



**COLLECT, READINGS AND REFLECTION**  
**SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2026 – Trinity 10**

**COLLECT**

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,  
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;  
and that they may obtain their petitions  
make them to ask such things as shall please you;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Psalm 85. 8-13**

- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God will say, ♦  
for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,  
that they turn not again to folly.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, ♦  
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth are met together, ♦  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth ♦  
and righteousness look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed give all that is good, ♦  
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him ♦  
and direct his steps in the way.

## **A reading from the letter to the Romans, chapter 10, verses 5-15.**

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) 'or "Who will descend into the abyss?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

'The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart'

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**At Morning Prayer, the Gospel is simply the second reading, people sit to hear it and is introduced in the same way as the first:**

The second reading is from Matthew, chapter 14, verses 22-33.

**and then at the end:**

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**For Eucharists/ Communion people stand to hear the Gospel. Everywhere except Fitz introduces it with an Acclamation (the blue bit), and then we all use the introduction and ending (the green bit):**

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord. I know them, and they follow me.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew, Chapter 14, verses 22-33.

**Glory to you, O Lord**

**And then at the end:**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And 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 towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, 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 towards 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 worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

## ***A Reflection from Dave***

Learning to walk is a wobbly business. If you have seen a baby take their first steps it is both amazing and terrifying. Those same feet that take the miraculous risk of carrying the full weight of that precious little body, are also the inexperienced feet that can, and will, send that body tumbling to the ground. The risk is worth it, even when it leads to falls, bumps, and the inevitable need for a big encouraging hug to keep going! But it is not only that babies learn to take new steps. We all carry ourselves into new situations, learn new skills, and test ourselves with new responsibilities. Sometimes we feel brave, sometimes our fear keeps us in our comfort zone, and what is true in our life experiences, is also true in the life of faith.

Like Peter in our gospel reading, we can feel comfortable in our own boat, that familiar place that seems under our control. That is, until a storm hits us hard! Suddenly, like the disciples, we feel alone, in survival mode. This is not the time to learn something new... Yet our gospel reading shows that it is at this moment that Jesus chooses to teach Peter what it means to walk faithfully.

Jesus knows the storms we all face. As he miraculously walks amongst fierce winds and over the massive waves, he shows himself to be greater than the things that overwhelm us. So often we just want him to still the storm, but he does not do that here, at least not immediately. Instead he makes the storm part of Peter's walk with him, as he calls him out of the safety of his boat, and asks him to come to him, trusting his full weight to stand on the same stormy water that Jesus stands on.

How must that have felt? How often do we let our fear of failure keep us from taking those risky steps with Jesus? The miracle is that Peter tried, and succeeded even briefly, before he sank and cried to Jesus... and found Jesus' hand immediately there, catching him, showing him he had no need to fear or doubt. He would never have known that if he had stayed in the boat and out of the stormy waters.

It is good news that Jesus comes amongst us, overcomes the storms of life and death, and teaches us to walk faithfully with him. Our faith is in that good news, but walking faithfully is also about carrying that good news to others. That is what Paul is saying when he talks in Romans about 'beautiful feet.' They are not beautiful because they have safe, comfortable, or impressive shoes on, but because, like that little baby learning to walk, they are willing to carry the precious news of Jesus to others on our own wobbly, fearful and doubting feet. Feet of faith that may sometimes fail, but may also walk miraculously on water with Jesus.

So whether you feel you are in the safety of the boat, or the wildness of the storm, do not fear, and with your beautiful, wobbly, faithful feet, carry that good news that the Jesus who is greater than every storm is with us, now and forever.