



Welcome to Zumbro Lutheran Church!

This fall our sermon series is “Searching for Hope During Turbulent Times.”

In this week’s sermon, Pastor Vern focuses on the inevitable hardships that come our way, but also on the perspective and growth that might come as a result of them.

GATHERING MUSIC

LAND OF REST
HANDBELL QUARTET WITH PIANO

ARR. ANNE KRENTZ ORGAN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

POEM

GOD’S WAY FOR ME

GERHARD FROST

L: The profoundest thing
one can say of a river
is that it is on its way to the sea.

**C: The deepest thought
one can think of persons
is that they are citizens of eternity.**

L: Moments and years,
years and moments,
pass like sea-bent streams.
And I? I’m carried on the current
of an all-possessing love.
I’m on my way, God’s way for me,
so let it be.

HYMN

SHELTER ME

MICHAEL JONCAS

A Prayer-Song in the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
Songleader on the verses; all on refrain

Shepherd and sheep, my God and I:
to fresh green fields you led my steps in days gone by.
You gave me rest by quiet springs
and filled my soul with peace your loving presence brings.

Refrain **O shelter me, O shelter me:
The way ahead is dark and difficult to see.
O shelter me, O shelter me:
All will be well if only you will shelter me.**

Yet now I tread a diff’rent way;
Death dogs my path with stealthy steps from day to day.
I cannot find your peaceful place
But dwell in dreary darkness, longing for your face. *Refrain*

I will look back in days to come
and realize your faithfulness has led me home.
Within your house I’ll find my peace,
trusting that in your mercy you have sheltered me. *Refrain*

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Strengthening God,

C: **so often we go through times of hardship. When we do, protect us from danger and harm. Guide us into light and truth. In the midst of our struggles, work in us to produce endurance, character, and hope. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

ROMANS 5:1-5 NRSV

¹Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

L: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: **Thanks be to God.**

STORYTIME (8:30AM)

PASTOR JASON BRYAN-WEGNER

SERMON

GROWING THROUGH HARDSHIP

PASTOR VERN CHRISTOPHERSON

HYMN

CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER

**Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.**

**God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.**

APOSTLES' CREED

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

LE P'ING (GREET THE RISING SUN)

ARR. ANNE KRENTZ ORGAN

HANDBELL QUARTET WITH PIANO

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

After each petition the congregation responds:

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

L: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust them to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever Amen.

BLESSING

L: Sheltering God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C: Amen.

HYMN

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."**

**"Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."**

SENDING

L: People of Zumbro, what is our mission?

C: Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

SENDING MUSIC

A JOYFUL PEAL
HANDBELL QUARTET

MICHAEL BEDFORD

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

- Curt Johnson
- Michael Pittenger
- Barb Turner

SYMPATHY TO:

Lester (Dianna) Horntvedt on the death of his sister, Muriel Cartwright

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

PROCLAIMER-Pastor Vern Christopherson; **WORSHIP ASSISTANT**-Pastor Shelley Cunningham; **LECTOR**-Rob Nesse;
STORYTIME-Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner; **PIANIST**-Kristy Giere; **HANDBELL QUARTET**-Dorothy Bacon, Leah Holmes,
Joyce McFadden, Christine Williams; **SONGLEADER**-Janette Reeves

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