

Service of Midday Prayer for April 29, 2020  
Unraveled: Seeking God When Our Plans Fall Apart  
Selections from *A Sanctified Art*

Gathering Music

Welcome

Centering in God's Presence

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

May this time be good for us in body, mind, and spirit,  
for we gather in the presence of God, who made us and loves us and will never leave us.  
**Amen.**

Call to Worship

One: Gracious God, we bring you the broken parts of ourselves.  
All: **Hem us in before and behind.**

One: Creator God, we bring you the joyful parts of ourselves.  
All: **Weave us together in hope and praise.**

One: God of new life, we bring you doubt and faith knotted up in our hearts.  
All: **Unravel our doubt. Weave faith into our hearts.  
Draw us together and point us toward you.**

One: In hope and faith we pray. In hope and faith we worship.  
All: **Amen.**

Hymn                      *Come and Fill Our Hearts*

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace,  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,  
Alleluia!*

Scripture    Matthew 14:22-33 *Peter Sinks in the Water*

Reflection    Unraveled by Uncertainty

Sung Response 184    *Calm to the Waves*

*Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Jesus whispers, "Peace, be still."  
Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In stillness, hear his voice.*

Prayers of Concern & Lord's Prayer

*Response to each petition:*

Hear our cry, O God. **Listen to our prayer.**

*Concluding Prayer*

God of the wind and the sea,  
You invite us to be brave, but we are more familiar with fear.  
You invite us to trust you, but we'd rather trust wind and gravity.  
You invite us to believe in ourselves, but we have never been good at that.  
You invite us to move - to change and take a risk -  
But we stay planted where we are, afraid of the ways growth might hurt.  
Thank you for forgiving us of our self-doubt and fear.  
Thank you for always reaching out to us.  
Thank you for walking with us.  
We believe, despite our unbelief.

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray together saying...

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God, the Great Sewer—  
Who weaves us together in community,  
Collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit—  
Who hems us in before and behind,  
Catching us when we fall and writing us into God's holy narrative.**

**And I believe in Jesus Christ—  
Who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out, refusing to disregard  
anyone as scrap.**

**I believe God has woven part of God's self into the fiber of our being,  
Making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.  
I believe the fabric of my life is weak,  
That I am prone to error and need God's handiwork to remind me of love.**

**I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics,  
She is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation.**

**And I believe that when life unravels,  
God is there to stitch my wounds together,  
To hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love,  
And to invite me into a new journey.  
Amen.**

Hymn

*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*