

PRELUDE *Violin Concerto in A minor, 2nd movement/ J. S. Bach*
◇ A time of quiet preparation Rachel Vos, Violin; Jim Harris, Piano

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD from Psalm 105: 1-10 (NIV)

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.

People: **Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.**

Leader: Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced.

People: **He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.**

Leader: He remembers his covenant forever, the covenant he made
with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac.

People: **He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant.**

Leader: Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

People: **Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.**

IN PRAYER

*WE PRAISE OUR GOD

HYMN OF PRAISE 110

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

WE CONFESS OUR (Trinity Hymnal p. 796)

Psalm 33

*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it, the world, and all
who live in it; for he founded it upon the seas and established it
upon the waters. Psalm 24:1-2 (NIV)

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (4 years old to 1st grade)

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 8

(NIV)

¹ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me. ² If you refuse to let them go, I will plague your whole country with frogs. ³ The Nile will teem with frogs. They will come up into your palace and your bedroom and onto your bed, into the houses of your officials and on your people, and into your ovens and kneading troughs. ⁴ The frogs will go up on you and your people and all your officials.' "

⁵ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your staff over the streams and canals and ponds, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt.' "

⁶ So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land. ⁷ But the magicians did the same things by their secret arts; they also made frogs come up on the land of Egypt.

⁸ Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Pray to the LORD to take the frogs away from me and my people, and I will let your people go to offer sacrifices to the LORD."

⁹ Moses said to Pharaoh, "I leave to you the honor of setting the time for me to pray for you and your officials and your people that you and your houses may be rid of the frogs, except for those that remain in the Nile."

¹⁰ "Tomorrow," Pharaoh said. Moses replied, "It will be as you say, so that you may know there is no one like the LORD our God. ¹¹ The frogs will leave you and your houses, your officials and your people; they will remain only in the Nile."

¹² After Moses and Aaron left Pharaoh, Moses cried out to the LORD about the frogs he had brought on Pharaoh. ¹³ And the LORD did what Moses asked. The frogs died in the houses, in the courtyards and in the fields. ¹⁴ They were piled into

heaps, and the land reeked of them.¹⁵ But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said.

¹⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Tell Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the ground,’ and throughout the land of Egypt the dust will become gnats.”¹⁷ They did this, and when Aaron stretched out his hand with the staff and struck the dust of the ground, gnats came upon men and animals. All the dust throughout the land of Egypt became gnats.¹⁸ But when the magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret arts, they could not. And the gnats were on men and animals.

¹⁹ The magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hard and he would not listen, just as the LORD had said.

²⁰ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Get up early in the morning and confront Pharaoh as he goes to the water and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me.’²¹ If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you and your officials, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies, and even the ground where they are.

²² “But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the LORD, am in this land.²³ I will make a distinction between my people and your people. This miraculous sign will occur tomorrow.’ ”

²⁴ And the LORD did this. Dense swarms of flies poured into Pharaoh’s palace and into the houses of his officials, and throughout Egypt the land was ruined by the flies.

²⁵ Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Go, sacrifice to your God here in the land.”

²⁶ But Moses said, “That would not be right. The sacrifices we offer the LORD our God would be detestable to the Egyptians. And if we offer sacrifices that are detestable in their eyes, will they not stone us?²⁷ We must take a three-day journey into the desert to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, as he commands us.”

²⁸ Pharaoh said, “I will let you go to offer sacrifices to the LORD your God in the desert, but you must not go very far. Now pray for me.”

²⁹ Moses answered, “As soon as I leave you, I will pray to the LORD, and tomorrow the flies will leave Pharaoh and his officials and his people. Only be sure

that Pharaoh does not act deceitfully again by not letting the people go to offer sacrifices to the LORD.”

³⁰ Then Moses left Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD,³¹ and the LORD did what Moses asked: The flies left Pharaoh and his officials and his people; not a fly remained.³² But this time also Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not let the people go.

SERMON

The Finger of God

series in Exodus

Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **65** (vss. 1-4)

Before Jehovah's Awesome Throne

*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO MUSIC ROOM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

(4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

The Majesty of God/ M. Dexter

SERMON NOTES: