



Spirit Worship Holy Spirit @ Home

September 13, 2020
10:00 A.M.

A dramatic seascape with waves crashing on a sandy beach under a stormy sky with lightning. The waves are a mix of white and green, crashing onto a golden sand beach. The sky is dark and grey, with several bright, jagged lightning bolts striking down. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

A dramatic seascape with waves crashing on a sandy beach under a stormy sky with lightning. The scene is captured from a low angle, looking out over the ocean. The waves are a mix of white foam and deep blue-green water, crashing onto a wide, golden-brown sandy beach. The sky is dark and overcast, with several bright, jagged lightning bolts striking down from the clouds. The overall mood is powerful and awe-inspiring.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us in worship

Gathering Music

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Schaeder

Megan McCormick, flute

Amazing Grace

https://youtu.be/HsCp5LG_zNE

Album - Celebration: 15 Years of Music & Magic



Gathering

Welcome & Announcements

Worship will begin shortly

Gathering Psalm 103:1-8

With all my heart I praise the Lord,
And, with all that I am, I praise God's holy name!
With all my heart I praise the Lord!

I will never forget how kind God has been.

The Lord forgives our sins, heals us when we are sick,
and protects us from death.

God's kindness and love are a crown on our heads.

Gathering Psalm *(continued)*

Each day that we live, God provides for our needs
and gives us the strength of a young eagle.

For all who are mistreated, the Lord brings justice.

The Lord taught the Law to Moses
and showed all Israel what divine power made possible.

The Lord is merciful!

God is kind and patient; God's love never fails.

Gathering Song: *Awesome God*

Mullins

Musical Leadership: Vi Ballard, Doreen Micheletti, Dave Rishel

**Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above;
with wisdom pow'r and love
our God is an awesome God.**

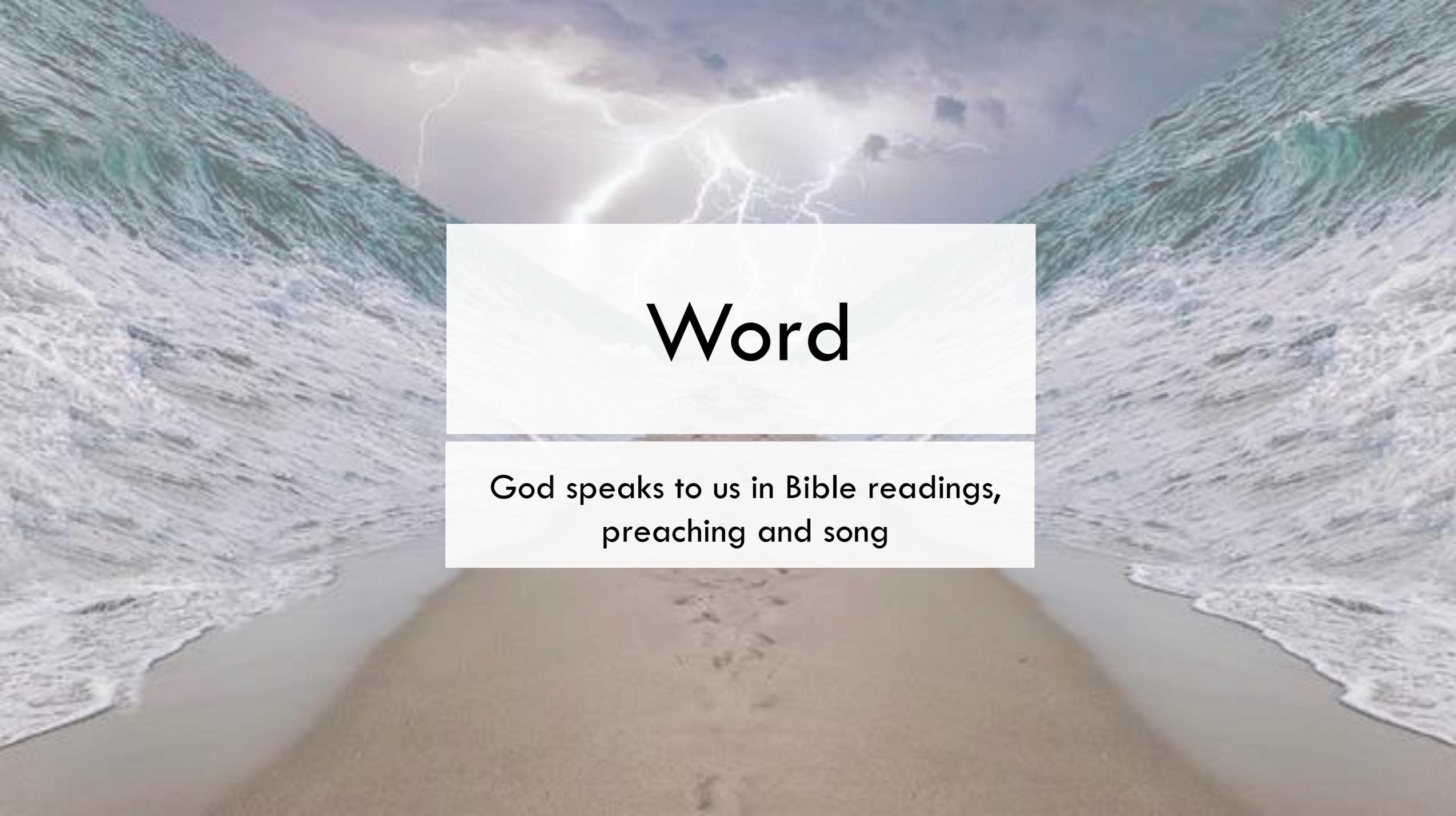
Repeat three times

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together.

**O Lord God, merciful judge,
you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.
Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you,
that we may delight in doing your will,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

A dramatic seascape with waves crashing on a sandy beach under a stormy sky with lightning. The image is split vertically, with the left side showing a close-up of a wave and the right side showing a wider view of the beach and ocean. The sky is dark and cloudy, with several bright lightning bolts striking down. The water is a mix of deep blue and white foam from the waves.

Word

God speaks to us in Bible readings,
preaching and song

First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31

Emma Nesfeder – Reader

Contemporary English Version (CEV)

A reading from Exodus, the 14th chapter.

*(After eating the Passover meal,
God's people fled Egypt and headed for the Red Sea.
The Egyptian army pursued them, closing in as Israel reached the edge of the sea.)*

All this time God's angel had gone ahead of Israel's army,
but now he moved behind them.

A large cloud had also gone ahead of them,
but now it moved between the Egyptians and the Israelites.

The cloud gave light to the Israelites, but made it dark for the Egyptians,
and during the night they could not come any closer.

First Reading *(continued)*

Moses stretched his arm over the sea,
and the Lord sent a strong east wind that blew all night
until there was dry land where the water had been.

The sea opened up, and the Israelites walked through on dry land
with a wall of water on each side.

First Reading *(continued)*

The Egyptian chariots and cavalry went after them.

But before daylight, the Lord looked down at the Egyptian army from the fiery cloud and made them panic.

Their chariot wheels got stuck,
and it was hard for them to move.

So the Egyptians said to one another,

“Let’s leave these people alone!

The Lord is on their side and is fighting against us.”

First Reading *(continued)*

The Lord told Moses, “Stretch your arm toward the sea – the water will cover the Egyptians and their cavalry and chariots.”

Moses stretched out his arm, and at daybreak the water rushed toward the Egyptians.

They tried to run away, but the Lord drowned them in the sea.

The water came and covered the chariots, the cavalry, and the whole Egyptian army that had followed the Israelites into the sea.

But the sea had made a wall of water on each side of the Israelites; so they walked through on dry land.

First Reading *(continued)*

On that day, the Israelites knew that the Lord had saved them.
Because of the mighty power God had used against the Egyptians,
the Israelites worshiped him and trusted him and his servant Moses.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Becky Keane – Reader

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

A reading from Romans, the 14th chapter.

The Apostle writes:

Welcome those who are weak in faith,
but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.
Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.
Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat;
for God has welcomed them.

Second Reading *(continued)*

Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?

It is before their own lord that they stand or fall.

And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another,
while others judge all days to be alike.

Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

Second Reading *(continued)*

Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord.

Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Second Reading *(continued)*

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?

Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?

For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

NRSV

The Good News from Matthew, the 18th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

Then Peter came and said to Jesus,
“Lord, if another member of the church sins against me,
how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?”

Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Gospel *(continued)*

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

Gospel *(continued)*

“So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying,
‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’
And out of pity for him,
the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

“But that same slave, as he went out,
came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;
and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’

Gospel *(continued)*

“Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

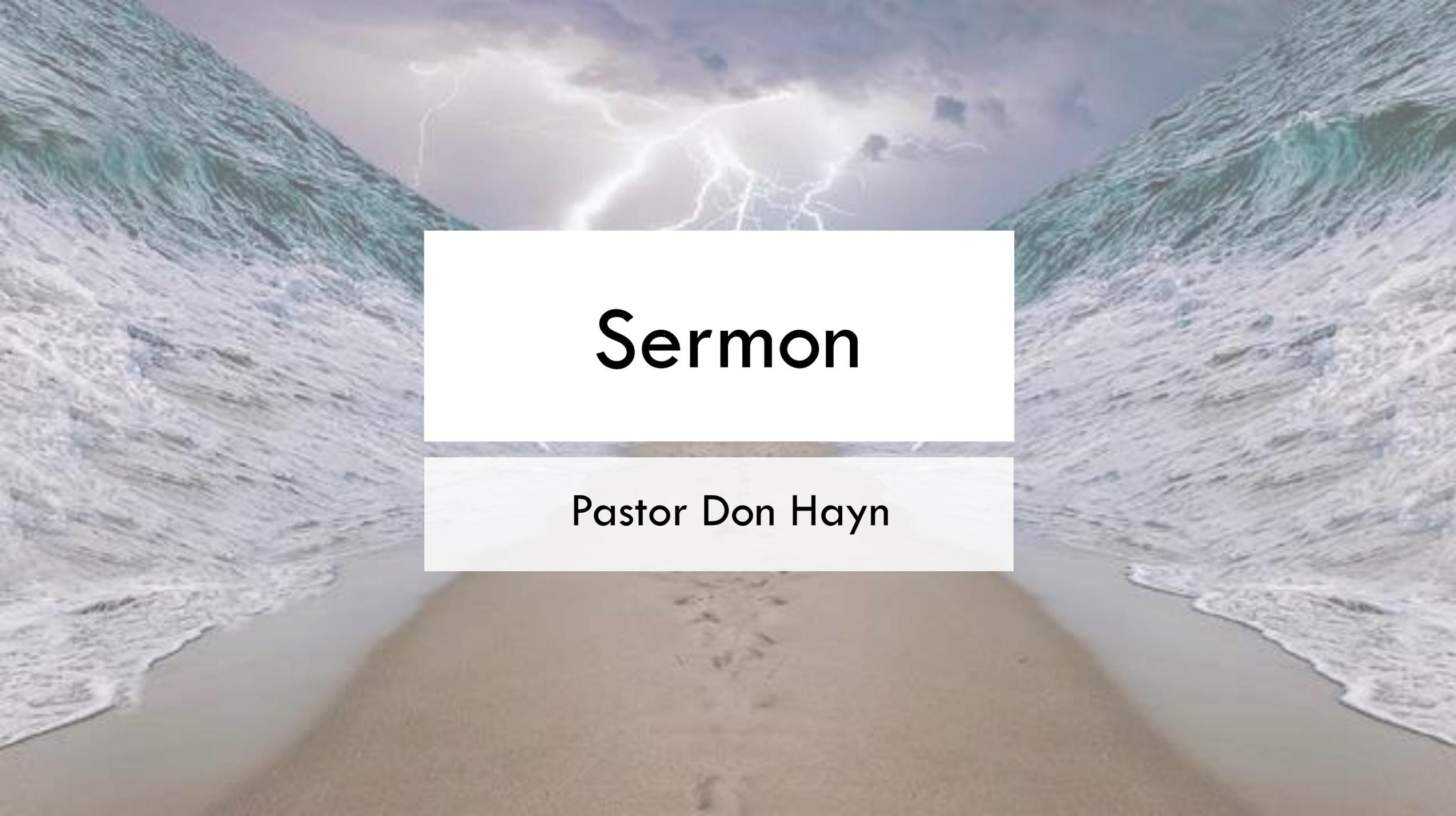
“When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

Gospel *(continued)*

“Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

“So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

This is the Good News! **Thanks be to God! Hallelujah!**



Sermon

Pastor Don Hayn

Word in Song: *When We Are Living*

Musical Leadership: Vi Ballard, Doreen Micheletti, Dave Rishel

ELW Hymn 639

**Verse 1: When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.**

**Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

**Verse 2: 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

Word in Song *(continued)*

**Verse 3: Across the wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind;
and when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

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Affirmation

Let us affirm our mission.

**Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.**

Prayers of the People

Lorie Stout Sherman – Assisting Minister

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

After each petition:

○ God, you are full of compassion; **receive our prayer.**

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

Respond to God's Gifts

thank you!

During this period of remote church services, we have many ways to give.

1. Give by Text (610-981-1312),
2. Enroll in Simply Giving
3. Mail a check to the church office, 3461 Cedar Crest Blvd., Emmaus, PA 18049
4. Visit lchsemmaus.org/stewardship/, then clicking on: Give now on-line
5. Download our mobile giving app by searching for "Give+" in either the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Once you have downloaded the app, search on "Lutheran Church of The Holy Spirit". You can immediately donate or choose to set up an account.

Musical Offering

Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)

Casting Crowns

Jeff Gross, soloist

Justin Schaffer, percussion and sound editing

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Meal

In word and meal,
God's grace feeds us

Holy Communion

You may prepare your communion table at home now.

Following the Words of Institution, the Lord's Prayer and Communion Invitation, the presiding minister will say the words first.

While inspirational communion music is played, you may share in communion.

There will be a slide with the words to say during communion.

