Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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durhamlutheran.org

Rev. James Heckman, Bridge Pastor August 13, 2023 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

You can find the live stream at the following locations: <u>www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran</u>

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Prelude:

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: ELW 755 - Jesus Savior, Pilot Me

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me



Text: Edward Hopper, 1818–1888 Music: PILOT, John Edgar Gould, 1822–1875 **GREETING** (Please stand if you are able)

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.
- P: You are the treasured people of the LORD,
- C: a people holy to the Lord our God.
- P: Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.
- C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.
- P: One does not live by bread alone,
- C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Prayer of the Day:

L: 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.

C: Amen.

(The Congregation is seated after the prayer)

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

L: A reading from Isaiah

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] 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?" ¹⁰He 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."

¹¹He 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; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When 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?" ¹⁴He 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." ¹⁵Then 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. ¹⁶Also 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. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Psalm: Psalm 85:8-13

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying. (Ps. 85:8)

- L: ⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.
- C: ⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.
- L: ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- C: ¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- L: ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

C: ¹³Righteousness shall go be- fore the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway

Second Reading: Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But 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); ⁹because 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. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." ¹⁴But 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? ¹⁵And 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!"

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Gospel Acclamation (Please stand if you are able)



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The Gospel – Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically 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.

P: The Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to

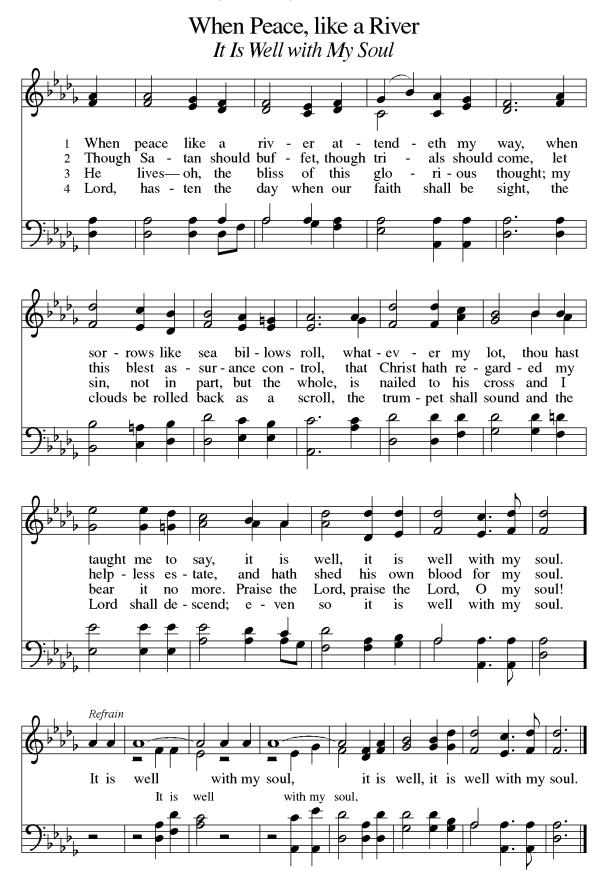
him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

- P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to you. O Christ.
- (Please be seated)

SERMON



ELW 785 - When Peace Like a River (It is Well)



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED AND CONFESSION

- P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
- C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.
- P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C: 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.

- P: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
- C: pray in the Holy Spirit.
- P: Keep yourselves in the love of God;
- C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
- C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!
- P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self examination.

- P: Gracious God,
- C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.
- C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

- P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711 Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

Offering Prayer

P: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

- P: God of grace and faith, your faithfulness is never-ending, and your righteousness becomes ours through Christ Jesus. Send the church to proclaim the gospel both near and far, in church buildings and on street corners, in person and through digital means. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: God of sky and sea, the plants, animals, mountains, and plains proclaim your glory. Prosper the work of ecologists as they teach us new ways to care for the environment. Bring relief to areas recovering from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

- P: God of peace and justice, you call us to live as your beloved community throughout the world. Instill in local, regional, national, and global political and civic leaders a desire to work for the well-being of all people. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: God of care and compassion, you bring assurance when we are afraid. Bring calm to any who are anxious or fearful. Bless the work of therapists, nurses, and other health care providers. Comfort all who grieve and soothe any who are sick (especially). Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: God of wonder, you accompany us in both joys and sorrows. We pray for children and teachers preparing for a new school year. Make your presence known in our work and play, in lively conversation and in quiet rest. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- P: God of new life, you send people to renew both church and society. We give you thanks for their lives of faithful service (*especially nursing pioneers Florence Nightingale and Clara Maass, whom the church remembers today*) as examples of following your call. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
- C: 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING



