



**The Burning Bush**  
Ex 3:1-12

**Listen to the  
Voice of creation**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

*“During the COVID-19 pandemic, many have become familiar with the concept of being muted in conversations. Many voices are muted in public discourse around climate change and the ethics of Earth-keeping.*

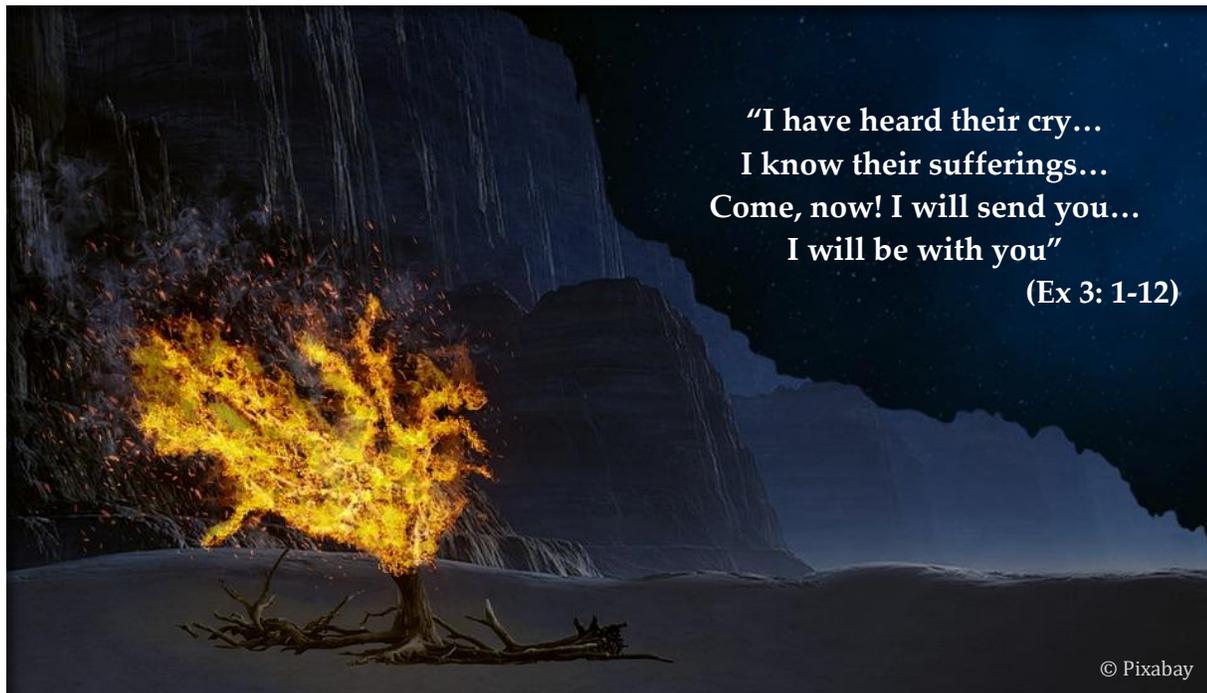
*These are voices of those who suffer the impacts of climate change. These are voices of people who hold generational wisdom about how to live gratefully within the limits of the land. These are voices of a diminishing diversity of more-than-human species.*

***It is the voice of the Earth.”***

From the Season of Creation webpage: <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

We invite the Family of the Sacred Heart to take part in the celebration of the Season of Creation — from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October. Together, let us recognize the gifts and blessings we receive from Earth, our Common Home. At the same time stop and listen to the voices that cry in anguish and plead for our help and support.

This last Sunday of August, let us prepare for our participation in the Season of Creation by praying with this year’s symbol: **the burning bush**.



**“I have heard their cry...  
I know their sufferings...  
Come, now! I will send you...  
I will be with you”  
(Ex 3: 1-12)**

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Read and pray with this text from the Book of Exodus.

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock beyond the wilderness, he came to the mountain of God, Horeb.

<sup>2</sup> There the angel of the LORD appeared to him as fire flaming out of a bush. When he looked, although the bush was on fire, it was not being consumed.

<sup>3</sup> So Moses decided, "I must turn aside to look at this remarkable sight. Why does the bush not burn up?"

<sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to look, God called out to him from the bush: Moses! Moses! He answered, "Here I am."

<sup>5</sup> God said: Do not come near! Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.

<sup>6</sup> I am the God of your father, he continued, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said: I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry against their taskmasters, so I know well what they are suffering.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore I have come down\* to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them up from that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey, the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Girgashites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.

<sup>9</sup> Now indeed the outcry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen how the Egyptians are oppressing them.

<sup>10</sup> 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> God answered: I will be with you; and this will be your sign that I have sent you. When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will serve God at this mountain.

Some suggestions for reflection:

- *Whatever your context may be, spend some time "finding God in creation". Try to identify the "sandals" that you need to remove as you enter into this "holy ground" where God is present and the "bush keeps burning"? What does this mean for you?*
- *What "afflictions" of Earth, our Common Home" are you most aware of? What touches you personally? What affects your family/community/country? What invites new learning and insight? What calls you to action?*

Trusting in the work of the transforming Spirit, we believe that God will be with us as we open our hearts, listen, and respond to the Voices of Creation.



With you in prayer and hope,  
The JPIC International Team