

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

March 21, 2022

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 3:1–8a, 13–15 † 1 Corinthians 10:1–6, 10–12 † Luke 13:1–9



Reflection by: Sister Honora Werner, OP

The world convulses by the violence, the obscenity of war. Innocents die. Aggressors fire on homes and hospitals ignoring basic human decency. Where is God?

The people suffer in slavery. Their workload increases beyond human endurance. Babies are murdered. Cruelty abounds. Where is God?

A shepherd, himself on the run for killing a soldier, tends his sheep. He works for his father-in-law in a country where his crime is not known. And, look, a bush burns over there without being consumed! What could this be? The shepherd moves closer and hears the voice of God commanding him to return to the country of his crime and lead the enslaved to freedom. Can this be real?? We know the rest of the story.

But why do we hear it again today? Perhaps it is a call to look out for a “burning bush” in our lives. Perhaps it is a challenge to think differently about ourselves and our abilities to make a difference.

Not many (if any) of us can travel to Ukraine to help defend the besieged people there. So how can we help at all? Look for the burning bush in our lives, the voice of God, calling us to bravery and creativity beyond what we see in ourselves. Prayer, advocacy, almsgiving, discussion . . . all are possibilities for us, even where we are in life now. Moses was not the only person called from a burning bush!