

## WEEKDAY WORSHIP

September 4-10, 2017

*Worship as encounter with the living God cannot be limited to one hour per week. "Weekday Worship" invites you to extend your worship beyond the sanctuary, to hear the story of the Bible as your story, lived out each day of each week. Feedback is appreciated and should be directed to Rita Boyer.*

### BIBLE READING

This week's reading is: Exodus 12:1–14 (<http://bible.oremus.org/?q=369389289>).

Other readings are: Psalm 149; Romans 13:8–14; Matthew 18:15–20

The theme is Remember, Restore, Renew.

This week we read the Passover story, which establishes God's identity as the one true sovereign God who acts to set people free. The Egyptians call upon their gods to match the plagues that come at the hand of the God of the Hebrews, but they cannot compete. Instructions are given for the Passover meal, a ritual that is to this day a time of remembrance, restoration, and renewal. The firstborn son of every Egyptian will die, but death will pass over Hebrew homes where lamb's blood is painted on the doorpost. The ritual of Passover invites the Hebrews to remember the mighty acts of God on their behalf and to be thankful. By following the detailed instructions each year, generation after generation will remember God's gracious acts and their own identity as former slaves who are now the people of God. The journey of Passover is a political as well as religious one. God has taken them from slavery to freedom. They began the journey as a diverse group of Hebrew people but end it as the nation of Israel. They have been re-created and delivered to a new land. Through the ritual of Passover, the people remember who and whose they are. As they remember that God hears the cries of God's people, they are restored. As they remember and celebrate the gift of freedom, they are renewed.

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

*"Questions to Consider" enable you to connect your story to the biblical story. Rather than easy questions to be answered at first glance, these questions or reflections can be returned to and meditated upon throughout the week.*

**What rituals and worship practices enable you to remember, restore, and renew?**

**What do you remember?**

Continue to reflect upon the worship theme of September 3:

**God used a burning bush to get Moses' attention. Be attentive to God this week. Look for God in the commonplace.**