A photograph of a wooden pier extending into a misty, overcast sea. The pier is made of weathered wooden planks and leads the eye towards the horizon. The sky is a uniform, pale grey, and the water is also misty and grey. The overall mood is calm and serene.

Peace.
Be still.

Mark 4:39

June 23, 2024
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. – P.O. Box 218
Washburn, North Dakota 58577
www.flcwashburn.com
701-462-3775

WOV SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRELUDE AND BELLS

AS WE GATHER

(How often we fail to recognize the power of God in our lives. In today's Old Testament reading, God's voice pierced through the chaos of a whirlwind as he reminds Job of who is in control of all of life. That same voice is echoed on the Sea of Galilee as Jesus calms an abrupt storm. "Peace! Be still!" The power of God's Word still speaks to us today. Welcome to our worship service today!)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(put prayer requests on yellow cards)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESSp. 10

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

C: Amen

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

L: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen

GATHERING SONG WOV #718
"Here in This Place"

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

1 Here in this place . . . new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,

D A C G Gm Dm

van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

C G D A C G

brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.

Gm Dm C D C/D Gm⁶/D D

Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and

A C D G A C

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peop - les to - geth - er,

D G A D A C G

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Gm Dm C D C/D Gm⁶/D D

GREETING – (Season after Pentecost) p. 46

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:13

C: And also with you.

L: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

L: 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.

L: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8

SCRIPTURE SONG p. 47

SCRIPTURE SONG

This canticle or another scripture song or hymn may be sung.

Refrain



Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to



Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;

just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.

Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?

III For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All

na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,

for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.

Revelation 7:10, 15:3-4

L: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

L: Let us pray.
C: Sovereign God, even the wind and the waves obey you. Calm the storms of our lives and teach us to listen to you and trust in the power of your Word which is powerful beyond our deepest fears; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Job 38:1-11

(God speaks to Job from the whirlwind and challenges him to think clearly about his position in their relationship. Though so many things were beyond Job's control, He learned he could trust his redeemer's wisdom and power.)

¹The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: ²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known

to me. ⁴Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements — surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed?’”

PSALM (Read Responsively)..... Psalm 124
(The psalmist rejoices in the protection of the Lord. God’s record of wisely protecting His people invites us to do the same.)

¹If it had not been the Lord who was on our side — let Israel now say —

²if it had not been the Lord who was on our side when people rose up against us,

³then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;

⁴then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;

⁵then over us would have gone the raging waters.

⁶Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth!

⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped!

⁸Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

SECOND READING2 Corinthians 6:1-13
(“Don’t let your actions become a stumbling block that keeps others from coming to faith,” says St. Paul. Instead cherish God’s grace as your greatest treasure.)

¹Working together with {Christ}, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. ¹¹We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. ¹²You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. ¹³In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 48

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This acclamation or a hymn, song, or canticle may be sung before and/or after the Gospel:



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip-tures.

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

L: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READINGMark 4:35-41
(Jesus calms the storm that threatens his disciples. And still today, he calms the storms in our lives as they try to rob us of God's peace and hope.)

³⁵On that day, when evening had come, {Jesus} said to {the disciples}, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. ³⁷And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMNLBW #467
"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

467

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm has bound the
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word The winds and waves sub -
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood Up - on the cha - os
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, All trav - 'lers guard in

rest - less wave, Who bade the might - y o - cean deep Its
 mis - sive heard, Who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, And
 dark and rude, And bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, And
 dan - ger's hour From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: Oh, hear us when we
 calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: Oh, hear us when we
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: Oh, hear us when we
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee For those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee For those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee For those in per - il on the sea.
 rise to thee Glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

SERMON Brent Petersen

HYMNLBW #346

“When Peace, like a River”

When Peace, like a River

1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way;
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come,
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought;
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,

When sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What -
 Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That
 My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is
 The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The

ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
 Christ hath re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate
 nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more.
 trum - pet shall sound, and the Lord shall de - scend;

It is well, it is well with my soul.
 And hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 E - ven so it is well with my soul.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD.....p. 49

L: 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. *Ephesians 1:13-14*

L: 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

L: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. *Jude 20*

L: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Jude 21*

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new! *2 Corinthians 5:17*

L: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

L: 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 the newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

L: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen

L: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

2 Corinthians 13:11

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

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY – (Season after Pentecost)p. 50
“Glory to you”



C *(Advent to Transfiguration)* Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Lent to Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Season after Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



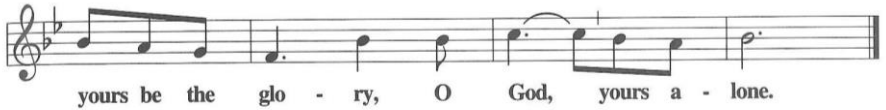
Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



OFFERTORY PRAYER – (Season after Pentecost).....p. 51

L: Let us pray.

