

Worship Service: *God's Agency is Known Through the Oppressed*
Pentecost 13, Year A,

August 23, 2026

Psalm 124 / Exodus 1:8-2:10

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, my name is *Sacia Vik*. It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church. We thank you for coming to worship with us."

Please stand with as you are able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship ~

One: You have called us to this place, O Lord.

All: Each one of us is unique, with differing gifts and talents.

One: Yet each talent represented here is valuable in God's realm.

All: Lord, help us find ways in which to use our talents for healing and hope.

One: Come, let us praise the Lord who has called us here.

All: Let us open our hearts and spirits to God's word for us. AMEN.

Invocation

We come with thankful hearts for the bounties of our lives, O God, to offer our prayers and praise. As we gather this week keep us mindful of all the blessings in our lives and those we share our lives with. Be with us in worship as we lift our voices in praise of you, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Opening Hymn

Come Let Us All Unite to Sing ~ #12

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Psalm 124

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side —let Israel now say— if it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us, then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us; then the flood would have swept us away; the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters.

Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth. We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the hunters; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up? Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer by worship leader

Hymn

When the Storms of Life Are Raging ~ #558

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new pharaoh arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians subjected the Israelites to hard servitude and made their lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and bricks and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The pharaoh of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the pharaoh of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the pharaoh of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Sermon ~ *God's Agency is Known Through the Oppressed*

Rev. Dr. Sacia Vik

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve

Our God is a God of love. We are given gifts of the spirit to share with people around us. This week, keep your eyes open to the needs of others. Be prepared to reach beyond yourself to offer something from your heart. As we listen to Annie play, think about all the ways that we can reach beyond ourselves while being our authentic selves.

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center,

Closing Hymn **Peace Like a River ~ #336**

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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