

The Order of Celebration for the Worship of God
1st Sunday after the Epiphany
January 10, 2010

To Ponder as we Gather *“Grumbling about something without taking any action to correct it is irresponsible.”*
John Pagura

Greetings and A Time for Announcements

A Gathering Song #186 “Alleluia” vs 1 (red hymnal)
(congregation remains seated)

The Tone Calls us To Silence

The Prelude *“Sarabande” by Arnold Cooke*

A Call Worship (unison)

Christ’s presence says to us welcome:

**To a day of hope and promise,
To a place of peace and comfort,
To a way toward truth and justice;
And to community of love and courage
That will guide us along the journey.**

Singing #383 “This is a Day of New Beginnings”
(red hymnal)

A Time For Children

#2233 “This is Where Children Belong” (black hymnal)

The Lord’s Prayer

We Offer Our Gifts

Offertory *“Intermezzo” by Christopher Morris*

One: All things come from you, O God!

Many: And of your own have we given you!

***Song Of Praise #94 (red hymnal)**

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Community of Faith in Prayer

Congregational Response #186 verse 2 (red hymnal)

An Anthem 9:00 “The Apple Tree” by K. Lee Scott
Chancel Choir

10:45 “Ave Maria” Bach/Gounod
Rand Reeves, solo

Witness from the Ancient Text Exodus 16: 1-8

Congregational Response #186 verse 3 (red hymnal)

A Contemporary Witness

“Grumbling” Rev. Brolin Parker

A Litany of Affirmation (unison)

Anoint us to be a people of your Good News,

Yoked to break yokes,

Sighted to bring sight,

Healed to be healers,

Struggling to bring release.

O God, of churning waters

We invoke your mystery, not ours,

We invoke your clarity, not ours.

We invoke your truth, not ours.

**Spirit of God, speak to us through our baptism,
cry out through us.**

**Let us be renewed, refreshed by the churning of
these waters.**

An Invitation to Remember our Baptism (see insert)

***Singing** - “Water Has Held Us”

A Final Blessing

The Postlude *“Toccata” by Samuel Ducommun*

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Unless otherwise noted, the liturgy for today was written by
Rev. Brolin Parker.

Bible Notes..... Exodus 16:1-8

"Exodus" is the name of the second book in the Bible. More broadly, it is the technical biblical term for an entire event. The at the end of the Book of Genesis, Joseph has risen to high command in Egypt. He has brought his father, Jacob, and all of his brothers and their families into Egypt to save them from famine. Four hundred years pass before the story continues in the Book of Exodus. By this time, the Hebrew descendants of Jacob have become slaves.

Moses is the person appointed by the Lord to lead these slaves out of Egypt into the Sinai Desert to their freedom. The desert is not a hospitable place, and the Hebrews suffer great deprivation. The Book of Exodus is very honest about how the Hebrew people react to the hardship they are enduring. Several times in the book, the people complain bitterly against Moses and Aaron, his brother. They begin to look back at their homes in Egypt with an unrealistic nostalgia and even threaten to kill their leaders.

The Book of Numbers tries to put a better spin on this grumbling. Numbers claims that it was not the Hebrews who grumbled, but the "God followers." All the way through the Bible there appears to be a groups of non-Hebrews who attached themselves to the Hebrew communities, attracted, perhaps, by the high level of family ethics. The author or editor of Numbers blames these God followers for the grumbling. Exodus, however, makes it perfectly clear that it was the Hebrews themselves who were doing the complaining

Our Mission Statement

“All persons are recipients of God’s grace; God intends the church to be a community which embodies love, grace, and justice for all people as a sign of God’s covenant. We, therefore, seek to welcome persons of any age, gender, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability as full participants in our community of faith.”



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