

Mid-week Bible Study and Prayer

August 5, 2020

Leader: Let us pray

The God of heaven has made his home on earth.

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

The highest of all creation lives among the least.

Christ journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Come now all who thirst and drink the water of life.

Come now all who hunger and be filled with good things.

Come now all who seek and be warmed by the fire of love.

Together, we pray:

Come, Lord, come to us.

Enter our darkness with your light,

Fill our emptiness with your presence,

Come refresh, restore, renew us.

In our sadness, come as joy,

In our troubles, come as peace,

In our fearfulness, come as hope,

In our darkness, come as light,

In our frailty, come as strength,

In our loneliness come as love,

Come, refresh, restore, renew us.

Confession and Absolution:

God our Father, long-suffering, full of grace and truth, you create us from nothing and give us life.

You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.

You do not turn your face from us, nor cast us aside.

We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbour.

We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.

Restore us for the sake of your Son, and bring us to heavenly joy, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading: Matthew 14: 22-33:

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

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of Christ

Discussion:

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer:

Leader: As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Grace: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.