

### Theme: God speaks and acts in human history

#### Day 1 <sup>BS</sup> Genesis 6:5-14; 7:17-24

##### God destroys people with a flood

<sup>5</sup>The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. <sup>6</sup>The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled.

<sup>7</sup>So the LORD said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them." <sup>8</sup>But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>This is the account of Noah and his family.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. <sup>10</sup>Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

<sup>11</sup>Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. <sup>12</sup>God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. <sup>13</sup>So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. <sup>14</sup>So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out.

<sup>17</sup>For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. <sup>18</sup>The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water.

<sup>19</sup>They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. <sup>20</sup>The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than fifteen cubits. <sup>21</sup>Every living thing that moved on land perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind.

<sup>22</sup>Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. <sup>23</sup>Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.

<sup>24</sup>The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

#### Day 2 <sup>BS</sup> Genesis 9:8-17

##### God gives the rainbow as a sign

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: <sup>9</sup>"I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

<sup>12</sup>And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: <sup>13</sup>I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. <sup>16</sup>Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."

<sup>17</sup>So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."

#### Day 3 <sup>BS</sup> Genesis 11:1-9

##### God scatters the nations across the whole earth

<sup>1</sup>Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. <sup>2</sup>As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

<sup>3</sup>They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. <sup>4</sup>Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

<sup>5</sup>But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. <sup>6</sup>The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup>Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

<sup>8</sup>So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. <sup>9</sup>That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

**Day 4 Psalm 33:4-19**  
**God makes history within human history**

<sup>4</sup> For the word of the LORD is right and true;  
he is faithful in all he does.  
<sup>5</sup> The LORD loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of his unfailing love.  
<sup>6</sup> By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,  
their starry host by the breath of his mouth.  
<sup>7</sup> He gathers the waters of the sea into jars;  
he puts the deep into storehouses.  
<sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the LORD;  
let all the people of the world revere him.  
<sup>9</sup> For he spoke, and it came to be;  
he commanded, and it stood firm.  
<sup>10</sup> The LORD foils the plans of the nations;  
he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.  
<sup>11</sup> But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever,  
the purposes of his heart through all generations.  
<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people he chose for his inheritance.  
<sup>13</sup> From heaven the LORD looks down  
and sees all mankind;  
<sup>14</sup> from his dwelling place he watches  
all who live on earth—  
<sup>15</sup> he who forms the hearts of all,  
who considers everything they do.  
<sup>16</sup> No king is saved by the size of his army;  
no warrior escapes by his great strength.  
<sup>17</sup> A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;  
despite all its great strength it cannot save.  
<sup>18</sup> But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him,  
on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,  
<sup>19</sup> to deliver them from death  
and keep them alive in famine.

**Day 5 Genesis 12:1-3**  
**God makes his covenant with Abraham**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country,  
your people and your father’s household to the land I will  
show you.  
<sup>2</sup> “I will make you into a great nation,  
and I will bless you;  
I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.  
<sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you I will curse;  
and all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you.”

**Day 6 Genesis 15:1-21**  
**God reveals to Abraham what was going to  
happen in the future**

<sup>1</sup> After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a  
vision:  
“Do not be afraid, Abram.  
I am your shield,  
your very great reward.”  
<sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, what can you give  
me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit  
my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said,  
“You have given me no children; so a servant in my  
household will be my heir.”  
<sup>4</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man  
will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and  
blood will be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> He took him outside and said,  
“Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you  
can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your  
offspring be.”  
<sup>6</sup> Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as  
righteousness.  
<sup>7</sup> He also said to him, “I am the LORD, who brought you  
out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take  
possession of it.”  
<sup>8</sup> But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, how can I know  
that I will gain possession of it?”  
<sup>9</sup> So the LORD said to him, “Bring me a heifer, a goat and  
a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young  
pigeon.”  
<sup>10</sup> Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and  
arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds,  
however, he did not cut in half. <sup>11</sup> Then birds of prey came  
down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.  
<sup>12</sup> As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and  
a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. <sup>13</sup> Then the  
LORD said to him, “Know for certain that for four  
hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a  
country not their own and that they will be enslaved and  
mistreated there. <sup>14</sup> But I will punish the nation they serve  
as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great  
possessions. <sup>15</sup> You, however, will go to your ancestors in  
peace and be buried at a good old age. <sup>16</sup> In the fourth  
generation your descendants will come back here, for the  
sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”  
<sup>17</sup> When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a  
smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed  
between the pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a  
covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I  
give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river,  
the Euphrates— <sup>19</sup> the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites,  
Kadmonites, <sup>20</sup> Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, <sup>21</sup> Amorites,  
Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites.”

**Day 7 Exodus 3:1-15**  
**God speaks out of a burning bush**

<sup>1</sup> Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup> So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

<sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

<sup>5</sup> “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” <sup>6</sup> Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup> So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. <sup>10</sup> So now, go. I am sending 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?”

<sup>12</sup> And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

<sup>13</sup> Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

“This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me  
from generation to generation.

**Day 8 Exodus 12:29-42**  
**God rescues Israel out of slavery in Egypt**

<sup>29</sup> At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well.

<sup>30</sup> Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.

<sup>31</sup> During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the LORD as you have requested. <sup>32</sup> Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go. And also bless me.”

<sup>33</sup> The Egyptians urged the people to hurry and leave the country. “For otherwise,” they said, “we will all die!” <sup>34</sup> So the people took their dough before the yeast was added, and carried it on their shoulders in kneading troughs wrapped in clothing. <sup>35</sup> The Israelites did as Moses instructed and asked the Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. <sup>36</sup> The LORD had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians.

<sup>37</sup> The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Sukkoth. There were about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. <sup>38</sup> Many other people went up with them, and also large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds. <sup>39</sup> With the dough the Israelites had brought from Egypt, they baked loaves of unleavened bread. The dough was without yeast because they had been driven out of Egypt and did not have time to prepare food for themselves.

<sup>40</sup> Now the length of time the Israelite people lived in Egypt was 430 years. <sup>41</sup> At the end of the 430 years, to the very day, all the LORD’s divisions left Egypt. <sup>42</sup> Because the LORD kept vigil that night to bring them out of Egypt, on this night all the Israelites are to keep vigil to honor the LORD for the generations to come.

## Day 9 Exodus 16:1-20

### God cares for his people in the desert

<sup>1</sup>The whole Israelite community set out from Elim and came to the Desert of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had come out of Egypt. <sup>2</sup>In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the LORD’s hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death.”

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions.

<sup>5</sup>On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days.”

<sup>6</sup>So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt, <sup>7</sup>and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?” <sup>8</sup>Moses also said, “You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses told Aaron, “Say to the entire Israelite community, ‘Come before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.’”

<sup>10</sup>While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>12</sup>“I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’”

<sup>13</sup>That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

<sup>14</sup>When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was.

Moses said to them, “It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat. <sup>16</sup>This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Everyone is to gather as much as they need. Take an omer for each person you have in your tent.’”

<sup>17</sup>The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little. <sup>18</sup>And when they measured it by the omer, the one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little. Everyone had gathered just as much as they needed.

<sup>19</sup>Then Moses said to them, “No one is to keep any of it until morning.”

<sup>20</sup>However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them.

## Day 10 Exodus 31:1-5

### God gives talents of creativity

<sup>1</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, <sup>3</sup>and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills— <sup>4</sup>to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, <sup>5</sup>to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts.