



## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we share the conviction of the Psalmist that You are our stronghold in times of trouble. We rejoice over the evidence of such care for us and for all people which we experience in Jesus. Yet we confess how easily we identify with the fear of the disciples when they were caught in the storm; like them, our faith falters and our anxiety levels soar when life becomes too turbulent for us. We fail to remember that Jesus demonstrated that Your power, O God, can bring peace even into the stormiest situations. Time and again, the stresses of living and working and learning threaten to swamp us. Our lives sometimes feel as though they are spinning out of control with worries over health, relationships, finances, the state of the world; we forget that Jesus is in our midst calming our fears and strengthening us especially when we feel most vulnerable and fearful and weak. Gracious God, forgive us all our fears and weaknesses, we pray. Renew and strengthen our faith in the living Christ so that we can live empowered by his presence. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Friends, believe and proclaim the Good News: in Jesus Christ, love breaks through hatred, hope breaks through despair, life breaks through death.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and set free.  
Thanks be to God!

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymnal No. 579

*Gloria Patri*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.*



*Praise ye Him upon the loud cymbals.  
Praise ye Him upon the high sounding cymbals.  
Let ev'rything that hath breath, praise the Lord,  
Yea, praise ye the Lord. Hallelujah!*

**\* THE DOXOLOGY**

*Old Hundredth*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**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 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, forever. Amen.

**THE SENDING OUT**

- \* HYMN 562                      Eternal Father, Strong to Save                      *Melita*
- \* BENEDICTION              The Lord Bless you and Keep You                      *Peter Lutkin*
- \* CHORAL AMEN

**POSTLUDE**                      Acclamations (*from Suite Medievale*)                      *Langlais*  
*(Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)*

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**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Samuel 17:32-49 (NRSV)**

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.

## Mark 4:35-41 (NRSV)

<sup>35</sup>On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “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?”

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