



Worship

August 9, 2026

First Presbyterian Church
McAllen, Texas

Henry Ossawa Tanner
Disciples See Christ Walking on the Water

Opening Sentences

- Children of God, Christ summons us to draw near.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Call to Worship

from Psalm 105

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name;

Proclaim the deeds of the Lord to all the peoples.

Sing to the Lord, sing praises.

Tell of all God's wonderful works.

Glory in God's holy name;

seek the presence of the Lord,

rejoicing with all your heart.

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud,
Fortress, Fountain, Shelter, Light,
Judge, Defender, Mercy, Might,
Life whose life all life endowed:

*May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.*

Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine,
Shepherd, Savior, Servant, Lamb,
Well and Water, Bread and Wine,
Way who leads us to I AM:

*May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.*

Storm and Stillness, Breath and Dove,
Thunder, Tempest, Whirlwind, Fire,
Comfort, Counselor, Presence, Love,
Energies that never tire:

*May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.*

Prayer of the Day

Prince of peace,
you calm the raging seas
and speak in silent stillness.
Bring us the peace
that only you can provide
and restore the joy of our salvation,
that we might find the wisdom
to recognize you in unexpected places
and the courage to follow,
for your name's sake,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Winslow Homer
On a Lee Shore

Call to Confession

Let us be honest with God about our fears and our need
as we offer to God our Prayer of Confession.

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, we long to draw close to you,
but we are afraid.**

**We are afraid to heed your summons
for we do not know what awaits us
when we step out in faith.**

**We are wary of taking risks for your sake
because the forces of chaos seem stronger
than your assurances to us.**

**We worry that we will not have enough faith
in you or in the gifts you have given us
to do the things you ask.**

**Forgive us, Lord, and save us.
Reach out your hand
and lift us from our fear
that we might follow you faithfully.**

Wayne Forte
Get Out of the Boat



Assurance of Pardon

Our God sees all, knows all,
forgives all, restores all
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Friends, hear and trust
in the good news of the Gospel:
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,
healed, and made whole.**
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Act of Praise Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 1

GG #526

Let us talents and tongues employ;
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured;
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Passing the Peace

Time with the Younger Church

Life of the Church

Prayer for Illumination

God of our present trouble and promised triumph,
Open our eyes to see you in the midst of our struggles.
Open our ears to hear your words of invitation and assurance.
Open our minds to recall your wonderful works and miracles.
Open our hearts to glory in your name and seek strength in your Word;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14: 22-33

Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. (11.2)

Hymn My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

GG #353

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain: On Christ, the solid Rock I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

Refrain

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

Refrain

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Refrain

Prayers of the People / Lord's Prayer

God of power and love,
you are with us in every circumstance of this life.
We thank you for your steadfast faithfulness.
We thank you for the gift of your peace,
which comes to us even in times of chaos and fear,
trouble and doubt.
We thank you for your powerful arms of mercy
that grasp us when we are sinking;
for your powerful Word that coaxes us
even when we are hiding and afraid.
We put our trust in you, for you alone can save us.

We ask for your power and love to overwhelm the chaos of the nations.
In every place of war, send your encompassing shalom
to restore and repair all that is torn and broken.

We pray that violent and hostile struggles will be defeated by good.
Give us faith and courage to follow Christ so closely
that divisions are dismantled, reconciliation is accomplished,
and love casts out fear.



Paula Jordan
Jesus and Peter on the Water

Increase mutual understanding and a sense of unity
in our community,
in this congregation,
in the church around the world.
In our personal relationship.
bring healing where there is estrangement and hurt.
In our relationship to your creation,
give us creativity and perseverance
as we work to be faithful, tender stewards
of all that you have so wondrously made.

We entrust to your providence and care
all those who suffer;
all who are hiding from you,
from others, or even from themselves
because of fear or feelings of unworthiness.
To one struggling with doubt,
increase faith.
To one enduring persecution or prejudice,
bring freedom.
For those caught in the grip of anxiety and uncertainty,
grant the calm rest that your peace alone gives.
And for all who face illness, pain, or death,
we pray for restoration and wholeness
to fill them – in heart, mind, and body.

You alone can save us, almighty God;
hear our cries to you, we pray.
Gather us up and set us in safety,
so that we might praise your name.
We ask all things in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
who taught us to pray together, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Invitation to the Offering

Christ has freely given us the gift of grace and salvation.
Let us therefore freely bring our generous gifts of gratitude to him.

Offertory

Act of Dedication Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 2 GG #526

Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Prayer of Dedication

We give thanks to you, O Lord,
for your sustaining presence and abundant grace.
Receive now these gifts we bring
in gratitude for your generous provision to us.
May they be used to satisfy the hungry in famine,
relieve the oppressed in time of trouble,
and proclaim everywhere the good news of your Son,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

Hymn Help Us Accept Each Other

GG #754

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice, and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one.

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 3 GG #526

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;

pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Postlude

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell	Caly Fernandez
Beverly Avila	Robert Garza
Ale Pacheco	FPC Chancel Choir

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