Trinity 9, Proper 14, Year A, 09.08.2020

*Matthew 14.22-33*

* *Jesus’ disciples are in a boat, battered by wind and waves, when they see Jesus.*
* *Peter goes to Jesus, but struggles to remain standing because of his lack of faith.*
* *Back in the boat, the storm over, the disciples acknowledge Jesus as ‘Son of God’.*

**Welcome and introduction**

Gathering Prayer:

God of everything and everywhere, we find you by the lakeside,  
we hear you in hidden places, we see you on the mountain-top.  
May we feel your presence with us as we worship today. **Amen.**

**Hymn Here I am to worship**

Light of the world you stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes, let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore you, hope of a life spent with you  
  
*Here I am to worship. Here I am to bow down. Here I am to say that you're my God  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me*  
  
King of all days, so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above  
Humbly you came to the earth you created, all for love's sake became poor  
  
I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross

Prayer of Confession

When we look for you in your magnificence,  
and fail to see you standing next to us:

**Forgive us and help us.**

When we drown your voice in noise and busyness,  
and forget to still ourselves to listen to you:

**Forgive us and help us.**

When we look for you in good and holy people,  
but fail to see you in those who make us uncomfortable:

**Forgive us and help us.**

For you are a kind and gentle God,  
who seeks us out to bring us home.   
**Amen.**

**The Absolution**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**The****Collect***, the special prayer for today*

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day,  
and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory’s sake  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Reading** Matthew 14: 22-33

Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, ‘It is a ghost!’ And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, ‘Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.’

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

Address

**Hymn When the music fades and all is stripped away**

When the music fades, all is stripped away, and I simply come  
Longing just to bring something that's of worth, that will bless your heart  
  
Bridge:  
I'll bring You more than a song, for a song in itself is not what you have required  
You search much deeper within through the way things appear, you're looking into my heart  
  
Chorus:  
I'm coming back to the heart of worship. And it's all about you, all about you, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it, when it's all about you, all about you, Jesus

King of endless worth, no one could express how much you deserve  
Though I'm weak and poor all I have is yours, ev'ry single breath

**Bless the Gifts**

Lord Jesus, you gave everything for us.  
As we offer you our gifts, we offer you all that we have, and are, and will be,  
praying that our church, and our mission,  
may reach out so that others may come to share in your risen life.

**Amen.**

**Prayers**

Loving God,   
we pray for those reaching out to you this morning,   
for those longing for you to catch hold of them:

**May they feel your presence**

for those longing to be freed from abusive relationships;

**may they be set free**

for those longing for an end to violence;

**may they be safe**

for those longing for release from suffering;

**may they be released**

for those longing for companionship;

**may they feel your presence**

for those longing to be free of old hatreds;

**may they be set free**

for those longing for forgiveness;

**may they be set free**

For one another, and for all creation we pray:  
reach out to us, Lord Jesus,   
hear our prayer and give us your peace.  
**Amen.**

*We sing the* ***Lord’s* *Prayer***

**Blessing**

May the blessing of God the Father be upon us  
as we venture out into the world,  
to live to the glory of God’s name.   
  
May the blessing of God the Son be upon us  
as we step out in faith,  
to serve Jesus Christ as faithful disciples.  
  
May the blessing of God the Holy Spirit be upon us  
as we listen to the promptings of God’s Spirit,  
at one with our neighbours, with ourselves,   
and with God.   
**Amen.**

**The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

**Hymn We are marching in the light of God**

We are marching in the light of God, (4x)

We are marching... ooh, we are marching in the light of God. (2x)

Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos', (4x)

Siyahamba... ooh, siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'. (2x)