

Church Service 26th October 2008

Opening Organ Play

Greetings

Pastor Hogue & Pastor Widdig

Worship

Chorus:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Hymm:

1. Amazing Grace
2. Go down Moses

Prayer

Pastor Hogue prays for the congregation

Reading

Exodus 13:21-22

Responsive Story Telling in German and English by Pastor Hogue and Pastor Widdig

Speech by Pastor Widdig

Song by St. Nathanael

Baptismal

Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing / Benediction

Song by St. Nathanael

Offering

Closing Organ Play

Responsive Reading on the Pillar of Fire

Prior to the storytelling, the congregation will be told that they are participating as a speaking choir in this story. All they have to do is repeat what has been said. For that purpose, the storyteller will lift up his/her right arm (as a signal), and then the entire congregation will say aloud what the speaker said last, for example:

Speaker: ...they carried stones.

Congregation: They carried stones.

Speaker:

Do you know the people of Israel? Today we will hear about them. Just imagine that they didn't have their own country. They didn't have cities or villages. They live as foreigners in houses which were not habited at that time. They lived in Egypt where people spoke Egyptian. This the Israelites didn't speak. (He/she has to lift his/her right arm that the next sentence is to be repeated by the congregation. The same should always be done when a repetition is needed).

They were foreigners

Congregation: They were foreigners.

Speaker: And because they were foreigners there, they had to work hard.

They had to carry stones.

Congregation: They had to carry stones.

Speaker: They had to build houses.

Congregation: They had to build stones.

Speaker: They sweat a lot.

Congregation: They sweat a lot.

Speaker: They moaned a lot.

Congregation: They moaned a lot.

Speaker: It was a tough life and they were hungry.

Congregation: They were hungry.

Speaker: Their children were crying.

Congregation: Their children were crying.

Speaker: This was an affliction.

Then along came a man called Moses. He too was an Israelite but he could speak the language of the Egyptians. He lived in the mansion of the powerful Pharaoh. That's how the Egyptians called their King. He was a king with a crown, a big castle and lots of soldiers. The pharaoh was rich, strong and powerful and he couldn't stand the Israelites. He sent his announcer and this one screamed and ordered: "Build more houses for me!"

Congregation: Build more houses for me!

Speaker: "Big houses!"

Congregation: Big houses!

Speaker: "Work quicker!"

Congregation: 'Work quicker!

Speaker: “And eat less!”

Congregation: And eat less!

Speaker: Then the Israelite moaned. They complained and cried.

Congregation: They complained and cried.

Speaker: Moses saw that his people were not doing so well. Everyone was praying and speaking to God. Look at the Egyptians, how they afflict us.

Congregation: Look at the Egyptians, how they afflict us.

Speaker: We are poor.

Congregation: We are poor.

Speaker: Help us.

Congregation: Help us.

Speaker: Rescue us.

Congregation: Rescue us.

Speaker: God heard their lamentation. He saw their suffering and so He told Moses “Moses lead my people out of Egypt. I will show you a country where you can live and build houses and there is enough to eat. There is peace. It is a country where milk and honey flows”. But Moses was afraid: “The pharaoh will not let us go. He needs us as his cheap labourers”.

God said: “Moses, go to pharaoh”. So Moses took his brother Aaron along because he was a better speaker than himself. They said: “Let us go!”

Congregation: Let us go!

Speaker: The pharaoh screamed: “I will not let you go, you all will stay!”

Congregation: I will not let you go, you all will stay!

Speaker: Let us go.

No, I will not let you go.

Congregation: No, I will not let you go.

Speaker: Let us go.

No, I will not let you go.

Congregation: No, I will not let you go.

Speaker: So that went on and on like that for about 10min. and suddenly the pharaoh agreed. He actually said: “Go and let me have my peace”.

Congregation: Go and let me have my peace.

Speaker: Initially the Israelites weren’t brave enough. They shook their heads. (*shake head*)

Congregation: They shook their heads.

Speaker: They thought: “Tomorrow he will have changed his mind again”.

Congregation: Tomorrow he will have changed his mind again.

Speaker: So they secretly packed their clothes, their children and a little bread in the night, while the Egyptians were asleep. While still standing, they ate of it and silently crept away. They were many.

Congregation: They were many.

Speaker: Quietly

Congregation: .Quietly

Speaker: Thievishly tiptoeing. But it was dark. A deep dark night

Congregation: A deep dark night.

Speaker: Then they become very frightened. We will loose our way.

Congregation: We will loose our way.

Speaker: And if we accidently run back instead of running away? If only we had just a tiny little light. Or just a bit bigger light. If we only had a spark of fire.

Congregation: If we only had a spark of fire.

Speaker: And there, have a look. *(turn a light/torch on)*

In the middle of the night they saw it, a big, huge pillar of fire.

Congregation: A big, huge pillar of fire.

Speaker: It shined so far that even those in the last rows and the little children could see the fire. This light never went off in the night. The fire pillar escorted them over the night. Now they didn't need to be afraid anymore. In this way the Israelites escaped. They escaped far away from Egypt. Now they knew: God is escorting us.

Congregation: God is escorting us.

Speaker: Even if we walk in the dark night, God is escorting us.

Congregation: Even if we walk in the dark night, God is escorting us.

Speaker: God will not abandon us.

Congregation: God will not abandon us.