

**June 23, 2024**  
**HYMNS FOR FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**LBW #346 “When Peace Like a River”**  
**LBW #467 “Eternal Father Strong to Save”**  
**WOV #731 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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.

**C Amen.**

**FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 17 [1a, 4-11, 19- 23] 32-49**

[<sup>1a</sup>Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle. <sup>4</sup>And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. <sup>5</sup>He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. <sup>6</sup>He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. <sup>7</sup>The shaft of his spear was like a weaver’s beam, and his spear’s head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. <sup>8</sup>He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. <sup>9</sup>If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.” <sup>10</sup>And the Philistine said, “Today I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together.” <sup>11</sup>When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.]

<sup>19</sup>Now Saul, and [Jesse’s sons], and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. <sup>20</sup>David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry. <sup>21</sup>Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. <sup>22</sup>David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. <sup>23</sup>As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.]

<sup>32</sup>David said to Saul, “Let no one’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.” <sup>33</sup>Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth.” <sup>34</sup>But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and whenever a lion or a bear came, and took a lamb from the flock, <sup>35</sup>I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth; and if it turned against me, I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down, and kill it. <sup>36</sup>Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living

God.”<sup>37</sup> David said, “The Lord, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine.” So Saul said to David, “Go, and may the Lord be with you!”

<sup>38</sup>Saul clothed David with his armor; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. <sup>39</sup>David strapped Saul’s sword over the armor, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, “I cannot walk with these; for I am not used to them.” So David removed them. <sup>40</sup>Then he took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the wadi, and put them in his shepherd’s bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

<sup>41</sup>The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. <sup>42</sup>When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. <sup>43</sup>The Philistine said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. <sup>44</sup>The Philistine said to David, “Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field.” <sup>45</sup>But David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. <sup>46</sup>This very day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head; and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, <sup>47</sup>and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not save by sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord’s and he will give you into our hand.”

<sup>48</sup>When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. <sup>49</sup>David put his hand in his bag, took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

L Word of God. Word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32**

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

<sup>1</sup>*Give thanks to the Lord, for the<sup>1</sup> Lord is good,  
for God’s mercy en-<sup>1</sup>dures forever.*

<sup>2</sup>***Let the redeemed of the<sup>1</sup> Lord proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand<sup>1</sup> of the foe,***

<sup>3</sup>*gathering them in<sup>1</sup> from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and<sup>1</sup> from the south.*

<sup>23</sup>***Some went down to the<sup>1</sup> sea in ships,  
plying their trade<sup>1</sup> in deep waters. R***

<sup>24</sup>*They beheld the works<sup>1</sup> of the Lord,  
God’s wonderful works<sup>1</sup> in the deep.*

<sup>25</sup>***Then God spoke, and a stormy<sup>1</sup> wind arose,  
which tossed high the waves<sup>1</sup> of the sea.***

<sup>26</sup>*They mounted up to the heavens and descended<sup>1</sup> to the depths;  
their souls melted away<sup>1</sup> in their peril.*

<sup>27</sup>*They staggered and<sup>1</sup> reeled like drunkards,*

and all their skill was of<sup>1</sup> no avail.

<sup>28</sup>Then in their trouble they cried<sup>1</sup> to the Lord,  
and you delivered them from<sup>1</sup> their distress.

<sup>29</sup>**You stilled the storm<sup>1</sup> to a whisper  
and silenced the waves<sup>1</sup> of the sea. R**

<sup>30</sup>Then were they glad when<sup>1</sup> it grew calm,  
when you guided them to the harbor<sup>1</sup> they desired.

<sup>31</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your<sup>1</sup> steadfast love  
and your wonderful works<sup>1</sup> for all people.**

<sup>32</sup>Let them exalt you in the assembly<sup>1</sup> of the people;  
in the council of the elders, let them sing<sup>1</sup> hallelujah! R.

## **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13**

*Paul and his fellow workers experience great hardships and even rejection while carrying out their missionary work. Nevertheless, Paul continuously proclaims that God has not rejected us but is graciously working for our salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

<sup>11</sup>We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. <sup>12</sup>There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. <sup>13</sup>In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

L Word of God. Word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **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.*

<sup>35</sup>When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.” <sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. <sup>38</sup>But 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?” <sup>39</sup>He

woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you O Christ.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

*A brief silence.*

A Equip your faithful people to approach this world with a sense of wonder. Make your church a safe place to explore big questions, troubling doubts, and honest laments. Humble our hearts to repent of the ways that communities of faith have inflicted pain or trauma. Merciful God,

**C Receive our prayer.**

A You spoke creation into order from the chaos of the swirling deep. May your name be praised by rivers and seas, wetlands and waterfalls. Secure clean water for all people and protect water sources from contamination or exploitation. Merciful God,

**C Receive our prayer.**

A Amid whirlwinds of division, violence, and conflict, remind us again that you are as steadfast as the foundations of the earth. Rejuvenate peacemakers, advocates, and community organizers when they feel weary in their work (*especially*). Merciful God,

**C Receive our prayer.**

A Deliver your people from their distress, O God. We lift before you all who are sick or struggling (*especially*). Grant consolation and peace to all who live with chronic, terminal, or persistent illness. In times of affliction or hardship, sustain us in faith. Merciful God,

**C Receive our prayer.**

A Enfold all travelers with your protection. Bless the comings and goings of this assembly as we travel for leisure or for work. Let all journeys be met with hospitality on the way, and let community members return to us with celebration. Merciful God,

**C Receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation for all the redeemed of the Lord. Joined together with the great cloud of witnesses, we give thanks for your steadfast love and your wonderful works. Merciful God,

**C Receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

