

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jesus Takes Hold

August 6, 9 & 10, 2014

AS WE GATHER

Job suffered losses that few of us could endure: his livelihood, his family, and his own health. At Jesus' invitation, Peter exited the boat and began to walk to Jesus, until he started sinking. Both Job and Peter call to mind the words from a hymn, "When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down." We all have those "sinking down" times in our lives. This is why today's Gospel is so uplifting. When Peter was sinking down, "Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of him" (Matthew 14:31). In Holy Baptism, Jesus reaches out His hand and takes hold of us. The hymn writer also pens, "Christ laid aside His crown for my soul." There is no moment of sinking down where God in Christ Jesus does not reach out His hand and take hold of us. We gather in worship, then, as those who at times are sinking down, of whom Jesus has taken hold. Therefore, "to God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing!" LSB 543

WELCOME

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.
(Ephesians 2:19-20)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #819 "Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good"

Sing Praise to God, the highest good, The author of creation,
The God of love who understood Our need for His salvation.

With healing balm our souls He fills And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty pow'r made, In mercy He is keeping.

By morning glow or evening shade His eye is never sleeping.

Within the kingdom of His might All things are just and good and right:

To God all praise and glory!

We sought the Lord in our distress; O God, in mercy hear us.

Our Savior saw our helplessness And came with peace to cheer us.

For this we thank and praise the Lord, Who is by one and all adored:

To God all praise and glory!

He never shall forsake His flock, His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock, Their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand, He leads His own, His chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

All who confess Christ's holy name, Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne, For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord

People: and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,

Pastor: you will be saved.

People: For with the heart one believes and is justified,

Pastor: and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

People: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord of all creation, whose ways are beyond human understanding, we
come to you today with sin to confess. Our thinking and acting like we
know more than you,

People: we confess to you, Lord.

Pastor: Our sometimes wavering faith in your goodness to us,

People: we confess to you, Lord.

Pastor: Our being paralyzed by fear when the storms of this life rage,

People: we confess to you, Lord.

Pastor: All of our sins, those of which we are aware, and those known only to you,

People: we confess to you, Lord.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His
sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ,
and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of
the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE**“Glory to God in the Highest”**

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
 Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
 We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing -
 Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
 O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
 Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
 Where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high -

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
 Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
 You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
 In God the Father's glory, "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

9:00 BAPTISM of Gabriel Russell Krawczyk

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+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Job 38:4–18*

"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone - while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy? "Who shut up the sea behind doors when it burst forth from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness, when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place, when I said, 'This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt'? "Have you ever given orders to the morning, or shown the dawn its place, that it might take the earth by the edges and shake the wicked out of it? The earth takes shape like

clay under a seal; its features stand out like those of a garment. The wicked are denied their light, and their upraised arm is broken. "Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been shown to you? Have you seen the gates of the shadow of death? Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the earth? Tell me, if you know all this.

EPISTLE *Romans 10:5–17*

Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile - the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And, how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 14:22–33*

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #715 "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"

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.

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.

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."

SERMON "Faith or Reason" Matthew 14:22-33

(Rise)

6:00 & 5:00 NICENE CREED *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register for names of those to greet after the worship.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Gracious Lord, we come to you carrying the burden of our fears, worries, doubts and terrors. Reach out your hand to strengthen and support us.

People: Fill us with trust in your Word for all things and grant us peace and contentment for our hearts.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, give us grace that we may recognize the sufficiency of your Word.

People: Give us faith that your promises will sustain us in trial, call us back when we wander from the narrow path, and lead us in the way of everlasting life.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, your power and wisdom are beyond us. Keep us from the deception of worldly wisdom.

People: Teach us to rely upon your truth as our rock and foundation amid the shifting sand of doubt and fear.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, you send forth those whose voices will speak your Word and whose hands will administer your Sacraments to your people. Raise up those whom you call, equip them for your service and bless the places where they proclaim your Word and teach your truth.

People: Bless our pastors and all pastors, church workers, and missionaries, especially our together in mission partner, Chuck Ferry. Use us all to further the work of your kingdom among us and through us.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, you give comfort to the troubled hearts and minds of your people. Guide and bless with your peace those with mental and emotional struggles.

People: Grant that they may not feel alone but experience the consolation of your Word and your grace.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, your healing grace sustains your people in all their trials and troubles. Give to the sick, suffering, grieving and dying the full measure of your healing and grace according to your will especially for Ray, Heidi, Frank, Jim, Marion, Charles, Nancy, Gilberte, Laura, Jack, Mark, Richard, Susan, Virginia, Rosalie, Dorothy, Ruth, Warren, Dorothy and Sarah.

People: Bless those who care for them as well as the use of medicine to relieve their suffering.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, you stand over all creation. Speak peace to the nations, so that war and violence may end.

People: Raise up good and faithful leaders who will act justly and protect the weak, the vulnerable and the unborn from exploitation and oppression.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, both physical and spiritual life come from your hand. Therefore we give thanks to you for the birth of Gus Grey Carson, born to Mike and Erin, and for Gabriel Russell Krawczyk, who is baptized into Christ this weekend.

People: Bless parents to faithfully raise their children to know the Lord and bless parents and children alike to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, at the beginning of time you declared that it was not good for the man to be alone and so created woman and instituted marriage. We rejoice with Kyle and Callie Jo as they are united in holy marriage. We give thanks for Ruth and Warren celebrating 66 years together and Jack and Rose Marie upon their 60th anniversary.

People: Bless also Richard Wilton as he remembers his late wife, Carol, at their time of anniversary. Grant all married couples to live in the love of Christ.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, your Word is near to the hearts of your people. Grant them courage that they may faithfully speak the Gospel before the world and that those who hear may confess Jesus Christ and be saved.

People: Remember all who endure persecution for the name of Christ and strengthen them for a bold witness.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, give ear to the prayers of your people and lead us to trust in your mercy without fear, that the words of our prayers may be accompanied by the confidence that you will grant to us all things needful to us and our salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

6:00 & 5:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #729

"I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy By thy blood.

I am thrusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.

I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.

I am trusting Thee. Lord Jesus' Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever and for all.

HYMN #543

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down Beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,

Christ laid aside His crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;

To God and o the Lamb I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I Am,

While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,

While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing His love for me,

And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,

And through eternity I'll sing on.

HYMN #588 "Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Almighty God, creator and sustainer of all that exists, in this feast of your Son, you have again reached out to us in the midst of the storms of our lives to bring peace, calm, and wholeness. Your hold upon us is strong, and you will never let us go. Guide our paths as we depart from your table, that we may walk in faith, free from those things that cannot do us eternal harm; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: To disciples gripped with fear, Jesus said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." In Christ, you have the peace of God which surpasses all understanding to guard your hearts and your minds. The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #722 "Lord, Take My hand and Lead Me"

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way:
Direct, protect, and feed my From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand , O Savior, And lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

Pastor Stanton's 25 years of Ministry Celebration Bar-be-cue The BBQ will take place on Saturday August 16, 2014 in the Fellowship Hall, following the 5 pm worship service. Tickets (\$5 per person, \$2 kids under 10) will be on sale after church services in the Narthex or available during the week from the church office.

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Preacher	Seminarian Brad Akey
Liturgist	Pastor Harold Bender
Lectors	Dan Vaclav, Jim Laux, Jodi Drew
Acolytes	Emma Kallas, Josh Klement, Nik Mueller
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller