



Sunday Service Schedule:

9:00am Worship Service with Holy Communion
10:15am Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
On KLMJ, 104.9: 7:30am The Lutheran Hour
10:15am Worship Service Broadcast

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” Psalm 46:1

To understand this verse and the whole Psalm in its fullness, the first thing you must admit to is your own weakness. Even from the very beginning words, “God is our refuge”. Do you know what that makes us? Refugees. People who cannot rescue or save ourselves. “God is our strength” admits that we have very little strength on our own. So right off the bat in this Psalm we must admit our weakness and that God is our strength; God is our refuge.

“He is our very present help in trouble”. In this, the second part of the verse, in our human weakness, we think that God is just some thought to get us through the day. A way to put a positive spin on things. A simple invisible, guiding force that quietly nudges things in a positive direction. That would portray a weak god. Our God is the TRUE strength and a very present help.

Therefore, we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the sea. Against the greatest nemesis, where you can't even trust the ground you stand on, do you need a god that is a mere warm thought? An idea that gets you through the day? A quiet god that nudges things along in a positive way?

NO. Actually, in our immense weakness, even when nations rage and kingdoms totter, we need a God whose words can melt the trembling mountains. A God that can make wars cease. A God who can burn chariots in fire. A God who can look upon our weakness and command with His voice, to still the trembling mountains and roaring sea, to end the raging, warring nations.

“Be still and know that I AM GOD.” Our weakened selves, sinners broken by sin, bodies that are weak and fall...we don't want a god here to provide warm fuzzy thoughts. We want and have a God who is a true refuge. A God who sent His own Son to take the best shot sinful man could throw at Him. A God who could take the world's chaos, the kind of chaos that would take His own Son, who was thrown helplessly to the wolves, while people chanted “crucify him, crucify him”. The darkest day in human history.

What did God do? He redeemed the world. He provided salvation to sinners. He silenced the powers of hell. And when Jesus rose from the dead, He showed that He was not a god who quietly helps us feel better, or who puts a positive spin on things.

Jesus rose from the dead. A real bodily resurrection. A real flesh and blood resurrection. So that when we are faced with death, we have the real promise from God, whose very voice can melt the earth, whose very voice can call us from our graves to live again, and more than that, to live again with a real bodily resurrection. To be fully healed. Gathered safely in the Kingdom of God. For us, Psalm 46 reminds us, this is a God who is with us. This is the God who is our refuge. This is the God who is our strength.

Pastor

THE TRUMPETER

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WE ARE BROTHERS AND SISTERS UNITED IN FAITH, LOVE, AND FELLOWSHIP.
(Taken from Trinity's Welcome Packet)

