

Banning United Methodist Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 2023

MEDITATIVE THOUGHT

Lord, I seek You and Your strength. May I sense Your presence in worship today.

PRELUDE

WELCOMING FRIENDS and NEWCOMERS

WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE

MINISTRY MOMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

†CALL TO WORSHIP

L: "When the storms of life are raging, stand by me"

P: Lord, hear my cry and rescue me!

L: "When the world is tossing me like a ship upon the sea"

P: God who rules wind and water, stand by me.

L: God stands with you in bright sunshine and deepest storm.

P: God gently guides us to safety and peace. Thanks be to God. AMEN.

†OPENING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

vs. 1, 3 & 4

UMH #110

OPENING PRAYER

God of mysterious ways, You take our fears and turn them into triumphs. You remind us that You are always with us and that we do not need to fear the wind and waves of life. Encourage us to step out of the boat; to come across these difficulties to Your redeeming and transforming love. Give us courage and strength, joy, and peace for all the times ahead. AMEN.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 37:1-4 NRSV

¹Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ²This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:22-33 NRSV

²²Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, 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."

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMONIC HYMN

"Alleluia"

Summer Ensemble

SERMON

“Recognizing God during the storms of life”

Pastor Doug

PRAYERS OF THE PASTOR and PEOPLE

Children in Prayer

(After all slides: In Your mercy, **Lord, hear our prayer**)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

THE 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. Amen.

GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS)

OFFERTORY

†**DOXOLOGY** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Forgiving God, the first offering you ask for is the giving of ourselves, loving you and others boldly, refusing to let our fear of the storms around us keep us from taking risks. Forgive us for times when you have called us to leave our places of comfort, and we’ve ignored the call. Forgive us when our giving has not grown beyond our safety zone, but you blessed our gifts and us anyway. For those times when we dared to put our foot outside the boat and then sank up to our knees, thank you for not taking your hand away. For all this, we give thanks in the holy name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

†**CLOSING HYMN** “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

UMH #496

†**BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE