

Sunday, April 16, 2023

## Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

*Sometimes Jesus calms the storm. Other times, Jesus calms me. —Anon.*

Some time ago, I met a couple in their late 20s or early 30s, and they had a sailboat. They had turned into the harbor of the small town where we live on the Oregon coast to wait for better weather and to get some provisions for the next leg of their journey.

Their voyage started from a port somewhere in the Straits of Juan de Fuca up by Vancouver Island, and they were headed for San Francisco, and thence to San Diego and then to Mexico.

It was a tough life, yet a rewarding one. They spent many days on the open seas, always alert for changing weather conditions or the occasional crab pot floating like jetsam on the ocean. A squall or major storm might catch them despite the advanced radar technology and other monitoring devices they had onboard.

They kept a blog and called it “Sailing to Sunshine.”

I love the title. In some ways, this describes one’s life journey, does it not? We’re sailing to sunshine. Even when we are caught in a storm of adversity, we’re sailing to sunshine. We know the storm will pass; we know that if we stay the course, we will find harbor; we know that behind these clouds and beyond the storm there is sunshine.

And what’s more, we know who is at the helm, steering our frail craft through treacherous shoals. It is the same One who stood in a boat during a squall on the Sea of Galilee and said to the wind and the waves, “Peace! Be still!” (Mark 4:39). Hear the voice of 19<sup>th</sup>-century cleric, Edward Hopper, who was the pastor for many years of Sag Harbor Presbyterian Church on Long Island, and the Church of Sea and Land, in New York City, a church for sailors.

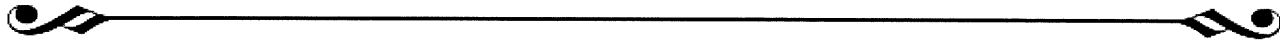
*Jesus, Savior, pilot me, / Over life’s tempestuous sea:  
Unknown waves before me roll, / Hiding rocks and treach’rous shoal;  
Chart and compass come from Thee, / Jesus, Savior, pilot me!*

*When at last I near the shore, / And the fearful breakers roar  
'Twi’x me and the peaceful rest, / Then, while leaning on Thy breast,  
May I hear Thee say to me, / “Fear not – I will pilot thee!”*

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Increase my faith, Lord, so that I might steadily sail to sunshine. Thank you for being my Pilot and Captain! Amen.*

*Happy Holy Humor Sunday!  
Lisa & Pastor Ben Mote*



**Daily Bible Readings**  
**Sunday:** Luke 10-13  
**Monday:** Judges 9-12  
**Tuesday:** Judges 13-15  
**Wednesday:** Judges 16-18  
**Thursday:** Judges 19-21  
**Friday:** 1 Samuel 1-3  
**Saturday:** Psalms 40-42

## FISHY WORDS

There's something fishy about these words. What is it?  
See answer below.

CARPET
CODES
SPIKED
SOLEMN

## RUTH

Last week, we read the book of Ruth. Let's review. It is a very moving love story. The words to the right are in the Word Search, and they are all from the book of Ruth. Can you find them?

He is  
**RISEN**

B A W O N N I W S L S Z D R V  
 D E B O T B A O M H X Q A I R  
 X W T Q Y R L M C X G G V O P  
 N A A H A R V E S T E B I Z B  
 P O V M L S L A D N A S D N B  
 O G V N Z E R F I R I L S B F  
 N A N O M U H V L M M K S E J  
 L G O I M D L E O C F G H I J  
 C L L L H L Y A M B H L O Y A  
 E E H I F S N A E T F R B O D  
 S A A K F B E G U G P W E P S  
 N N M W X E V R R A A R M M J  
 E I G D J U D A H J E E W S G  
 A N X P E M Z I S T W K V H O  
 W G L H V I Z N U C I T V H K

Barley, Bethlehem, Boaz, David, Elimelech, gleaning, grain, harvest, Jesse, Judah, Kilion, kinsman, Mahlon, Mara, Moab, Naomi, Obed, Orpah, Ruth, sandals, threshing, vinegar, winnow.

### RIDDLE

What is greater than God,  
more evil than the devil?  
The poor have it, the rich need it,  
and if you eat it, you'll die?

**Fish:** carp, cod, pike, sole; **Riddle:** *Nothing* is greater than God, and *nothing* is more evil than the devil. The poor have *nothing*, while the rich need *nothing*. Finally, if you eat *nothing*, you will die. This riddle is known as Paul Harvey's riddle.