

Sunday, June 23, 2024
The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme OUR GRACIOUS GOD IS WITH US THROUGH ALL THE STORMS OF LIFE

A powerful tornado rolls through your neighborhood. A bolt of lightning sends 300 million volts to earth. The raw power and unpredictability of storms can inspire both awe and terror. We cannot stop storms from coming. We can only hope to survive them. However, we know the Almighty God can stop storms. He can calm literal storms. He could remove metaphorical storms, other types of troubles and trials. So, if he can, why doesn't he? Well, would you rather have a God who was distant from you but removed all the storms of life? Or would you rather have a God who allowed some storms to come but promised to be right there by your side within them, holding you close? May God give us the top-down faith that sees that the latter is by far the better option. God promises to be with us through all the storms of life Sometimes he removes them. But when he doesn't, it's only because he has plans to use even storms for our eternal good.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Tune: English; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Service Setting One (p.154)

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession CW 155

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

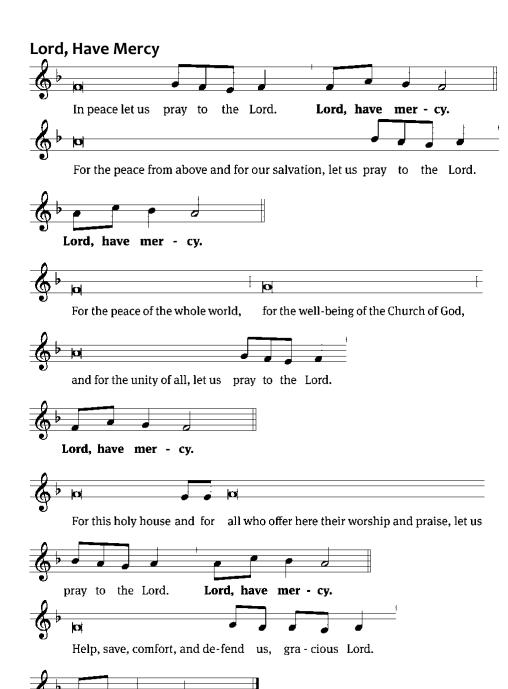
Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

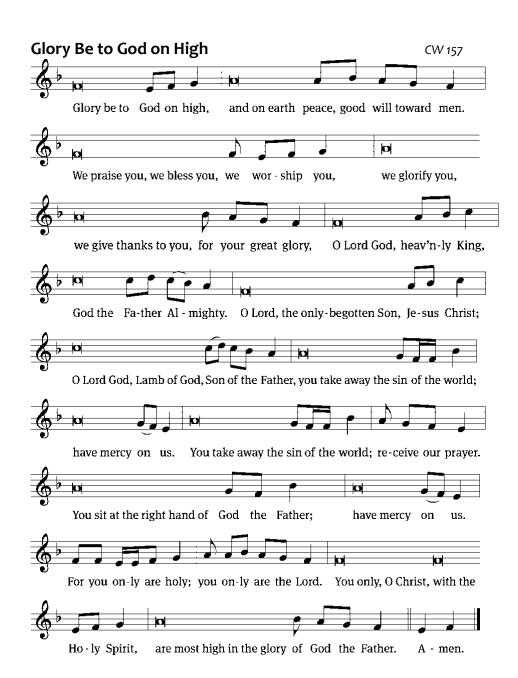


Tune: Kevin Becker

A

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men.



The Word

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord our God, so govern the nations on earth and direct the affairs of this world that your church may worship you in peace and joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Job 38:1-11

Job questioned why God had allowed trouble to befall him. Out of a storm the LORD spoke to Job, explaining that no mere man has the capacity to understand the wonderful ways God works.

¹Then the LORD responded to Job out of a violent storm. He said:

²Who is this who spreads darkness over my plans with his ignorant words?

³Get ready for action like a man!

Then I will ask you questions,

and you will inform me.

⁴Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you understand anything about it.

⁵Who determined its dimensions?

I am sure you know.

Who stretched out the surveying line over it?

⁶What supports its foundation?

Who set its cornerstone in place,

⁷when the morning stars sang loud songs together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

⁸Who locked up the sea behind doors

when it burst out of the womb?

⁹When I clothed the sea with clouds,

when I wrapped it with thick darkness as its swaddling cloths,

"I said, "You may come this far, but no farther. Here is the barrier for your proud waves."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Text: Martin Nystrom Tune: Martin Nystrom

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St. Paul and others were on a boat in the middle of a hurricane. God did not calm the storm. Yet, he was with them in the storm, accomplishing his good and gracious work.

¹³When a gentle south wind began to blow, they thought they could carry out their plan. They raised the anchor and sailed close to the shore of Crete.

"14But before long, a hurricane-like wind, called the "northeaster," rushed down from the island. 15Since the ship was caught in it and could not head into the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along. 16As we sailed on the sheltered side of a small island called Cauda, we were barely able to secure the skiff. 17After hoisting it on board, the men tied ropes around the ship to reinforce it. Then, fearing that they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and in this way were driven along. 18Because we were tossed around so violently by the storm, the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. 19On the third day, they threw the ship's gear overboard with their own hands. 20When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the violent storm kept pressing down on us, finally all hope that we would be saved was disappearing.

