

June 24, 2018

Mark 4:35-41

Summer Festival – hectic, but energizing;
overwhelming, but motivating; stormy, but fun;
and now calm

Could speak about Festival, but other news crowds
in on us

Worship under big tent

Others in makeshift shelters,
afraid
alone
caught in the storm

But, they are so far away.

We are here, together with our faith family, filled
with the warmth of tired muscles and the
satisfaction of work behind us

And, they – they are So. Far. Away.

Making it hard to see, to feel, to know – we are in
the boat together.

Jesus was asleep; exhausted, in need of rest

We are asleep – Exhausted? Filtering out another's
storm? Indifferent?

The disciples question: Do you not care that we are
perishing?

Is this question any less challenging or distressing in
the cries of those calling to us from around the
world?

We are in the boat together

Don't see it?

Inuit and beluga whales – beavers, trout, whales –
connected in web of life

We are connected; together in the boat

So, if caring for the least among us – the homeless,
the refugee, the family on the run – is not your
thing

Then, think about helping yourself

Think about stopping the storm before it swamps
your boat

Altruism or self-serving – your voice, in the name of
Jesus the Christ, has power

Together we can make a change, we can calm the
storm

Jesus' voice challenges me:

Why are you afraid?

Have you still no faith?

It is time to speak up,

Fearful or not

Faith-filled or not

Let us wake up and speak up

Trust me: your fears will subside and your faith will
increase.

May we be blessed with trust in God to raise our
voices: Peace! Be still! Amen.