L: God, our Creator,

C: you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS

L: As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

Each portion of the prayers concludes with these words:

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C: Amen

LORD'S PRAYERp. 52

L: 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, for ever and ever. Amen

BLESSING

L: May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.

C: Amen

L: May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: Amen

L: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Romans 15

SENDING SONGLBW #532

“How Great Thou Art”

How Great Thou Art

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, And take me

all the *worlds thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the *roll - ing
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -

thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion And there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain
 Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, How great thou

art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to

thee, How great thou art! How great thou art!

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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Today's Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

INTERIM PASTOR..... Pastor Paul Krueger
 WORSHIP LEADER..... Brent Petersen
 READER Alexis Solomonson
 ORGANIST Theresa Petersen
 USHERS/GREETERS Dennis & Gayle Johnson
 VIRTUAL SERVICE DJ Winter
 COFFEE HOUR Terry & Norma Petersen
 ALTAR GUILD..... Jolene Scholl
 SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS Larry & Kathy Keller
 Eric & Sarah Rosenquist

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. - PO BOX 218
Washburn ND 58577
701-462-3775

INTERIM PASTOR: Paul Krueger email:

revpaulkrueger@gmail.com

Cell phone: 701-240-4712

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY: Jeannette Rost

Church Office: 701-462-3775

Email: flc@westriv.com

Website: www.flcwashburn.com

COORDINATOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES: Melissa Rothe

Email: fly@westriv.com

OFFICE HOURS: T-T-F 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, 1:30 - 3:30

W – 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

ORGANISTS: Theresa Petersen and LeAnn Richard

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Randy Hall

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Gwen Hall

CUSTODIAN: Jeff Schmidt

Our Mission

“Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service.”

Welcome to all who have come to worship.

On this official Sunday of summer, I greet you in the bright, warm love of Jesus! Welcome to worship.

Visitors

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today and ask that you sign our guest book in the narthex.

Nursery

The nursery, located beside the narthex, is available for use for any parent feeling the need to use it during worship services with their child.

Thank you for your giving

Sunday, June 16, Attendance – 88

Online Viewing – 20

General Fund & Plate Giving - \$7,268.00

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers today are from Mac & Judy Beaudry in honor of Judy's birthday which will be this Thursday, June 27th.

Hearing Assist

First Lutheran has hearing assist systems to be used during the worship services. If you feel you could benefit from this or want to try it, please see the ushers in the narthex.

Pastoral Care

Please call Pastor Paul (701-240-4712) or the church office (701-462-3775) if you or a loved one are in the hospital or know you will be going to the hospital. The church does not get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name. We want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

This week we pray for:

This Week's New Prayer Requests: Clara Olson (Sharon Chrest)

Prayers of Christian Sympathy:

Long Term prayer requests:

Members: Alton Krebsbach, Howard Johnson, Karen Goehring

* The person in parenthesis is who the person is related to or friends of. Please feel free to ask these individuals how best you can pray for their family/friend.

This month we pray for:

Members: Elmer Schwarz

Friends & Family:

This Quarter we pray for:

Members and Nonmembers: Perry Thyberg, Corrine Kerzmann (Donna Gunderson), Marion Narum (Peggy Moran), Ty Brown (Jody & Nicole Brown), Alice Richard, Jackie Olson

Military Prayer and Card List

We pray for the Men & Women in our Military who protect our country, especially those assigned to serve overseas or away from home.

- **Members of First Lutheran on Active Duty in the Military and the National Guard:**
SGT Bryce Rost – Army National Guard
SPC Olivia Retterath – National Guard - Deployed
SPC Christian Gardner – Army National Guard
SPC Cassidy Sommer – National Guard
SGT Jonathan Melvard – Army National Guard
- **Friends and Family on Active Duty in the Military and in the National Guard:**
SGT Dustin Enockson – National Guard
Emily Johnson – Air Force
Bryar Anderson – Marines
1SGT Jordan Ternes – Army National Guard
Tech. SGT Andre Austin – Air Force
Hunter Feigum – National Guard
Morris Duffy – Medical Air Guard
Adam Walsvik – National Guard

Notice of Prayer List Policy

We have a monthly /quarterly prayer list cycle. When you add someone to our prayer list the request will remain on our monthly list for four weeks and then be removed. If you would like to have the request moved to our quarterly list, please contact the office and the request will be added to our “This Quarter we pray for:” list for the next three months. Please help us keep our prayer list current by communicating updates to the office at 701-462-3775. Thank you all for your faithful prayers for all of God’s people.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life will be held today, June 23rd, from 2:30 – 5:00 pm for Tom Rothmann at the Lewis and Clark Interpretative Center. All family and friends are invited to attend.

