**Community Congregational Church of Clinton Heights, UCC**

**September 3, 2023**

**Rev. Kathy Johnson**

**No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life’s Journey, You are Welcome Here.**

### Call to Worship, from Psalm 105

### One: Thank God! Pray to him by name!

### All: Tell everyone you meet what he has done! One: Sing him songs, belt out hymns, All: translate his wonders into music! One: Honor his holy name with Hallelujahs, All: you who seek God. Live a happy life! One: Keep your eyes open for God, watch for his works; All: be alert for signs of his presence. One: Remember the world of wonders he has made, All: his miracles, and the verdicts he’s rendered— One: O seed of Abraham, his servant, All: O child of Jacob, his chosen. Hallelujah!

**Opening Prayer: Dear One, All That Is, Was and Will Be,**

**We come to you this day in worship and in prayer, as we ask for your guidance in understanding your Creation. We know that we don’t know everything, yet today we ask you to open our hearts and minds to all the messages that are sent our way. We send out our love to you, as we open our hearts to receiving your love.**

**In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.**

**Hymn – Light of the World**

**Scripture Readings:** Exodus 3:1-15

**Hymn – Ancient Words**

**Sermon:** I Am Who I Am

**Hymn – Here I Am, Lord, 452**

**Prayers for others and ourselves**

**Lord’s Prayer** (using debts/debtors)

**Offering**

**Doxology**

**Hymn – Go My Children**

**Announcements**

**Commission and Benediction Postlude**

**Seasons of Love - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJIlHuMLOkE**

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**Manage your giving online:**

Community Congregational Church is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

1) Visit the church website at **www.clintonheightsucc.org**,

2) Click on the **Donate Now** button,

3) Click on the **Create Profile** button, then

4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contribution.

Exodus 3: 1-15

**3 1-2**Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. He led the flock to the west end of the wilderness and came to the mountain of God, Horeb. The angel of God appeared to him in flames of fire blazing out of the middle of a bush. He looked. The bush was blazing away but it didn’t burn up.

**3**Moses said, “What’s going on here? I can’t believe this! Amazing! Why doesn’t the bush burn up?”

**4**God saw that he had stopped to look. God called to him from out of the bush, “Moses! Moses!”

He said, “Yes? I’m right here!”

**5**God said, “Don’t come any closer. Remove your sandals from your feet. You’re standing on holy ground.”

**6**Then he said, “I am the God of your father: The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.”

Moses hid his face, afraid to look at God.

**7-8**God said, “I’ve taken a good, long look at the affliction of my people in Egypt. I’ve heard their cries for deliverance from their slave masters; I know all about their pain. And now I have come down to help them, pry them loose from the grip of Egypt, get them out of that country and bring them to a good land with wide-open spaces, a land lush with milk and honey, the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

**9-10**“The Israelite cry for help has come to me, and I’ve seen for myself how cruelly they’re being treated by the Egyptians. It’s time for you to go back: I’m sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the People of Israel, out of Egypt.”

**11**Moses answered God, “But why me? What makes you think that I could ever go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

**12**“I’ll be with you,” God said. “And this will be the proof that I am the one who sent you: When you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will worship God right here at this very mountain.”

**13**Then Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the People of Israel and I tell them, ‘The God of your fathers sent me to you’; and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ What do I tell them?”

**14**God said to Moses, “I-AM-WHO-I-AM. Tell the People of Israel, ‘I-AM sent me to you.’”

**15**God continued with Moses: “This is what you’re to say to the Israelites: ‘God, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob sent me to you.’ This has always been my name, and this is how I always will be known.