

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 1 & 4, 2024


Meaningful Ministry: Fear Not, for the Lord Is with You

In the Shortly before he ascended, Jesus told his followers they were to engage in meaningful ministry—to work their way through the world, sharing the good news of salvation. Our loving Lord knew that was a big and often intimidating task. So, his next words were a promise. “Surely I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20). God’s people still need to hear that promise.

For several weeks, we have been discussing the reality that the Lord of the Church has called all believers to meaningful ministry. Ministry will come with challenges. It can cause fears to arise: the fear of rejection, the fear of inadequacy, the fear of persecution. So, listen again to your Savior. “I am with you always.” We conclude our series on meaningful ministry empowered by that gracious promise.

Opening Hymn


O God, Our Help in Ages Past CW 441



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne Your
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight Are
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Soon



hope for years to come, Our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; Suf - fi - cient is your
 earth re - ceived its frame, From ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, Short as the watch that
 bears us all a - way; We fly, for - got - ten,



storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home,
 arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
 you are God, To end - less years the same.
 ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 as a dream Dies at the op'n - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
Tune: ST. ANNE (CM) William Croft, 1678–1727, alt.

Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen



MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN
Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we
Gather
around the Gospel
to help people
Grow
in the Gospel
and
Go
with the Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins, Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Absolution (pronouncement of forgiveness)

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Oh, Taste and See



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -

ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in you, strengthen our faith, and give us courage to believe that in your love you will rescue us from all adversities; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson

2 Kings 6:8–17

Elisha's ministry had resulted in Elisha and his servant being surrounded by an enemy army. But they didn't need to fear, for the LORD and his mighty army of angels were with them.

⁸Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel. After conferring with his officers, he said, "I will set up my camp in such and such a place."

⁹The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: "Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there." ¹⁰So the king of Israel checked on the place indicated by the man of God. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places.

¹¹This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, "Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?"

¹²"None of us, my lord the king," said one of his officers, "but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom."

¹³"Go, find out where he is," the king ordered, "so I can send men and capture him." The report came back: "He is in Dothan." ¹⁴Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city.

¹⁵When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked.

¹⁶"Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

¹⁷And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

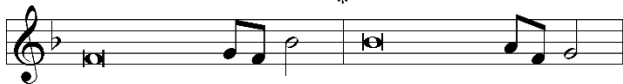
Psalm 46 CW

Refrain



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.

Psalm tone



God is our refuge and strength,*
an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way*
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam*
and the mountains quake with their surging.

Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,*
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;*
God will help her at break of day.

“Be still, and know that I am God;*
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.”

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

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Second Lesson

2 Timothy 4:6–8,16–18

Paul knows that soon he will be executed for performing gospel ministry. Yet he is not afraid, for he knows the Lord Jesus has always been by his side.

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁶At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”
Alleluia. (Mark 6:50 NIV)

Stand

Gospel

Mark 6:45–56

Before engaging in ministry at Gennesaret, Jesus comes to the disciples, dispelling their fears with his comforting and powerful presence.

⁴⁵Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.

⁴⁷Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰because they all saw him and were terrified.

Immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” ⁵¹Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵²for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. ⁵⁴As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. ⁵⁵They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

Day by Day CWS 765



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you
wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will



send me draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.
guide me o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day.
hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the
I will fear no e - vil of the mor - row, I will trust in
Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me, you will hold me



bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior, lead me to the home I
your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior, help me bear life's pain and
ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior, with your pres - ence here to



treasure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Sermon *You Meet Jesus in Some of The Strangest Places*

Mark 6:45-56

Pastor Philip Merten

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be Seated

Offering

Stand

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Prayer of the Church

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 and ever. Amen.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me CW 433

1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me O - ver life's tem -
2 As a moth - er stills her child, Thou canst hush the
3 When at last I near the shore And the fear - ful

pes - tuous sea; Un - known waves be - fore me roll,
o - cean wild. Bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy will
break - ers roar 'Twixt me and the peace - ful rest,

Hid - ing rock and treach'rous shoal. Chart and com - pass
When thou say'st to them, "Be still!" Won - drous Sov - 'reign
Then, while lean - ing on thy breast, May I hear thee

come from thee: Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
say to me, "Fear not! I will pi - lot thee."

Text: Edward Hopper, 1818–88, abr.

Tune: PILOT (77 77 77) John E. Gould, 1822–75.

Day By Day

Text: tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005; Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903 Tune: Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

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