



CHURCH ON THE AVENUE

St. Luke's, Hampden

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 20, 2021

WELCOME & INSTRUCTION

Participants are invited to respond with the text in bold type.

ORDER OF CONFESSION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for the examination of conscience.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING | Job 38:1-11

At the end of the book of Job, after Job and his companions have argued about the cause of the great suffering Job endures, God finally speaks. These verses begin that speech, which is a grand vision of creation, describing God's ordering of the cosmos and inviting Job to marvel at its beauty.

¹The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴“Where 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 heavenly beings shouted for joy?

⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—

⁹when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,

¹¹and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped?””

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

You stilled the storm and silenced the waves of the sea. (Ps. 107:29)

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for the | Lord is good,
for God's mercy en- | dures forever.

²**Let the redeemed of the | Lord proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,**

gathering them in | from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.
**23Some went down to the | sea in ships,
plying their trade | in deep waters. R**
24They beheld the works | of the Lord,
God's wonderful works | in the deep.
**25Then God spoke, and a stormy | wind arose,
which tossed high the waves | of the sea.**
26They mounted up to the heavens and descended | to the depths;
their souls melted away | in their peril.
**27They staggered and | reeled like drunkards,
and all their skill was of | no avail.**
28Then in their trouble they cried | to the Lord,
and you delivered them from | their distress.
**29You stilled the storm | to a whisper
and silenced the waves | of the sea. R**
30Then were they glad when | it grew calm,
when you guided them to the harbor | they desired.
**31Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your | steadfast love
and your wonderful works | for all people.**
32Let them exalt you in the assembly | of the people;
in the council of the elders, let them sing | hallelujah!

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

Jesus' calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, since the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church and invites us to trust God amid life's turbulence.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

35When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] "Let us go across to the other side."
36And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other
boats were with him. 37A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that
the boat was already being swamped. 38But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and
they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" 39He
woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased,
and there was a dead calm. 40He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"
41And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even
the wind and the sea obey him?"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE |

BREAKOUT QUESTIONS

- How do these reminders of God's power strike you?
- How do you practice trusting God?

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you gather your people from east and west, north and south. We pray for the mission of the church throughout the world, that your steadfast love may be made known to all peoples. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You laid the foundations of the earth and the waters are the womb of creation. The morning stars sing your name and all creation shouts for joy. We pray for your blessed creation, that it may continue to flourish and magnify your glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You keep watch over all nations. We pray for countries experiencing violence, hunger, and unrest. Guide worldwide and local community organizations in their efforts to establish safety and justice. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You are close to the brokenhearted and near to those in distress. We pray for those who are experiencing oppression. Liberate us from the systems and chains that bind us. Remove the barriers that separate us from one another. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You dwell with us in this faith community. We pray for our leaders and elders. Grant them knowledge, patience, and kindness, that through their leadership you may be exalted in this assembly. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Your love endures in all situations. On this Father's Day, we pray for those who are fathers or wish to be fathers, for those with broken or strained relationships, for those who are missing their fathers, and for fathers who have lost children. Bless and strengthen them. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.
Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

God is with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right and good that we should always and everywhere give thanks to God through Jesus Christ our Lord, the true vine who binds us together and nourishes us with himself.

For on the night he was handed over, he took the bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Breathe your Spirit on us, O God, and saturate these gifts of bread and wine in the presence of Christ, that as we await his return, we may grow to love one another. Let us be nourished by this sacrament, this visible sign of your + invisible grace, to live in your abundance.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours Almighty God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread;
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us;
save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

Communion will be served in bread only. Extend your hands and the minister will drop a wafer in your hand using tongues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church on the Avenue Book Club. Thank you to all who participated in our discussions of *One Coin Found* by Emmy Kegler, and thank you to Scott for leading those discussions. Stay tuned for the next book!

If you have questions you can email Scott Davis at scdavis553@gmail.com

Listen to the Broken Record Podcast! If you weren't aware, Jonathan Tomick & Elizabeth KonKolics, aka "Finn's parents," have recorded several weeks of podcasts reflecting on the

texts from the previous Sunday. There are a couple episodes posted on the website for your listening pleasure! It's a great way to keep the conversation going throughout the week.

Share your stories with us! We want to know what makes this community important to you. Share with us your stories and experiences God's work in your life through the ministry and people of St. Luke's. Be on the lookout in the newsletter for a link to submit stories we can share in the newsletter or in person. You can also send a story to churchontheavenue@gmail.com. Use "Stories of Pentecost" for the subject line.

If you have prayers of concern or thanksgiving to share, please offer them up through the weekly newsletter so that we join you in care and in gratitude.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for sustaining our ministry during this strange and difficult time! You can provide offering or make a special gift at anytime through the church's giving portal. Links can be found in the e-newsletter and on the church website at <http://www.churchontheavenuehampden.org>.

BENEDICTION

God is with you! **And also with you!**

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with favor and give you peace,
in the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**