

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

"Prelude in C"

JS Bach

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Park

God of unfailing love, you are God who take our fears and turn them into triumphs. You remind us that you are always with us in our time of need and that we do not need to fear the wind and waves of life. No matter how strong the storm, how threatening the waves, help us to put our trust in your love and mercy. Teach us to rely on your power and rejoice in your goodness. Encourage us to step out of the boat; to come across these difficulties to your redeeming and transforming love. Give us courage and strength, joy and peace for all the times ahead. In Christ's name we pray. AMEN.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Lord, be with us throughout these summer days.

P: Guide us in your paths of service.

L: Dance with us on the days of joy.

P: Reach out to us when we are fearful.

L: Dear friends, Jesus is our guide and our pilot.

P: No matter how rough the "seas", Jesus brings us hope and peace. AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

HYMN # 110

**1. A mighty fortress is our God,
 a bulwark never failing;
 our helper he amid the flood
 of mortal ills prevailing.
 For still our ancient foe
 doth seek to work us woe;**

his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours,
thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

Lord, please forgive our weakness and our lack of trust in you. We are like the disciples who, in the midst of fears and storms, could only tremble and wonder about the threatening events. Like the disciples, we often let go of our faith and clutch onto our fears. Help us to place our trust totally in you and your call to us. When our faith slips, scoop us up and bring us peace. Be patient with us, for we are flawed and yet loved by you. Give us strong hearts and willing spirits to be your disciples. In the name of Jesus we pray. AMEN.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG	“THOU ART WORTHY”	TFWS # 2041
	<p>Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy, O Lord, To receive glory, Glory and honor, Glory and honor and power For Thou hast created, hast all things created, Thou hast created all things; And for Thy pleasure they are created - Thou art worthy, O Lord.</p>	

SCRIPTURE	Matthew 14:22-33	Michele Sauer, Reader
<p>22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. 25 During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" 32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."</p>		

Reader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC	"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" Karen Merchant, piano	Mark Hayes arr.
MESSAGE	Take courage! It is Him!	Pastor Park

RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*DEDICATION

Lord of sea and storm, of sunshine and meadow, we present these offerings as tokens of our lives in grateful praise for your love for us. Use these gifts for the ministries of hope, justice and compassion in this world that is full of brokenness and suffering. We thank you for those who have put the work of your church even before their own need and have offered their gifts to you. Bless them, provide for them, and may they come to know your abundance and faithfulness in their lives. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

* Closing Hymn

"Stand By Me"

UMH # 512

1 When the storms of life are raging,
stand by me (stand by me);
when the storms of life are raging,
stand by me (stand by me).
When the world is tossing me
like a ship upon the sea,
thou who rulest wind and water,
Stand by me (stand by me).

2 In the midst of tribulation,
stand by me (stand by me);
in the midst of tribulation,
stand by me (stand by me).
When the host of hell assail,
and my strength begins to fail,

thou who never lost a battle,
stand by me (stand by me).

3 In the midst of faults and failures,
stand by me (stand by me);
in the midst of faults and failures,
stand by me (stand by me).

When I do the best I can,
and my friends misunderstand,
thou who knowest all about me,
stand by me (stand by me).

4 In the midst of persecution,
stand by me (stand by me);
in the midst of persecution,
stand by me (stand by me).

When my foes in battle array
undertake to stop my way,
thou who savèd Paul and Silas,
stand by me (stand by me).

5 When I'm growing old and feeble,
stand by me (stand by me);
when I'm growing old and feeble,
stand by me (stand by me).

When my life becomes a burden,
and I'm nearing chilly Jordan,
O thou Lily of the Valley,
stand by me (stand by me).

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Glory Land"

Lani Smith

***Stand as able**

The Altar flowers are given by the **CUMC church family** to the **Glory of God** and in celebration of our choir director **Maxine Alstrom's** birthday. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MAXINE!**

Thank you to **Karen Merchant**, our musician this morning for sharing her talents with us.

Scripture Readers for August:

Aug. 6 – **Joyce Francavilla**

Aug. 13 – **Michele Sauer**

Aug. 20 – **Greg Elphinstone**

Aug. 27 – **Pastor Karen Gazzillo**