

BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE

Carl Tuttle (1992/1994)

See print copy for words



We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**

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OLD ORCHARD CHURCH

JULY 18, 2010 — 10:15 TO 11:45 A.M.

I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD,
WHO BROUGHT YOU UP OUT OF EGYPT.
OPEN WIDE YOUR MOUTH
AND I WILL FILL IT.

PSALM 81:10

**CELEBRATING JESUS CHRIST,
FULFILLER OF GOD'S COVENANT WITH MOSES:
THE EXODUS, DRAMA OF CHRIST'S DELIVERANCE
AND THE BAPTISM OF LOE ROBERTSON**

When the time had fully come
God sent forth his redeemer, Moses,
to rescue his people from Egypt's slave pits.
The Exodus was God's mighty act of salvation
for his people of old.

But blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ,
a Redeemer greater than great Moses:
in his dying and in his rising
he leads all God's people
out of their enslavement to
sin, death, and the power of the devil,
our great enemies.

Stand by and watch God do his saving work!
Go forth in confidence and
follow the lead of his light through the wilderness
into the Promised Land of glory!



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 14:5-8, 10, 13-14, 21, 31

New Testament Lesson: Luke 1:67-79

SERMON

“What Do You Know?”

Psalm 139

Sean Maney, Director of FirstLight, preaching

A POST-CROSS MEDITATION ON THE EXODUS

Israel thought she knew her enemies: they spoke Egyptian and worshipped cats and wallowed in the pride of their culture built on an economy of oppression and slavery. “We have met the enemy—and thank God we are being delivered from him by this fellow, Moses!”

But Israel misunderstood. Do I understand? Egypt was a mirror upon which the people of God could see their own soul reflected. All my enemies typify my heart, the sin in my soul. God came to save me from myself. I am enslaved to self-pity, to lust, to laziness, to arrogance, to a complaining spirit. I am bent in on myself, like all of us. We would be as gods to ourselves—perhaps not terribly base or wicked, only quite in charge. Do we understand? We have met the enemy— and he is us.

O Lord Jesus, you came not only to save me but to show me my enemies. Because of your great love **death** shall rattle me in the end but shall not ruin me; the **devil** may taunt and tempt and try me, but his back has been broken and I shall stand one day, my foot on his neck. In your triumph over these, my enemies, I greatly rejoice.

But that **I myself** am the third great enemy you came to save me from? Does the Exodus really teach me that the pagan self-will and falseness of Egypt was all left behind in Egypt? Or rather that some was carried through the parted sea in the sin-sick hearts of your people? Must I die as well as my enemies if I am to be saved? Is it I myself that I despise and seek to be rescued from as my own worst enemy? Must I drown the old man in me daily? Must I call myself an idol worshipper and confess a pagan heart prone to wander before I am consoled in the sweet truth that by Mercy I am a chosen child of God?

O wretched man that I am!

Who will deliver me from this body of death? (Romans 7:24)

Did Christ at the cross slay me that I might live? I am Israel and I am Egypt; I am the beloved and I am the oppressor of my own soul.

Who will deliver me? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! Grant then Lord, that freed from myself, I might live enslaved to you forever. For then I shall be myself. Amen.

—RON LUTGENS

