

A stylized illustration depicting a biblical scene. In the upper left, a group of men in a boat are shown rowing through dark, turbulent waters under a night sky with a crescent moon. In the lower right, Jesus, with a beard and wearing a yellow robe and a dark cloak, is walking on the water. He is reaching out his hand towards a man in a red shirt and dark pants who is partially submerged in the water, looking up at him with a desperate expression. The water is rendered with dark blue and black swirling patterns, and several fish are visible. The overall style is graphic and expressive, with bold outlines and a limited color palette.

Lord, save me!

MATTHEW 14:30

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520
717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail: secretary@trinityeastpete.org

The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

Celebrating 175 Years: Honoring Our Heritage, Moving Forward in Faith!

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting works of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion.

Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.

Prayer As You Enter: *O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Over the wind and waves, Christ comes to us. Do not fear to meet Christ here.

We have heard the invitation. Our hopes have brought us together.

The storms of life do not have the last word. Our faith keeps us from sinking.

Our doubts lead to greater faith. Our losses open us to greater possibilities.

In the Acts of the Apostles we read that as the church was gathered, often in the homes of believers, Christians devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and community, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers.

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we gather at your table to know you in the breaking of the bread.

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said: You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, but we fear the Spirit's power.

Let us confess our slowness to embrace the new life of the Spirit.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

ADORATION AND PRAISE

ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Glorious God, whose word took flesh in Jesus, and whose saving grace can be known by all who believe in Christ, open our hearts and minds to encounter your word personally, that the church may more fully express our identity as the body of Christ, carrying on the mission Jesus began, assuring a frightened world of the power of love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence- earthquake, wind, and fire- Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 85:8-13

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving action.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith" who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"Christ Calls Us in The Midst of Chaos" Pastor Rankin

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

Gracious God, we cannot deceive you with the appearance of generosity. You know how we manage the wealth entrusted to our care. Help us to know the joy of sharing from the abundance you provide. Help us to trust when we feel we do not have enough. We give thanks that you enable us to be givers, not just receivers. May what we offer here provide a helpful ministry to many. May what we offer today to our families, friends, and co-laborers also be blessed as ministry; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. From everlasting to everlasting, you have revealed your mighty presence to us. Have we not heard? Have we not known? In the beginning, you swept across the earth with your Spirit of life and renewal. When we forgot or neglected your truth, you redeemed us and renewed us. From the earth's first gardens to the mountaintop storms, you have spoken to us, and entrusted us to be your people. From laws on tablets to warnings from prophets, you have spoken your truth and renewed your covenant with us, reviving us and reclaiming us through your grace and love. And so, with your people on earth, with all of creation, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn of praise, saying:

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you and blessed is your holy name. In the fullness of time, you sent your son, Jesus Christ to reveal your powerful love for the world. Healing and teaching, proclaiming and prophesying, welcoming any and all, Christ continues to reveal your presence, renewing our souls even now. Through Christ's powerful love and endless grace, we are invited into your presence, rescued from our sins, and led onto your path of justice and righteousness.

In Christ's grace, you renew and reclaim us as your holy people, children of mercy and truth. As children of your covenant of love, sealed by water and the Spirit, welcome now with joy and gratitude, remembering how Jesus shared bread and wine, renewing and reviving the lives of his closest friends, his most faithful disciples, even as they faced their deepest fears and their greatest sins.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

*(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. **Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.**)*

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

God of grace and faith, your faithfulness is never-ending, and your righteousness becomes ours through Christ Jesus. Send the church to proclaim the gospel both near and far, in church buildings and on street corners, in person and through digital means. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of sky and sea, the plants, animals, mountains, and plains proclaim your glory. Prosper the work of ecologists as they teach us new ways to care for the environment. Bring relief to areas recovering from natural disasters. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of wonder, you accompany us in both joys and sorrows. We pray for children and teachers preparing for a new school year. Make your presence known in our work and play, in lively conversation and in quiet rest. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of peace and justice, you call us to live as your beloved community throughout the world. Instill in local, regional, national, and global political and civic leaders a desire to work for the well-being of all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of care and compassion, you bring assurance when we are afraid. Bring calm to any who are anxious or fearful. Bless the work of therapists, nurses, and other health care providers. Comfort all who grieve and soothe any who are sick. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Gail Kogut** in loving memory of her husband Robert.

