

RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 85: 8-13

ALL: I will not be afraid, for the Lord is with me.

West: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

East: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

ALL: I will not be afraid, for the Lord is with me.

West: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

East: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

ALL: I will not be afraid, for the Lord is with me.

West: The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

East: Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.

ALL: I will not be afraid, for the Lord is with me.

LESSON – 1 Kings 19: 9-13a

Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. The word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Elijah answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

A voice said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

When Elijah heard this, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came to him the voice of the Lord.

GOSPEL – Matthew 14: 22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds whom he had been teaching and had just fed. After he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray.

When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking on the sea toward the boat with his disciples. When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.

But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

He said, "Come."

So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."