

# Where's Your Chair?

Exodus 13 1-10



With your hand you drove out nations and planted us in,  
and broke the power of peoples and set us free.  
Psalm 44:2

## **Praising:**

Christ is the world's true light,  
its captain of salvation,  
the day-star shining bright,  
to all in every nation:  
new life, new hope awakes  
when we accept his way;  
freedom her bondage breaks  
and night is turned to day.

## **Reading:**

Exodus 13:1-10

The consecration of the firstborn

In ancient belief (also referred to in Numbers and Leviticus), continued increase and well-being depended on the devotion to God of the firstborn of humans and animals. If God is the giver of fertility, then so long as the firstborn acknowledge the source from which they have come, all will remain well. It's a principle underscored by the Passover

event, because it is the Israelite firstborn whom God singles out for protection and deliverance. The festival of unleavened bread is re-stated as part of Israel's looking forward. When they make it to the promised land, the festival will be a reminder of the emancipation the Lord secured for them – but not just a reminder. In later times, the ritual will make present God's redemption from Egyptian slavery. Future generations will come to experience for themselves the same blessing of freedom.

## **Listening:**

## **Praying:**

We pray Lord for the ones coming after us

- missionaries who will touch the next generation with the life and love of Christ
- mums and dads who will find a place for faith, prayer and worship in the family home
- mentors who will lead our young people to walk God's path and choose God's service

Father: it's all about freedom – freedom from the expectations of the world, those around me and even myself. Freedom to know your loving forgiveness and to pass it on to others. Amen

## **Doing:**

Monday, 08 August 2016