

**AUGUST 9, 2020**

**WELCOMING WORD** *Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful,

**C: to those who turn to him in their hearts.**

L: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,

**C: that his glory may dwell in our land.**

L: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;

**C: righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

**OPENING HYMN #469** *Lord of All Hopefulness*

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin,

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: Reconciling God,

**C: We confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us: through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P: Beloved of God, by the abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**INVOCATION**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God our defender,

**C: storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 19:9-18** <sup>9</sup>At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>15</sup>Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

**SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:5-15** <sup>5</sup> Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>"or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." <sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

**GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33** <sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately

reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"<sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.<sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

## **MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton**

### **HYMN #506 *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind***

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our fev'rish ways;  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;  
In purer lives thy service find,  
In deeper rev'rence, praise.

Oh, Sabbath rest by Galilee,  
Oh, calm of hills above;  
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
The silence of eternity,  
Interpreted by love!

Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still small voice of calm!

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

## **BENEVOLENCE PRESENTATION -- Adam Mertz**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** Of all the gifts which you have given us, we treasure your Holy Spirit, O God. In gratitude for guidance and discernment, we offer these tributes before you and ask your blessing. May our lives be a blessing to others, in Jesus' name. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

L: Let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence*

L: For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I, do not be afraid." May we follow Christ wherever he leads. Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forest, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand. Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: For the nations and their leaders. In you, steadfast love and faithfulness meet, and righteousness and peace kiss. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: For those in need. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who are frustrated in their search for an affordable place to live. We pray for the suffering this day (*especially...*) Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: For our congregation. You have gathered us as your people even when we are physically apart. We pray for those who are new to our community, families preparing for a difficult school year, and for all those struggling with unexpected hardship. Supply us generously with your grace for our life together. Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

**OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.**

**BENEDICTION** *May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again*

**CLOSING HYMN:** #448 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

## DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9, 2020

**SHARE:** What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

**READ:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding

Monday, Psalm 18:1-9, Thanksgiving for Victory

Tuesday, Genesis 19:1-29, Sodom and Gomorrah

Wednesday, Matthew 8:23-27, Jesus Stills the Storm

Thursday, Psalm 67, The Nations Called to Praise God

Friday, Isaiah 63:15-19, A Prayer of Penitence

Saturday, Luke 1:46-55, Mary's Song

**TALK: Consider some of these ideas: "Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Matthew 14:27** Matthew's gospel portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

- Have you ever heard Jesus' word of promise in a time of fear?
- Have you ever stepped out in faith as Peter did?
- How can we face our times of fear and doubt? Do we remember the power of the one who calls us?

**PRAY: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**BLESS:** May you trust in Jesus' presence in times of fear and doubt. Amen!



### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

**Family and friends of Gary Schulz (brother of Randy Schulz) Gary passed away unexpectedly on August 8.**

John Conrad (Kathy Conrad's son)

Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson)

Helen Martinson

Makenzee Smith

Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher)

Martha Hartman

Jeannie U'Ren

Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower)

Irene Brufat

Laurie Duden (Brenda Martin's aunt)

Bill Steinhauer

Peter Toniazzo

Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg)

Nick Sydow (friend of Connie Curran's sons)

Sammy Peede (nephew of Kari and Dan Hustad)

Delores Bryant

Brock Howe

Dorothy Jelle

Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother)

Ruth Ann Nemet

Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl)

Harlan Oimoen

Grace Aavang

Trevor Sayre (son of Tamie Reichert)

Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith)