

June 23, 2024
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



8470 Landen Drive Maineville, Ohio

*At Abiding Word
We gather around the Word (worship)
We grow in the Word (education)
And we share the Word with the world (outreach).*



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Welcome!

To all who have gathered here this morning we welcome you in the name of Christ our Lord. Through him we have access to God in boldness and confidence. (Ephesians 3:12) Please join us for coffee after the service.

A TOP-DOWN FAITH

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

A powerful tornado rolls through your neighborhood. A massive hurricane heads straight for your city. 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.

Stand

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: 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.



Be seated

FIRST READING

JOB 38:1–11

¹Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

²“Who is this that obscures my plans
with words without knowledge?”

³Brace yourself like a man;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.

⁵Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?

⁶On what were its footings set,
or who laid its cornerstone—

⁷while the morning stars sang together
and all the angels shouted for joy?

⁸“Who shut up the sea behind doors
when it burst forth from the womb,

⁹when I made the clouds its garment
and wrapped it in thick darkness,

¹⁰when I fixed limits for it
and set its doors and bars in place,

¹¹when I said, ‘This far you may come and no farther;
here is where your proud waves halt?’

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 42For the director of music. A *maskil* of the Sons of Korah.

- 1 As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, O God.
- 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God?
- 3 My tears have been my food
day and night,
while men say to me all day long,
“Where is your God?”
- 4 These things I remember
as I pour out my soul:
how I used to go with the multitude,
leading the procession to the house of God,
with shouts of joy and thanksgiving
among the festive throng.
- 5 Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and ⁶ my God.
- My soul is downcast within me;
therefore I will remember you
from the land of the Jordan,
the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.
- 7 Deep calls to deep
in the roar of your waterfalls;
all your waves and breakers
have swept over me.
- 8 By day the LORD directs his love,
at night his song is with me—
a prayer to the God of my life.
- 9 I say to God my Rock,
“Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I go about mourning,
oppressed by the enemy?”
- 10 My bones suffer mortal agony
as my foes taunt me,
saying to me all day long,
“Where is your God?”
- 11 Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

SECOND READING

ACTS 27:13–26

¹³When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete. ¹⁴Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the Northeaster, swept down from the island. ¹⁵The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along. ¹⁶As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure, ¹⁷so the men hoisted it aboard. Then they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Because they were afraid they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along. ¹⁸We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. ¹⁹On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. ²⁰When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.

²¹After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. ²²But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. ²³Last 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 trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.' ²⁵So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. ²⁶Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!” Alleluia.

GOSPEL

MARK 4:35–41

³⁵That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.”
³⁶Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. ³⁷A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”

³⁹He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

⁴⁰He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

⁴¹They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

M: This is the gospel of our Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

984 A Vicious Storm, A Raging Sea



1 A vi - cious storm, a rag - ing sea, a Sav - ior sleep - ing
2 A brief com - mand, all dan - gers pass—the lake be - comes a
3 The one whom wind and waves o - bey could clear - ly see the
4 Raised from the dead to end sin's curse, his pres - ence fills the



peace - ful - ly— their rac - ing hearts would not slow down: “Do
sheet of glass! Who is this man from Gal - i - lee who
com - ing day when he be - neath God's wrath would fall, when
u - ni - verse. The pow'r which he once set a - side he



you not care if we should drown!” I know that feel - ing
with a word can calm the sea? He is, by God's e -
he would bleed and die for all. Dis - miss - ing all his
now em - ploys, all - glo - ri - fied, to help his Church to



far too well— the fear of harm or death or hell.
ter - nal plan, the one who is both God and man.
pow'r di - vine, Christ Je - sus gave his life for mine.
per - se - vere, to drive a - way my fool - ish fear.

- 5 A boat, a storm, adrift again, they marshaled all their strength in vain.
They saw the Lord; “A ghost!” they cried, and, sinking fast, one almost died.
But he who walked out on the sea saved them from great catastrophe.
- 6 Lord Jesus Christ, when storms arise on you alone I'll fix my eyes.
Through Word and water, bread and wine, I hear you saying, “You are mine!”
Your promises are strong to quell all fear of harm and death and hell.

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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.**

Offering

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O God, King eternal, our light and our salvation, may your hand of blessing rest upon us. Bless us with such faith in your Son Jesus Christ that we may believe in him with all our hearts, and trusting in his merits, may have the assurance of eternal life.

Look with favor on your Church that, through her labor, the light of your truth may shine in all the world, that your way may be known on earth and your saving health among all nations. Let her watchman bear your Name in all godliness and purity, and give her people gladness in your service.

Be gracious to all our families, that our children may grow in wisdom and in favor with God and man. To this end give your Spirit to all parents, that they may be endowed with Christian ideals and aim always to please Christ in their lives.

Look with favor, O Lord, on all who suffer sickness or sorrow, the infirmities of age or the weariness of toil, separation from loved ones or uncertainty in decision, misunderstanding or bitterness, or any other adversity, and grant them your peace. Show yourself to them a very present help in time of need, giving them wisdom and understanding, wholeness of mind and body, courage and hope.

Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken here

These petitions we give to you, O Lord, and ask all things for Christ's sake. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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; and 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.

Be seated

Stand

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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 + give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Be seated