

Welcome to the

Setauket Presbyterian Church

of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost

Order of Worship

August 13, 2023

❖ *please rise in body or in spirit; unison words are in bold.*

GATHERING MUSIC

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

The Light Enters

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 85)

Will the Lord speak “peace” to us this morning?

Yes, the Lord will!

Will God’s salvation encounter us in this place?

Yes, it will!

Will faithfulness spring up from the ground,
and justice look down from the sky?

Yes, they will!

Yes, indeed – steadfast love and faithfulness will meet in this place;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other;
and God will give what is good.

Let us worship the Lord.

OPENING PRAYER

❖ **HYMN no. 624** *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you call us to step out in faith, trusting in you for all things. But often when we respond to your command, we find ourselves sinking in doubt and fear, hiding from the challenges of bold discipleship. Forgive us, we pray, when we confess your name with our lips, but do not trust your power in our hearts. Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances. Lift us out of our doubts and fears into the arms of your mercy. In your Son’s name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

This is the good news we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Share this news with all and sundry!

Alleluia! Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE no. 435 *There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy*

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** *Please share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.*

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faithful Lord, we pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit, you will silence in us all the storms, doubts, and fears that often overwhelm your word of peace. Lord, we are here this morning, ready to test the waters. Teach us what we need to know. Amen.

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he 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 toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, 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 toward 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 worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Johanna McCune Wagner

❖ **HYMN no. 654** *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

❖ **DOXOLOGY no. 609**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures high and low:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

❖ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE**

Generous God, we thank you for your call and claim upon our lives. Because there is more we can become, and more for us to do, we pray that our faith will increase; our practice of generosity will be enlarged; and our joy in believing will be an encouragement to others. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

❖ **HYMN no. 305** *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

❖CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Step out in faith, trusting that the God who has called you holds you in love and is able to keep you from falling.

May the steadfast love and faithfulness of God surround you;

the peace of Christ enfold you;

and the Holy Spirit encourage you, now and forever.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year A, Vol. 2*