Word in Meal

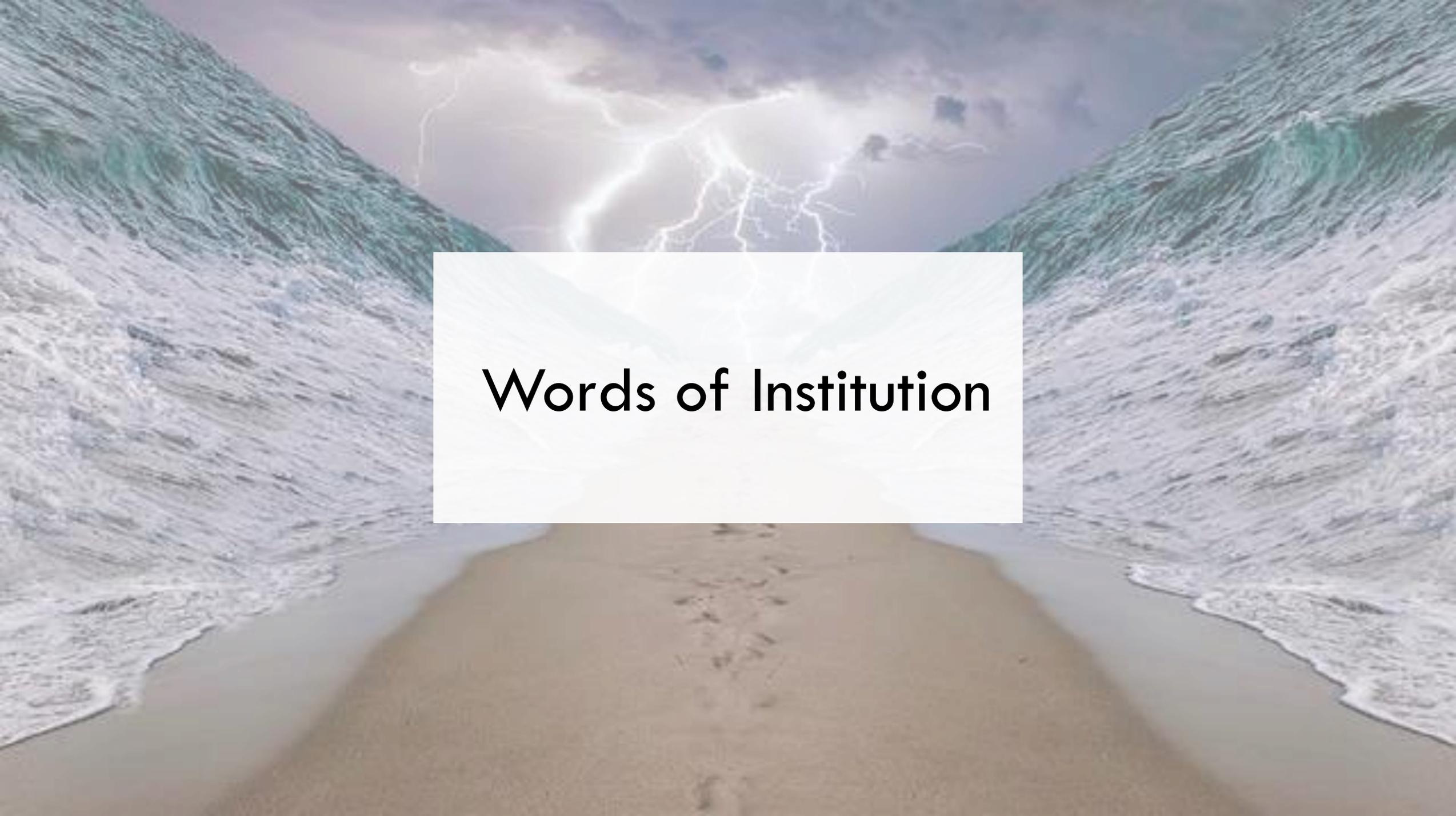
It is good and joyful to sing your praise, God of Moses and Miriam,
for you are majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, glorious in power.

When your children were shackled as Pharaoh's slaves,
you heard their cries, divided the waters of the sea,
and opened the path to freedom on dry ground.

Word in Meal *(continued)*

When your people were captive to the bondage of sin,
you sent your Son, full of your forgiving mercies,
to release us and to send us to share with others
the grace we have ourselves received.

**Sanctify us, who share this meal, to be a sign of hope
in your freeing, redeeming, life-giving promise.**



Words of Institution

Word in Meal *(continued)*

Together as the body of Christ, let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

God of mercy, shape your church

to embody the forgiveness you make possible in Christ.

Draw us into your eternal life,

that, together with your people of every age,

we may give you all glory and honor, world without end.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as 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.

