

# A Calling



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## Exodus 3:1-4, 10-11

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

<sup>2</sup> There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed.

<sup>3</sup> Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up."

<sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

<sup>10</sup> So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

<sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" NRSV

## Devotion

Moses escaped Pharaoh's grasp after killing an Egyptian who was beating an Israelite. He was on the run. Keeping Jethro's flocks was not likely on his career

horizon before all the bad stuff happened, but there he was. Sheltering at home for over 60 days was not our horizon in February, but here we are.

Just when Moses had adjusted to his new reality, the burning bush incident described in Exodus 3 happened. I'm not sure what was included in Moses' hopes and dreams for the future, but I am certain returning to Egypt was not on the list. Moses says it quite bluntly: "Send someone else!" But God convinced Moses, and he went. Ten plagues later (no COVID 19 in those plagues), Moses leads the people out of Egypt and God parts the sea waters for them.

As we deal with our new reality, we get a taste of what Moses experienced tending Jethro's flocks. We are in a bit of an exile. We cannot go back to the way things were any time soon. We have to move forward somehow. You may get a "call" (if you will) to do something you never thought you could or would do: An on-line Bible study, A Zoom discussion group about faith and current events, singing a solo in the dining room to be broadcast during worship. Who am I that I should do these things? Send someone else. Sound familiar?

While you may not lead like Moses or sing like Miriam, God may be calling you to do something outside your comfort zone these days. I'll leave that to you and God. As you ponder moving forward, remember what God said to Moses in the middle of their conversation: "I will be with you."

God will be with us through COVID 19 and the new growing edges God calls us to embrace.

### Prayer

God, you rarely call us to do things that are easy and comfortable. But you do call us to do things that share your light with the world and make us whole. Give us courage. Be with us we pray, Amen.

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