



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

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Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



August 9, 2020
Tenth Sunday after
Pentecost

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

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.

✠CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C **Amen.**

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 good 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 radical 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 through the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

✠HYMN OF REFLECTION – Calm to the Waves (ELW #794)

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Jesus whispers, "Peace, be still."
Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In stillness, hear his voice.

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✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let 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.

C **Amen.**

Word

✠ FIRST LESSON – 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.

⁹At 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?" 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.**

✠ **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 Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²²Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, 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 The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

✠ **SERMON**

✠HYMN OF THE DAY – Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me (ELW #755)

- 1 Jesus, Savior, pilot me over life's tempestuous sea;
unknown waves before me roll, hiding rock and treach'rous shoal;
chart and compass come from thee. Jesus, Savior, pilot me.
- 2 As a mother stills her child, thou canst hush the ocean wild;
boist'rous waves obey thy will when thou say'st to them: "Be still."
Wondrous sov'reign of the sea, Jesus, Savior, pilot me.
- 3 When at last I near the shore, and the fearful breakers roar
twixt me and the peaceful rest, then, while leaning on thy breast,
may I hear thee say to me: "Fear not, I will pilot thee."

✠PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Confident of your care and upheld by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P For your church throughout the world, we pray: Strengthen the faith of all who believe. Speak to us through your word of power and mercy. Abide with those Christians who are isolated from others. Give wisdom and stamina to all preachers who bring your good news to the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For the well-being of your creation, we pray. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Tame the storms that threaten human habitations. Maintain the health of pets. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For the leaders of nations, we pray. Inspire those who govern to keep peace with their neighbors and to maintain justice for their citizens. Calm the world's violence. Strengthen the world's democracies, and keep autocrats in check. Uphold a free press around the globe. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For those in need we pray. For those who are unemployed, or homeless, or hungry, or hospitalized; for those whose money has run out; for those who are fearful of the future; and for those we name before you now, silently or aloud. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For the world facing the coronavirus we pray. Sustain medical workers for their arduous tasks. Assist our Congress and governors in legislating wisely during the pandemic. Give wisdom to educators as they plan the fall semester. Give us kindness with one another and patience for ourselves. And we beg: give us a vaccine. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For the end to racial injustice we pray. Frustrate all prejudices between peoples that are based on ethnic origin or skin color. Unite into one body politic all who share this land. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For ourselves, we pray. Reach out your hand to us; save us when we are sinking; and receive now the petitions of our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P We praise you, O God, for all who have died in the faith, for martyrs, for leaders in the struggle for civil rights, for victims of COVID-19, for those dear to us. Especially this week we glorify you for Mary, the mother of our Lord. Bring us at the end with all your saints into your everlasting life. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

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

C Amen.

✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

✠ BLESSING

P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C **Amen.**

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ SENDING HYMN – I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me (ELW #860)

- 1 I’m so glad Jesus lifted me. I’m so glad Jesus lifted me.
I’m so glad Jesus lifted me, singing glory hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 2 Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, singing glory hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 3 When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me, singing glory hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

✠ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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