

**July 12, 2020**  
**New Ways, New Possibilities in Christ**

Scripture reading: Exodus 3:1-12

Text: *“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6).*

In our Scripture reading we heard about an important episode of Moses’ life and calling. Many years passed since Moses fled from Egypt. He settled down in the land of Midian, found a wife, then he had children, and was tending the flock of his father-in-law. Each day he led the flock on the same way, back and forth. It was safe and secure for him. He knew the good old Hungarian saying, *“Don’t give up the well known way for the untrodden.”* (*A járt utata a járatlanért, el ne hagyd.*) One day, however, when he was tending the flock of his father-in-law, *“he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God” (Ex.3:1)*. There he saw something that was awesome, marvelous, and unbelievable, and that changed his life forever. The angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush, and God Himself spoke to him from the fire. From that day on Moses’ life was completely changed. God called and chose him to bring the people of Israel out of the enslavement of Egypt.

Yes, it can happen that the Lord God leads us to new ways. He wants to show us new things, and to start something new in our lives. Our lives are full of with the changes of old and new things anyway. There are things in life that we got used to, we know how they operate, and we know what comes next. However, there are new things that we still need to learn and get to know. This world is constantly changing around us, but still we like things we got used to. There is no problem with it. However, when we face new ways and something different happens than what we got used to and worked before, we may run into obstacles. I think many of us want our old “normal” life back that we enjoyed a couple of months ago, but we do not have it anymore. This new life style with masks, social distancing, and with rules and regulations, it’s hard for us to get used to and live with. However, this is a new way that God has given or, at least, He has allowed to happen. What do we do in these new circumstances? How should we relate to this new life situation? Should we rebel against it, or adapt it since we cannot do anything about it? Or we should look at what the Lord God wants to bring out of all this, and find new ways in Christ.

When Jesus came into this world the situation was not simple either. Although there was no pandemic, but the people of Israel were under Roman occupation. In such a situation Jesus brought a radical and purposeful message and teaching to the poor, the oppressed, the sick, and the brokenhearted (Luke 4:18,19). He spoke with authority by the power of the Holy Spirit, in contrast to the Pharisees and teachers of the law who just taught the people superficially by their man-made laws and rules.

Jesus, on the other hand, was aiming to expose afresh the heart of the ancient faith. He helped the people return anew to their love for God and for their neighbor, to do and practice mercy and justice, and walk humbly with the Lord. These were the core principles of the Hebrew faith.

You know, Jesus did not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets, but to fulfill them. **It was the way, the truth, and the life in Him** and through His teachings, and not the dead Pharisaical external traditions that offered an appearance of piety, but did not change the heart! Jesus said, *“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6).*

Jesus encourages you to not let fear and worry be in you when He calls you to new ways, when He wants to accomplish something important through you, because He finds you capable of fulfilling His plan as a great instrument in His mighty hand.

The heavenly Father wants to offer something new to you. He wants to give a new life in Christ, a new opportunity, a new start, and forgiveness. He wants to embrace you with His love. Accept His love and the forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ. Accept the newness of His grace and the leading and freshness of His Holy Spirit. Amen!