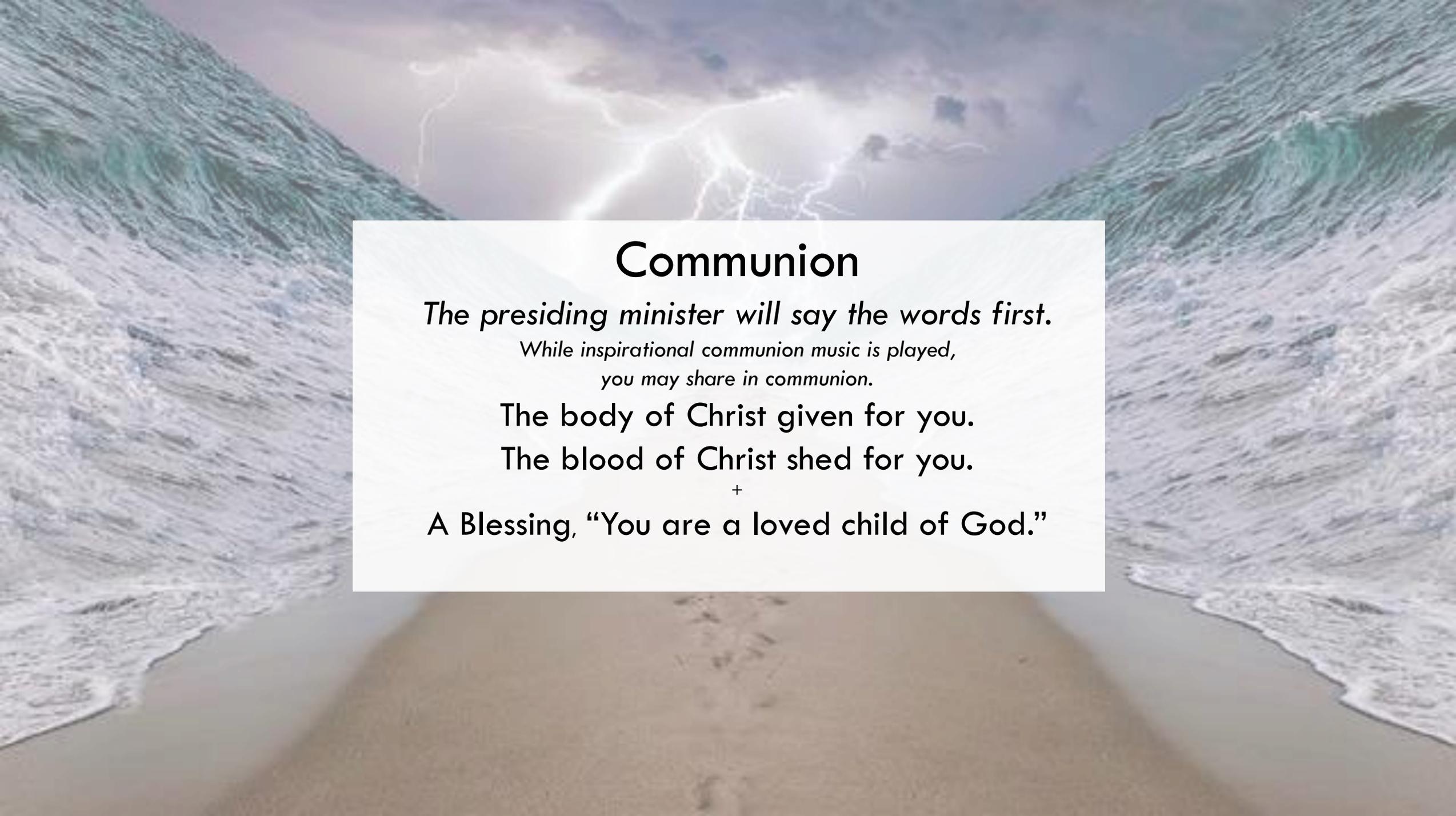
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Sisters and brothers,
taste and see that the Lord is good.

Amen.





Communion

The presiding minister will say the words first.

*While inspirational communion music is played,
you may share in communion.*

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

+

A Blessing, “You are a loved child of God.”



Sending

God blesses us
and sends us in mission to the world.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Holy and compassionate God,
in bread and wine Jesus is present
to live in us as we grow in courage and humility.
May your Word come to life in our serving and in our witness,
that we may speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

Blessing

Go out into the world in peace; be of good courage;
hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak;
help the suffering; honor all people;
love and serve our God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The almighty and merciful God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song: *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