The Worship Aids are given by **Rev. Sandy Morris**. Prayers for the people of Palestine.

Ministering Today

Pastor/Celebrant Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin

Lector/Assistant Diane Rice

Money Counters Nevin Cooley, John Bailey, Pat Sensenig, Cherie Cataldi, Sally Rodenberger

Altar Guild Nancy Enders, Hedwig Hunsicker, Sally Rodenberger

Building Trustee Hank Fox

Ministries **Card Elders** (Tim Geiger)

Called to Care Nancy Enders

Visitation Ken Trauger

Happy Birthday!

Today – Jack Keller, Jamy Shelly

Monday – Peter Rohrer

Wednesday – Donna Esbenshade, Carmen Richards

Thursday – Jane Portser

Friday – John Bailey

Saturday – Thomas Dennes, Chuck Husted

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Wednesday Floor Cleaning in the church

1:00 PM—Anniversary Committee (Isenberg Hall)

Thursday 2:00 PM – CROP Walk

Saturday 10:00 AM – Funeral Visitation for Lee Bossert

11:00 AM – Lee Bossert Funeral

7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist/Order of Healing

9:30 AM – Worship/Order of Healing

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE**MEMBERS**

Dr. Blaine Connor	Dr. Carrie Call	Scott & Jane Owens
Dave Trostle	John Shelsky	Dorothy Fasnacht
Bud McCarty	Don & Pat Miller	Dr. Janet Harriger
The Lehman family	Mike Wagner	Joann Peck
Eugene Hartenstine	Ron Becker	Mary Lou Shaab
Stan & Pat Seachrist	Donna Zirkel	Carmen & Jerry Richards
Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley	Sam Minder III	Lainie Christensen
Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser	Hank Fox	Charles & Betty Booraem
Betty Tyndall and family	Nancy Patton	Bob & Marlyn Wible
Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline	Mary Witmer	Kathleen Sensenig Adams
Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman	Erika Otthofer	Danielle Huggins Holbein
Joann & Dawn Garvin	Donna Wolf	Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Lee Bossert
 The family of Betsy Leinbach (mother of Chuck Leinbach)
 Dr. Lee Barrett (Lancaster Seminary Professor)
 Andrea Paulukow (daughter of John & Sarah Paulukow)
 Richard Paulukow (relative of John & Sarah Paulukow)
 Jaden Allen (nephew of Carol Kratz)
 Cindy Commero Cook and family (friend of Sarah Paulukow)
 Gina McCarty (daughter-in-law of Bud & Kathy McCarty)
 The Bruno family (friends of Blaine Connor)
 Jessica Brown (niece of Mike & Shelley Wagner)
 Janice Zimmerman (sister of Ken Zimmerman)
 Jack & Sandy Neal (friends of Trinity members)
 Larry Gerlach (brother of Dolly Barr)
 James Michaud (Sevi Keares' teacher)
 John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)
 Kelly Quick (friend of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)
 Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)
 James Malone & family
 Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)
 Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens)
 Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)
 Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig),
 Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer)
 Rev. Phyllis Baum (former member of Trinity Church)

Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer)

The Martin family

Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards)

Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright)

Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards)

Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio)

Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards)

John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law)

Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

The Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church)

STAFF VACATION: Carol Kratz will be on vacation from August 17-22.

THE ORDER OF HEALING will be used at both services on August 20. Those who wish to be anointed with oil will be invited to come forward during the services.

THE JULY/AUGUST PARISH POST is available on both floors of the church building. The deadline for the September Parish Post is August 21!!



Hempfield Fire Department Park

19 Main Street, Landisville

(parking is in the lot behind the fire department)

SIGN-UP SHEET FOR PICNIC & CAKE WALK ON TABLE OUTSIDE OFFICE

DEVOTIONALS: The July-September edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

VBS MISSION PROJECT: This year's VBS mission project is the Hempfield Power Packs. You can donate to the offering by marking the special designation box on your offering envelope with "VBS Mission".

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Greeter /Ushers Needed



If you would like to volunteer as a Greeter/Usher for the 10:30 a.m. service please contact the church office. We recently had some vacancies as ushers, so we are in need of help!!!



Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 7:45 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services. Please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz if you are willing to volunteer!

