



## BECAUSE GOD

August 9, 2020, 11 am worship

Click the link below to interact live on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HomerUnitedMethodistChurchAlaska/>

OR

Watch the video here: [https://youtu.be/Vwpjm5\\_087c](https://youtu.be/Vwpjm5_087c)

### Centering

- Welcome!
- open your Bible to Matthew and have this Worship Guide handy
- light a candle and breathe deeply for you are on holy ground!

### Prelude

*My Hope Is Built*

Ola Mullikin

WORDS: Edward Mote, 1834  
MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1863  
CCLI Song #25417  
CCLI License # 11365960

### Opening Prayer (B.J. Beu, Abingdon Worship Annual 2020)

Give thanks to the Lord. Call on God's Holy name.

**Rejoice in the Lord. God fills our hearts with joy.**

Give thanks to the Lord. Proclaim God's mighty works.

**Rejoice in the Lord. God's miracles are a wonder to behold.**

Give thanks to the Lord. Trust in God's salvation.

**Rejoice in the Lord. God turns even our failings into glory.**

### BECAUSE GOD<sup>1</sup> Series Introduction

Jesus performed miracle after miracle - feeding, healing, walking on water. We can get caught up in "how" they occurred. What if we're asking the wrong questions? Instead of asking how they happened, what if we ask how can we let them motivate us to live out our faith every day? Why did Jesus perform these miracles? What are we supposed to learn from them? Why were these stories passed down to us? The how is simple: Because God. The why is our motivation to live as people of faith.

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<sup>1</sup> Series from UMC Discipleship Ministries (<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/because-god>)

**Scripture**

Matthew 14:22-33

Will Files

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.<sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake.<sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

28 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, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

The Word is Near You

Pastor Lisa

**Prayers of the People** (Rev. Kate Dunn, 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Presbyterian Church)

God of hope and healing, you promise that in the midst of suffering, you will always be present.

We pray for all who suffer in any way ...

We lift up to you all who are incarcerated ...

We pray for healing for those who are ill ...

Help us, God, as a country ...

In facing conflicts in our own lives ...

And when the way before us seems closed,  
and we do not know what our next step should be,  
lighten our darkness, Lord: make the path plain before us,  
and let us walk beside you with trust and confidence and joy.  
We ask all this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
who taught us to pray.

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

**Offering**

Thank you for your generous donations which support the missions and ministries of the church.

Give online: <https://www.homerumcalaska.org/Donate.html>

Give by check: Homer UMC, 770 East End Road, Homer, AK, 99603

**Benediction**

May God bless you with strength for the journey.  
May Christ lift you from the raging waters of life.  
May the Spirit guide you with hope and promise  
Amen.