

**Sunday June 20, 2021**  
**Peace: Not a Simple Stone Story**

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

**Leader:** It's awesome when all of the people live together in unity!

**People:** **When waters are rough,  
We hold each other tightly.  
When the sea begins to swallow us,  
We hold each other tightly and call on God.**

**Leader:** But we also need God and each other when there are no looming waves.

**People:** **We can splash and play in the shallow end  
And venture into deeper waters with trusted friends.  
Delighting in refreshing currents of community  
And savoring each burst of laughter,  
Let's invite others to join in the fun!**

**Opening Prayer** **Unison**

**Ever-living God, you are like the sea:  
Powerful and endless,  
yet soothing and constant.  
Let us feel your refreshing presence  
as we gather near your waters  
to wade in the possibilities of life  
that you offer us this day. Amen.**

**Hymn #488: Be Still My Soul**  
*(Please see separate attachment for the score)*

*Hymn Leader: Ken Littlefield*

1) Be still, my soul: for God is on your side;  
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to your God to order and provide;  
in every change God faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: your best eternal friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2) Be still, my soul: for God will undertake  
to guide in future days as in the past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.  
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know  
how Jesus' power ruled them long ago.

3) Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here  
when we shall be with God whom we adore,  
with disappointment, no grief nor fear,  
sorrow replaced with joy forevermore.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,  
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

### Prayer of Confession **Unison**

**O God, sometimes we are like David, and sometimes Goliath:  
forgive us for our two-sided nature.  
We face the powerful with righteous anger,  
but cling to any sense of power that we attain.  
We are grateful when grace is extended to us,  
yet remain absent-minded of this when others have wronged us.  
We treat our own as family, yet ignore sisters and brothers  
whom we see only from a distance.  
As people of paradox, we long for oneness with ourselves and others,  
with Christ and creation,  
so that justice and love may flow freely.**

*Moments for Reflection and Silence*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

God's grace washes upon the turbulent shores of our lives;  
and we are forgiven to begin again  
to live at peace with ourselves and others,  
with Christ and creation,  
allowing justice and love to flow freely through our lives.

### **Passing of the Peace**

Pastor:       The Peace of Christ be with you  
People:       **And also with you!**

**1 Samuel 17 excerpts (NIV)**

17:1a Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle;

....

17:4 And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

17:5 He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze.

....

17:8 He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me.

17:9 If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us."

....

17:20 David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry.

17:21 Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army.

....

17:32 David said to Saul, "Let no one's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."

17:33 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."

17:34 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,

17:35 I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth;

....

17:37 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!"

17:38 Saul clothed David with his armor; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail.

17:39 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.

17:40 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.

17:41 The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him.

17:42 When the Philistine looked and saw David, he despised him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance.

....

17:45 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.

....

17:48 When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine.

17:49 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.

## **Special Music**

Ken Littlefield

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Mark 4:35-41 (NIV)**

4:35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side."

4:36 And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him.

4:37 A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped.

4:38 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?"

4:39 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.

4:40 He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"

4:41 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?"

## **Musical Interlude**

**Sermon: Peace: Not a Simple Stone Story**

## **Music for Meditation**

## **Prayers of the People**

**Hymn #508 Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire (verses 1 and 5)**

**Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, unuttered or expressed;  
The motion of a hidden fire that trembles in the breast.  
O Christ, by whom we come to God, the Life, the Truth, the Way,  
The path of prayer you too have trod: Christ, teach us how to pray.**

## **Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer **Unison****

## **Offering Invitation**

O God, you have offered unique gifts to each one of us.  
Teach us to celebrate and share those gifts  
so that we may create communities of graciousness and love.  
Through Jesus, we are reminded of the difference  
that an individual contribution can make.  
Let us offer our gifts generously for the service of all.

**Offering and Dedication **Unison****

**Bighearted God,  
we ask you to take these gifts, bless them, and use them  
to calm storms and create in our communities  
new, imaginative, and life-giving streams. Amen.**

**Benediction **Unison****

**We are the waters in which God swims!  
Through the currents, crashing waves, and depths of the unknown,  
a Holy Presence remains.  
May God continue charting new courses and ways of being in the world  
that unites creation in a collective call of  
"Peace! Be still!"**