Reach out your hand and seize it by the tail”*—so he ... grasped it, and it became a staff in his hand— ⁵ *“so that they may believe that the Lord ... has appeared to you.”*

⁶ Again, the Lord said to him, *“Put your hand inside your cloak.”* ... when he took it out, his hand was diseased, as white as snow. ⁷ Then God said, *“Put your hand back into your cloak”*— ... and when he took it out, it was restored like the rest of his body— ⁸ *“If they will not believe you or heed the first sign, they may believe the second sign. ⁹ If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to you, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water ... will become blood ...”*

¹⁰ But Moses said to the Lord, *“O my Lord, I have never been eloquent ... I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.”*

¹¹ Then the Lord said to him, *“Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? ¹² Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak.”*

¹³ But Moses said, *“O my Lord, please send someone else.”*

¹⁴ Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and God said, *“What of your brother Aaron, the Levite? I know that he can speak well; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad. ¹⁵ You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you what you shall do. ¹⁶ He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. ¹⁷ Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs.”*

EXODUS 5: Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, *“Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Let my people go...”*

