

LARGE PRINT

# Worship Celebration

## Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 2023 + 9 AM

### We Gather as God's Children

#### Words of Welcome

Prelude

*Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus*

arr Paul Manz

#### + Call to Worship

Lord, if it's you, we need to hear from you

**When we are alone, when we go away to pray**

When we have little faith, when we are battered by the waves

**When the wind is against us, when we get in the boat**

When we're terrified by our ghosts, when we seek you on the mountain

**When we cry out in fear, when we start walking on water**

When we begin to sink, when we are far from land

Lord, if it's you, speak to us,

**calm our fears, calm our storms**

Strengthen our resolve, remind us who you are

**Walk to us, call to us, save us**

Reach out your hand and catch us

**Quiet the wind around us**

Lord, if it's you, we worship you for

***"Truly you are the Son of God."***

***Amen***

*Written by Tony Peterson, The Africana Worship Book, Year A (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 91.*

+ Hymn

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

UMH 57

(vv. 1-3, 5, 7)

# **We Grow in God's Word**

With disciples of every time and place,  
let us listen for the word of God among us.

***Our ears and hearts are open.***

## **First Lesson— Romans 10.5-15 (NRSVUE)**

<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,

in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your mouth 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, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. <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!”

The word of God for the people of God.

***Thanks be to God.***

## **Gospel Lesson — Matthew 14.22-33 (NRSVUE)**

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into a 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.”

The word of God for the people of God.

*Thanks be to God.*

## **Sermon**

### **+ Hymn**

*Stand By Me*

UMH 512

*(When the Storms of Life are Raging)*

## **Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer**

## **Opportunities for Ministry and**

### **Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings**

### **Offertory**

*The Girl with the Flaxen Hair*

Claude Debussy

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment**

*We give thanks to you, O Lord,  
for your sustaining presence and abundant grace.  
Receive now these gifts we bring to you  
out of your generous provision in our lives.  
May they be used to satisfy the hungry in famine,  
relieve the oppressed in time of trouble,  
and proclaim everywhere the good news of your Son,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.*

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**We Go Out to Serve in God's Name**

+ Hymn

*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

TFWS 2191

+ Benediction

Postlude

*How Sweet the Sound*

arr. John Leavitt

*Our service of worship is ended.  
Our worship through service now begins.*