

# Blind Faith in God Leads to Miracles

*Every Time*

A bouquet of several tulips with pink and white petals and yellow centers, arranged in a white vase. The flowers are set against a light, neutral background.

**The Congregational UCC  
August 9 , 2020**

**Church service 8/9/20**  
**The 10th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Music: Chris Lindee,**  
**Youth: Charlotte Gillen, Office: Rae Wooldridge**

**Today's Message by**  
**Abby Betzold**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Hymn #697 "In Christ there is no East or West" Vs 1-4**

1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In him shall true hearts everywhere  
their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord  
close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as his child  
is surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west;  
in him meet north and south;  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

**Call to Worship**

Leader: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!

**People: Let us proclaim with our lips that Jesus is Lord, and show by our actions that we mean it!**

L: The scripture says, "No one who believes in Jesus will be put to shame."

**P: We are all brothers and sisters in Christ--let us stand together in his praise.**

**All: O God of the morning, let your spirit come on us here gathered. This is a holy place where we, your people, call, on you in faith, joining heart and voice in thanksgiving and praise to your name. Amen.**

### **Scripture Readings:**

#### **Romans 10: 5-15**

<sup>5</sup> For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup> But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup> "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

<sup>14</sup> How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? <sup>15</sup> And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

#### **Matthew 14:22-33**

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they

were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup> And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

## **Children's Moment: Walking on Water? Really?**

### **Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer**

Holy One, Hear our prayer as we pour out our joys, hopes, and our pain.

We thank you for the joys of the week.

We pray for your presence for those who suffer in mind, body, and spirit.

We pray for Justice and Peace in the world, and for those oppressed.

We pray for wisdom and patience in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

We pray for the Church, that it can be a shining light in time of darkness.

We pray for ourselves, that we may have courage and creativity to meet the day.

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught us.

### **Prayer Response: # 817 "Hear our Prayer, O Lord**

Hear our prayer, O Lord,  
hear our prayer, O Lord;  
incline thine ear to us,  
and grant us thy peace.  
Amen.

## Offertory

## Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**Dedication:** *in unison*

***ALL: Holy One: Blessed are you, who entrust to our care and use all the richness of creation. Through our offering we return a portion of that which you have given us. May this be a means of serving you in the mission to which you have called us, through Jesus Christ. Amen.***

## Hymn # 641 "All The Way My Savior Leads Me" vs 1&2

1 All the way my Savior leads me;  
what have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt His tender mercy,  
who through life has been my guide?  
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,  
here by faith in him to dwell,  
for I know, whate'er befall me,  
Jesus doeth all things well;  
for I know, whate'er befall me,  
Jesus doeth all things well.

2 All the way my Savior leads me,  
cheers each winding path I tread,  
gives me grace for every trial,  
feeds me with the living bread;  
though my weary steps may falter,  
and my soul athirst may be,  
gushing from the rock before me,  
lo! a spring of joy I see;  
gushing from the rock before me,  
lo! a spring of joy I see.

## Sermon: Real Faith Without Sight

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Thanks be to you, O God, from the beginning you have entrusted us with your word and have called us to give heart, mind, voice, and love, to serving truth, even as Jesus Christ brought it to life among us. Amen.

### Closing Hymn #9. "Sing Praise To The Fallen" Vs.1&2

1 Sing praise to the Father, Creator and King,  
whose mercy has taught us a new song to sing;  
who made us, and loved us tho' rebels and lost,  
and planned our redemption at infinite cost.

[Refrain:]

Bless the Lord, bless the Lord, bless the Lord, O my soul,  
for the grace that redeems, for the love that makes whole;  
O come and adore him, his glories proclaim,  
and worship before him—the Lord is his name!

2 Sing praise to the Savior, Redeemer, and Friend,  
for grace past all telling, for love without end;  
who stripped off his glory, put on mortal sin,  
and died in our stead, full atonement to win. (Refrain)

**Benediction** May God's Holy Spirit lead you. *May God's strength protect you. May God's peace be with you. Go now in the name of God, by the Grace of Christ, and with the presence of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### Threefold Amen

## **YOUTH NEWS:**

### **Welcome to Summer Youth Group!**

All kids entering grades 5-12 in the fall are invited to join us for youth group each Wednesday from 4-7pm. Supper will be provided. Please see Charlotte for a revised parent permission slip that **MUST** be signed in order to participate.

### **Upcoming events:**

Wednesday August 12th - Please join us from 4-7pm for a Scavenger hunt, picnic in the park & youth group.

Sunday August 16th - Please bring a lawn chair and join us for our 10am outdoor worship service.

Wednesday August 19th - Please join us from 4-7pm as we rehearse for our upcoming youth worship service (held on Sunday August 23rd)

**Sunday August 23rd - Youth Worship Service. Please arrive at church by 9:30am. All youth who participate are invited to join us for a FREE Dairy Queen lunch at the park following worship. Parent pick up time is 12:30pm at Congo Church.**

Wednesday August 26th - Please join us from 4-7pm for a bonfire and hot dog roast as we enjoy our summer fun finale before school starts!

Sunday August 30th - Please bring a lawn chair and join us for our 10am outdoor worship service.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Serving Christ with you,

Charlotte Gillen

Youth Director

Amery Congregational Church

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**TRUSTING GOD IS LIKE  
PETER WALKING ON WATER**

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**AS SOON AS YOU STOP TRUSTING HIM  
YOU START SINKING**



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