Large Print Bulletins

We have large print bulletins for those wanting or needing larger print. Ask the ushers for one.

Quilting

Women of First Lutheran, join us this Thursday, June 27th, at 9:00 am for quilting. If you don't know how to quilt, come join us and learn and join in the fellowship.

Super Sunday Supper

Join us next Sunday, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm for our Super Sunday Supper and fellowship. Menu will be Brats, Hot Dogs, Salads and Dessert. Questions or Meal Delivery, call Judy at 220-4410 or Rhonda at 315-0656. Freewill offering.

Vacation Bible School

First Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School, "The Great Jungle Journey, An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation", is July 30, 31 and August 1 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Lunch will be provided. Please scan the QR code below to register your child(ren) to guarantee souvenirs! If you have additional questions or comments, please call or text Kellie Sheldon at 701-840-8454 or Kacy Hardt at 701-351-0742. **Last day to sign up to receive all the extras is July 1st.**



CCM Summer Sunday Meal

First Lutheran will be sponsoring the Summer Sunday Meal at Camp of the Cross on June 30th. They are inviting any members that would like to join them for their worship service at 10:00 am followed by the meal.

Altar Flower Signup Sheet

A signup sheet for altar flowers through September 29th is on the table in the narthex. Signup for that Sunday you want before it is taken. You furnish the flowers and make sure they get to the church.

Connections

The May/June issue of *Connections* is in the magazine racks in the narthex. Take a copy today to read updates on the LCMC and NALC plus other interesting articles.

Our Daily Bread and Portals of Prayer

The June/July/August issue of *Our Daily Bread* and the April - June 2024 issue of *Portals of Prayer* are in the magazine racks in the narthex. Pick up a copy to use with your daily devotions.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

TODAY	9:30 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	10:45 PM	Fireside Bible Study
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting
		Al-Anon Meeting
TUES.	10:00 AM	Mommy's Group
WED.	7:00 PM	FLY
THURS.	9:00 AM	Quilting
SUN.	9:30 AM	Worship w/Holy Communion
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	10:45 AM	Fireside Bible Study
	4:00 – 6:00 PM	Super Sunday Supper
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting
Al-Anon Meeting		

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7) – June 23, 2024

*“³⁹And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, ‘Peace! Be still!’
And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰He said to them,
‘Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?’”*

–Mark 4:39–40–

Be still! So much of our lives are filled with various trials and distractions that threaten to become so chaotic and noisy that we lose sight of what’s right in front of us. The disciples are on a boat with Jesus, and Jesus sleeping away peacefully. The boat eventually meets up with a terrible storm. The disciples are scared, and who wouldn’t be? Out on the water in a boat, you are vulnerable to whatever comes your way. These disciples are seasoned fisherman. They know a bad storm when they see one. Certainly, they’ve even witness other fellow fisherman die at the hands of such storms. Fear only begins to scratch the surface of what these men felt. Meanwhile, Jesus is snoozing away. The disciples, filled with terror, call out to Jesus to save them. And he does. He rebukes the winds and calls out, “Peace! Be still!” The wind and the waves obey Jesus’ command.

We might expect Jesus to go over to his disciples and calm them down, much like a parent does with a child in the middle of the night when said child is awoken by a storm or maybe a nightmare. But that’s not what Jesus does. Instead, he asks them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?”

Huh? C’mon, Jesus, I’m shaking in my boots right now! Why wouldn’t I be afraid? We can relate at some level. We’ve had moments in our lives as kids and as adults, where we’ve become so afraid of current circumstances, we beg God to have mercy. We might become so paralyzed by fear that it threatens us to lose trust in God that he will get us through whatever it is we’re dealing with. Those trials that come our way can become so overwhelming and loud like the wind and crashing waves the disciples experienced that we begin to lose sight of who has the ultimate authority in this life. Jesus can call out with one word and the trials of this life will obey his command. So often we forget that, or we doubt that Jesus has that kind of power. Even though we’ve witnessed it time and again, we wonder if Jesus is sleeping while we’re struggling to survive.

Jesus wasn’t trying to be mean to his disciples. This was his way of reassuring them of who he is, that they don’t need to be afraid because no matter what storm might come our way, Jesus will be there to get us through. And Jesus will get us through the trials and difficulties of our lives.