

**LENT 5 – MIDWEEK
MARCH 25, 2026**

Theme of the Day: A good pilot knows how to get people safely through the storm and all the way home. This is true for Job. And all the more so, it is true for **us!**

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Call to Worship (*Based upon Job 19:23-27*)

Pastor: Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll.

People: That they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever!

Pastor: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

People: And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God.

Pastor: I myself will see him with my own eyes, I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

All: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Hymn #423 **JESUS, REFUGE OF THE WEARY** (stanzas 1-2)

Jesus, refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended,
Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended,
You have borne the pain of all.

Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,
See Your thorn encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner's deep distress.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: God of thundering glory and wondrous love.

People: You laid the earth's foundation.

Pastor: You marked off its dimensions.

People: You laid its cornerstone.

Pastor: You shut the sea behind doors.

People: And so to you we lay bare the thoughts and desires of our hearts.

Pastor: We have sinfully insisted that we are in control.

People: We are bound to fatal attractions that lead us to think that we are in charge.

Pastor: From the midst of our storm hear our broken cries.

People: For we have no other hope.

Pastor: The God who is with Job in his storm is the same God who in Christ joins you in your storm. Jesus died on a cross, bled for your sins and hung forsaken by his Father. Because of Jesus you are cleansed, healed, forgiven and made new.

All: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Hymn #423 **JESUS, REFUGE OF THE WEARY** (stanza 3)

Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning
To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever,
Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. God of magnificent power and might, just as you spoke to Job in the storm, speak now in our storms so that we have courage for the living of these days; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS REFLECT THE THEME OF GOD SPEAKING IN THE STORM

Old Testament Reading Job 38:1-11

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:

²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?
³Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. ⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, “In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Luke 8:22-25

²²One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side of the lake.” So they set out, ²³and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. ²⁴And they went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we are perishing!” And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm. ²⁵He said to them, “Where is your faith?” And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?”

Lector: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN #589 SPEAK, O LORD, YOUR SERVANT LISTENS

Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens,
Let Your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me,
Let each promise still my fear.
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife,
Wars against Your Word of life;
Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor
That I cling to You forever!

Oh, what blessing to be near You
And to listen to Your voice;
Let me ever love and hear You,
Let Your Word be now my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord,
Flee in terror at Your Word;
But to all who feel sin's burden
You give words of peace and pardon.

Lord, Your words are waters living
When my thirsting spirit pleads.
Lord, Your words are bread life-giving;
On Your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, Your words will be my light
Through death's cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing
And my cup of joy unailing!

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
Let Your words in me take root.
May Your Spirit e'er be near me
That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing Your praise,
From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given
In the endless joy of heaven.

Sermon: "Job: Blessed be the Name of the Lord"

A Good Pilot
(Job 28:1-11)

Sermon Notes

A good _____ knows how to get _____ safely through the storm.

Job wants an _____. God gives a _____.

"Then the LORD **answered** Job **in** the storm." (Job 38:1)

Outline of Job 38–41

God's *control* over the _____ (Job 38)

God's *control* over _____ (Job 39)

God's *control* over _____ and _____ (Job 40–41)

Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Offerings

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Father, you inhabit eternity.

People: The heavens declare your glory and the earth announces your beauty.

Pastor: Your presence fills the universe and yet in Christ you come to us with compassion and mercy.

People: Help us find light in our darkness.

Pastor: Joy in our sorrow.

People: Healing in our sickness.

Pastor: And your great grace that covers a multitude of our sins.

People: We surrender control to you.

Pastor: Trusting that you will get us safely through the storm and all the way home.

+ Additional Prayers +

Pastor: Dear Father, hold us tight in your fierce love, a love that gives sense to all our days, and hope to all our years. We pray in Christ's holy name.

All: Amen.

Benediction (Based upon Job 1:21)

Pastor: The LORD gives.

People: And the LORD takes away.

Pastor: Blessed be the name of the LORD.

People: Yes, blessed be the name of the LORD!

Pastor: And so we go forth confidently in the name of our LORD.

People: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn #722 LORD, TAKE MY HAND AND LEAD ME

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way:
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

Silent Prayer: Lord, be the Pilot of my life and take my hand daily and lead me by your Word.

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Organist

Pastor Michael Schumacher
Pastor Harold Bender
Grant Gundersen, Debbie Nier
Deaconess Carole King