2023 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: October 29, December 17 & 31. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: August 20, September 3 & 24. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.



Mt. Gretna Tabernacle

MT. GRETTA BIBLE FESTIVAL 2023

Summer at the Tabernacle | Worship, Speakers and Concerts

All Programs are in the Historic Tabernacle • 3rd St. & Glossbrenner Ave. Parking GPS Address: 41 Boulevard St, Mt. Gretna PA 17064

Please visit MtGretnaTabernacle.org for any program cancellations. A freewill offering will be received at each program.



August 13 Sunday 7 p.m. Speaker

Bob Kettering Chairperson of the Bible Festival Committee, Bob has served in 7 interim pastorates since his retirement from full-time ministry in 2015. Chancel Choir of the Lancaster Church of the Brethren will provide music.

August 20 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

The Susquehanna

Chorale One of the premier choral groups in the nation, directed by Linda Tedford, makes its traditional late summer appearance.

Sponsored by Traditions of Hershey.



August 27 Sunday 7 p.m.

Concert

QuintEssentially Brass

A quintet with their engaging personalities and sparkling instrumental performances end another season. Sponsored by Arthur Funk & Sons.





BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME
**Anniversary
Day**

RAFFLE • LIVE MUSIC • CARNIVAL GAMES
FOOD • RIDES • TRIBUTE LIGHTING



FEATURING

12-2:00PM Jeff Krick Jr: Elvis Tribute
3:00-5:00PM The Celtic Martins
6:30-8:30PM Grease Band

August 19, 2023

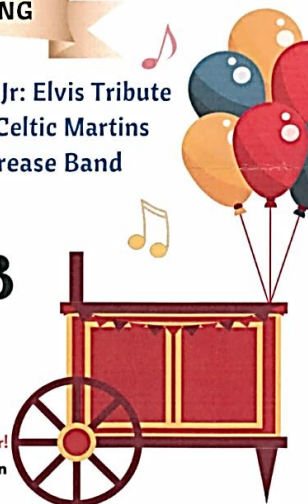
GATES OPEN 11AM-9PM

1863 Bethany Rd. Womelsdorf, PA 19567

ALL CONCERTS HELD AT
BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME

Lawn seating only- bring your favorite blanket or chair!

Weapons, pets, tobacco and alcohol are prohibited on
Bethany property.



**Lancaster Association
Mission & Ministry Planned Event**

Sunday, August 20

3:30-5:30 pm

Pavilion at Church of the Apostles.

It will be an ICE CREAM SOCIAL with a time to hear from
various ministries and ministry partners.

Calling all Singers and Ringers 2023-2024 Season Starts

**September 11, 7:00 - 8:00 PM SOT Choir
September 18, 8:15 - 8:45 PM Canticle Ringers**

***New Singers and Ringers Welcome
Contact Michael or Dina Slechta**

TRINITY PRAYER BOOK: In the spring, participants in the Adult Sunday School Class were sharing prayers that were meaningful to their family. Anne Rankin thought it would be good to compile these prayers and create a Trinity prayer book as part of our 175th anniversary. You can submit prayers to Pastor Chris or Anne.

SHARE YOUR STORIES/MEMORIES OF TRINITY CHURCH: The 175th Anniversary Committee invites members of the congregation to share your stories and memories of Trinity Church for our November Echoes of the Past article. What are some of the things you remember from our past? Who are some of the people you remember? For some of our newer members, what drew you to Trinity Church? Whether you have been here 50 years or you recently joined, we want to hear from you!! **Please submit your stories/memories to the church office by October 6.**



We still have a few openings for Musical Offerings over the summer and if anyone is interested in offering their gifts, they should contact Mike & Dina Slechta at music@trinityeastpete.org.



THERE WILL SOON BE A SIGN-UP SHEET!!!!

CONCERT FEATURING TRINITY'S ORGANISTS: As part of our 175th anniversary, we will welcome back some of our former organists for a concert on September 24 at 3 p.m. Look for more information soon!



DATES

Thursday, September 28-1:30 PM

Friday, October 20-7:00 PM

Thursday, November 16-1:30 PM

Friday, December 15-7:00 PM

PRAYER SHAWL: Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, September 19 from 1:00-3:00 PM. They will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

At [Horeb, the mount of God,] [Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Psalms 85:8-13

SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring

Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28.

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Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-R