Musical Leadership: Vi Ballard, Doreen Micheletti, Dave Rishel

ELW Hymn 618

**Verse 1: Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**

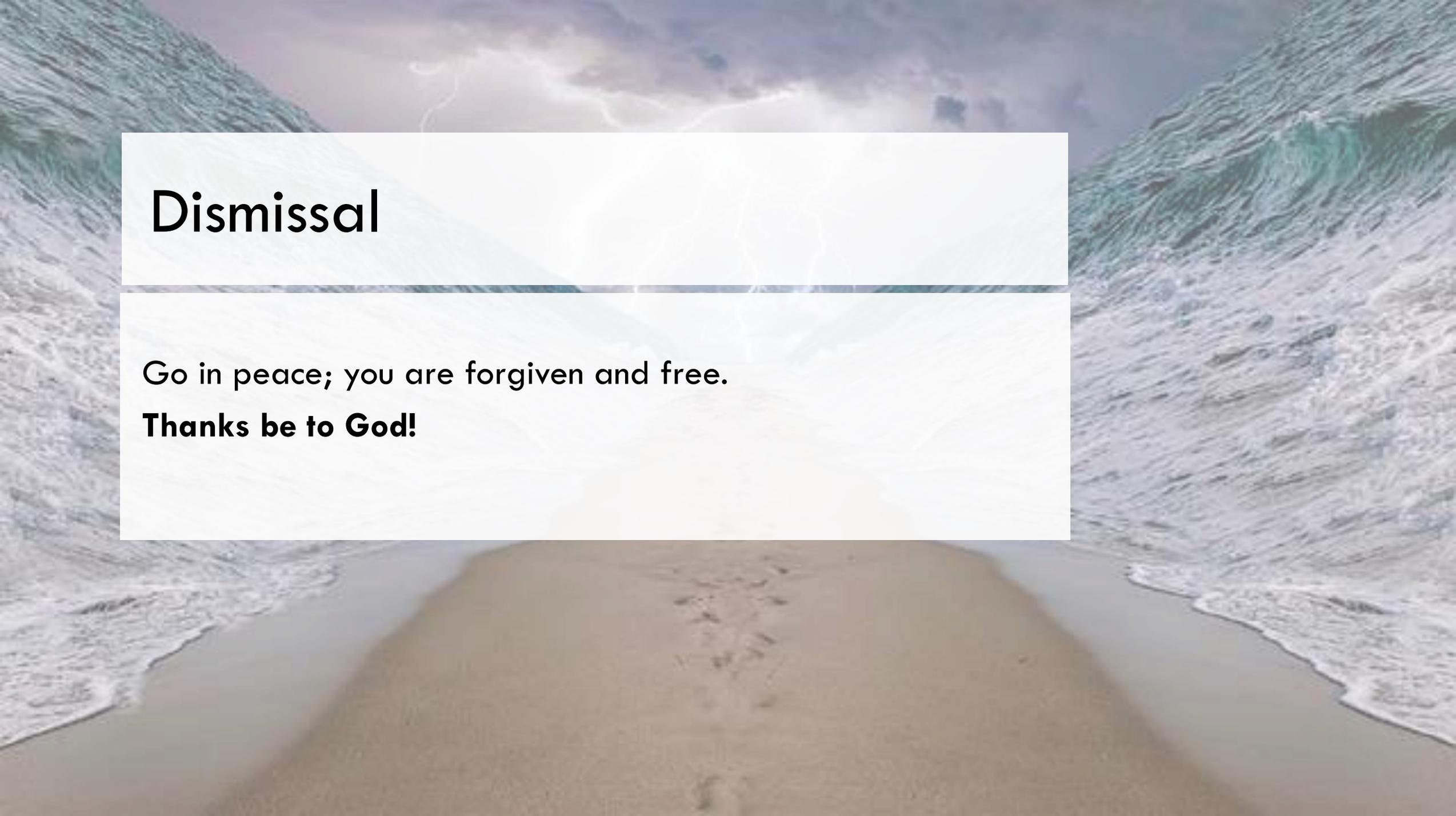
**Verse 2: Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.**

Sending Song: *(continued)*

**Verse 3: When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.**

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A dramatic seascape with a storm brewing over the ocean and a sandy beach in the foreground. The sky is dark and cloudy, with bright lightning bolts striking down. The ocean is turbulent, with large, white-capped waves crashing against the shore. The foreground shows a wide, sandy beach with some faint tracks or markings.

Dismissal

Go in peace; you are forgiven and free.

Thanks be to God!

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Holy Spirit Connections