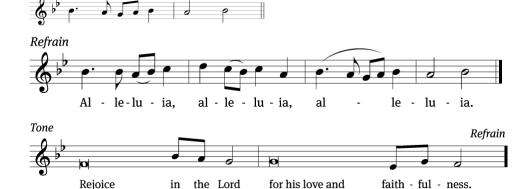
²¹After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up among them and said, "Men, you should have followed my advice and not set sail from Crete and avoided this damage and loss. ²²But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because there will be no loss of life among you. Only the ship will be lost. ²³In fact, last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me ²⁴and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand before Caesar. And surely God has graciously given you all those who are sailing with you.' ²⁵So keep up your courage, men, because I believe God that it will be exactly the way I have been told. ²⁶However, we must run aground on some island."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

CW 161



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Gospel

Mark 4:35-41

Even the winds and the waves must obey Jesus Christ.

³⁵On that day, when evening came, Jesus said to them, "Let's go over to the other side." ³⁶After leaving the crowd behind, the disciples took him along in the boat, just as he was. Other small boats also followed him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves were splashing into the boat, so that the boat was quickly filling up. ³⁸Jesus himself was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. They woke him and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we are about to drown?"

³⁹Then he got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" The wind stopped, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still lack faith?"

⁴¹They were filled with awe and said to one another, "Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

501 Evening and Morning

CW 501



- 1 Eve-ning and morn ing, sun set and dawn ing, wealth, peace, and 2 Fa ther, O hear me, par don and spare me; calm all my
- 3 Ills that still grieve me soon are to leave me; though bil lows
- 4 With joy ful sing ing let us be bring ing to God in



of your glad ness, com - fort in sad - ness: these are the works rors, blot out that by your eyes they may ter my er rors and winds gain pow af - ter the storm the fair er. all we've been giv gifts our Creheav en, of - fered as



glo - ry di - vine.
no more be scanned.
sun shows its face.
a - tor will prize.

Times with - out num - ber, a - wake or in Or - der my go - ings, di - rect all my Joys e'er in - creas - ing and peace nev - er Our best pos - ses - sions are thank - ful ex -



do - ings: guard me and guide stay close ly be me, ceas - ing: these shall I trea sure and share pres - sions: hymns that dore him. ship be a our wor -



caus - ing serves us. your mer -CV up - on side me; all I com - mit to your fa ther-ly hand. his man - sions God grants mea - sure when in fore himall his throne like sweet in - cense a - rise. to

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; (sts. 1–2): tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, sts. 1,2, alt.; (st. 3): tr. Hermann H. M. Brueckner, 1866–1942, st. 3, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963, st. 4

Tune: Johann G. Ebeling, 1637-1676

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Sermon - Mark 4:35-41

Yes, Jesus cares.

- 1. He cares enough to allow the storm.
- 2. He cares enough to deliver you from it.

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . . here name the person]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering

Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

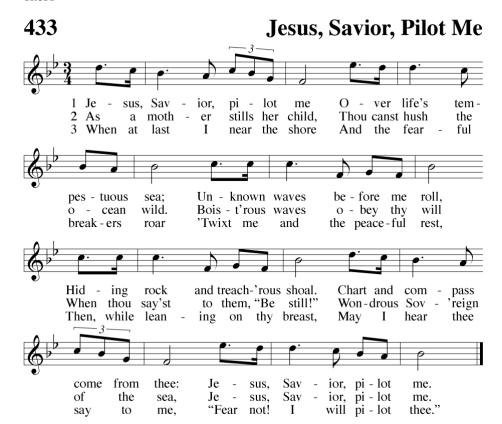
Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and T give you peace.

Amen.



Text: Edward Hopper, 1818–88, abr. Tune: PILOT (77 77 77) John E. Gould, 1822–75.

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

June 30 – Matthew // July 7 – Andrew

Church Picnic

Our picnic may be a good 7 weeks away (August 11th to be exact), but "friendship evangelism" can start right now. As we think about spreading the gospel (evangelism) we can begin with our friends or family. As you think about people you love in your life, is there one you could begin a gospel a gospel conversation with?

Don't worry, you don't have to pick the most intimidating on your list. Start simple (unless you love a challenge of course!) Don't worry if the person has a church or not. Just identify one person. Then pray for them. All this week ask God to open their hearts to be receptive and that God gives you courage and opportunity. This is step one. Stay tuned for more steps, encouragement, and tools to help you practice friendship evangelism

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (23) 9:30 am Worship (with Communion) 10:45 am Voters Meeting

International Youth Rally July 24-29th

Su (30) 9:30 am Lay-led Worship

We (3) 5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" Bible Info class

Th (4) 10:30 am Longfield Manor Devotion 6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (5) 4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)

Su (7) 9:30 am Worship (with Communion)

10:45 am Bible Information Class3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore



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