SENDING SONG: ELW 763 - My Life Flows On in Endless Song

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

DISMISSAL

- P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISMS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

10 Ja Oa 19 Ka Sunday, A Monday, A	August 14	<u>TI</u> 9:30 AN After Wo			
Sunday, A Monday, <i>A</i>	August 13 August 14	9:30 AN After Wo	Λ		
Monday, A	August 14	9:30 AN After Wo	Λ		
Monday, A	August 14	After Wo		Worship - Pr. Jir	
			Jiship	Worship - Pr. Jim Heckman Lemonade on the Lawn. Gianna Nastasi, guest pianist	
	ay, August 16	7:30 PM		Church Council meeting	
Wednesday, August 16		10:00 AM-1:00 PM		Office hours	
Thursday, August 17		12:00 PN	1-3:00 PM	Office hours	
		U	PCOMING	ACTIVITIES	
Sunday, August 20		9:30 AM		Worship - Pr. Jir	
		After Wo	orship	Lemonade on th	e Lawn.
Monday, August 21		7:00 - 8:00 PM		Webinar: "Stewardship When Economics are Uncertain" <u>https://ministrylink.org/events/webinar-</u> <u>Stewardship-when-economics-are-uncertain</u>	
Tuesday, August 22		7:00 PM		Palisades Cluster meeting @ Durham	
Wednesday, August 23		10:00 AN	/I-1:00 PM	Office hours	
		10:00 AM		Care-A-Lot board meeting	
				September New	sletter Article Deadline
Thursday, August 24				No Office hours	
Sunday, August 27		9:30 AM		Worship - Pr. Jin	n Heckman
		After Wo	orship	Lemonade on th Music & Worshi	
····//			И-1:00 PM И-12:00 PM	Office hours Care-a-Lot Open House	
Thursday,	, August 31	12:00 PN	/I-3:00 PM	Office hours	

Winter Coat Project

We are participating in the Winter Coat Project sponsored by <u>Christian Aid</u> <u>Ministries</u> (CAM) this year. They are collecting new or slightly used winter coats to ship to Syria, Yemen, or Ukraine. If you would like to donate coat(s) please get them

to the church by August 27. It costs about \$2.50 to ship each coat. If you would rather donate money for coats or shipping, please mark your donation envelope with your name, envelope number, amount, and "Winter Coats." For more information see Helen Dungan.



July Outreach - Our Outreach envelopes for August have been designated for local Food banks. You can sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex to donate a food basket. You can either buy the supplies or Helen Dungan can shop for you.



Care-A-Lot has a wish list available on the wall in the Narthex, If you would like to donate an item for the upcoming school year, please select one or more item(s) from this list.



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Barbara Altemus; Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Helen Dungan; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Frank Mammana; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Barbara Naska; Ben Naska Sr.; Wes Simmons; Hal Taylor; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Anthony Beck; Jason Bigley; Sherri Breithoff; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Davis; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Cindy Gilligan; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Josephine Gimelson & family; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Ashton Hales; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jean Pratt; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Pat Stangil; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Kelly Walsh; Henry Wong and Scotty Yurconis.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Betty Kreitz; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; Silas Rodenbach and Hal Taylor.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Stan Aagaard; Michael Barats; Joann Gary; Lani Schlegel; Don Seipt; Marilyn Seipt; Ann Valent

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at:

PrayerChain@durhamlutheran.org

Heiping in worship				
Preacher	Rev. James Heckman			
Guest Pianist	Gianna Nastasi			
Greeter(s)	Bea von Watzdorf & Leo Grzelkowski			
Altar	Barb Naska & Dot Peterman			
Acolyte	Leo Grzelkowski			
Lector	Bea von Watzdorf			
Head / Communion Usher	Mark Harwick			
Lemonade on the Lawn	Bea von Watzdorf & Leo Grzelkowski			
Council Counting Team	Mark Harwick & Cathy Muller			
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson			
Custodian	Dianna Streletz			

Holping in Worshin