

Harbor Church, Block Island



Gathered October 23, 1765
Virtual Worship Service for August 16, 2020
Our 255th year

The First Baptist Church of Block Island

Water Street

PO Box D2, Block Island, Rhode Island 02807

Ministers to the World: All Members of the Harbor Church

Rev. Peter P. Preiser, Jr., Pastor

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Website: www.harborchurchblockisland.org

We are an affiliate of the American Baptist Churches, USA

Worship Service for August 16, 2020 at Harbor Church

A VIRTUAL GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude Music

Opening Reflection

Jesus said, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. Let all who would come to God the Father, follow My Way!"

Welcome

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

People: The Lord is the everlasting God, the maker and sustainer of all things.

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

People: God does not faint or grow weary; and the Lord's ways are beyond our understanding.

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

People: God gives power to the fainthearted, and strengthens the powerless.

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

People: Even the young will grow faint and fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall rise up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Song "Grace Alone"

Every promise we can make
Every prayer and step of faith
Every difference we will make
Is only by His grace

Every mountain we will climb
Every ray of hope we shine
Every blessing left behind
Is only by His grace

Chorus

Grace alone which God supplies
Strength unknown He will provide
Christ in us our Cornerstone
We will go forth in grace alone

Every soul we long to reach
Every heart we hope to teach
Everywhere we share His peace
Is only by His grace

Every loving word we say
Every tear we wipe away
Every sorrow turned to praise
Is only by His grace

CCLI Song # 2335524 Jeff Nelson | Scott Wesley Brown
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GOD DRAWS US NEAR

From the moment we awake to face the day ahead, you are with us, through good times and bad, Your presence is enough for our needs. Every day we will praise you, and we will honor you with our lives forever. Throughout the hours of the day, in our travels, in our work, and in our play, you are with us; always providing, always preserving, always protecting. As we lay down to rest at the end of the day, you are with us, as we lay our fears at your feet, Your peace is enough for our every need. Every day we will praise you, and we will honor you with our lives forever and ever, amen.

Disciple's Moment "Following the Trail"

1st Reading Genesis 45:1–15

Joseph's Story: God Provides

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Song "God Will Make A Way"

God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see

He will make a way for me
He will be my guide
Hold me closely to His side
With love and strength
For each new day
He will make a way
He will make a way

By a roadway in the wilderness
He'll lead me
And rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and earth will fade
But His Word will still remain
He will do something new today
Don Moen CCLI Song # 458620
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2nd Reading: Genesis 50:14–21

Joseph's Story Continued: God Preserves

After he had buried his father, Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had gone up with him to bury his father. Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Message: "God Always Makes a Way"

WE RESPOND IN FAITHFULNESS

Musical Meditation

*How can I trust that God will make a way?
What can I do to follow that way today?*

The Offering

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

For Praise

The privilege of gathering for worship once more!
God continues to protect our community
Marcia Merrick, Robbie Hoey, and Don Frageau are recovering

For Passings

Martha L. Smith
Hank Lemoine
Doris Boas – Debbie Howarth’s mother
Neil Lang

For People we Know

Families of Teens involved last week’s motor vehicle fatality, and First Responders on scene
Beth Tengwall’s leg
Peter (Sr.) & Marianne Preiser, Health Concerns
Tom Wiles, Healing, and a season of joyful retirement
Phyllis Lacoste – multiple medical issues
Cindy Pappas’s sister, Lynda – needs liver transplant
Will Young’s friend, Mary Lynn – cancer returned

For our Nation and the World

Those in Beirut, Lebanon recovering from explosion
Violence in Bengaluru, India
Grace toward strangers
Social Equality for All
Cure and vaccine for Covid-19
Those out of work or in economic crisis
For strength and wisdom for our town, regional, and national leaders

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer (“...forgive us our sins”)

Song “Ain't No Mountain High Enough”

Listen baby, ain't no mountain high
Ain't no valley low, ain't no river wide enough baby
If you need me call me no matter where you are
No matter how far, don't worry baby
Just call my name I'll be there in a hurry
You don't have to worry

'Cause baby there ain't no mountain high enough
Ain't no valley low enough
Ain't no river wide enough
To keep me from getting to you babe

Remember the day I set you free
I told you you could always count on me darling
From that day on, I made a vow
I'll be there when you want me
Some way, somehow

'Cause baby there ain't no mountain high enough
Ain't no valley low enough
Ain't no river wide enough
To keep me from getting to you babe

Oh no darling
No wind, no rain
Or winter's cold can stop me baby,
'Cause you are my goal
If you're ever in trouble
I'll be there on the double
Just send for me, oh baby, ha

My love is alive
Way down in my heart
Although we are miles apart
If you ever need a helping hand
I'll be there on the double
Just as fast as I can
Don't you know that there

Ain't no mountain high enough
Ain't no valley low enough
Ain't no river wide enough

To keep me from getting to you babe

Don'tcha know that there
Ain't no mountain high enough
Ain't no valley low enough
Ain't no river wide enough
Ain't no mountain high enough

To keep me from getting to you babe
Marvin Gaye, Tammi Terrell CCLI License # 20007620

Passing of the Peace & Benediction

– *Go in Peace!*

A Special Thank you to Our Worship Team!

Connections

Outdoor Worship Services: Weather permitting, we will hold Outdoor Worship at Harbor Church Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. on the lawn around the pergola. Services will continue to be streamed live online as well. In the event of bad weather, the worship team will live-stream the service from inside the church, but there will be **NO gathering indoors.**

For cancellation due to inclement weather, check the church website and group emails!

Virtual Worship Experience: Sunday Mornings at 10 a.m. via live stream from our Facebook page: Harbor Church – Block Island, RI. (Also recorded for later viewing.)

Note: We are no longer simulcasting our worship services on Zoom.
We apologize for any inconvenience.

For Group Emails: Just send a request to be added to our group email list at harborchurch1765@gmail.com.

For Devotional Videos: Tune in on the YouTube channel “Pastor Peter Preiser”.

For Moments of Inspiration: Enjoy Photos & Phrases with us on Instagram @harborchurchbi.

For Families with Children at Home:

Printable faith-based resources as well as online activities are available at:
<https://www.coloringpages.net/bible.html>

Virtual Sunday School: To receive our Weekly Adventure Hour Curriculum for children, email Pastor Peter at petrospaulos@hotmail.com

Music Time with Miss Carrie on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. via a live stream from the Island Free Library Facebook page. Families with preschoolers can enjoy this together.

For more resources:

- Go to our website www.harborchurchblockisland.org
- Email Pastor Peter directly at petrospaulos@hotmail.com
- Or call Harbor Church by phone at (401) 466-5940

Remember this great promise: “Cast all your cares upon God, because God cares for you.”
[1 Peter 5:7]

Information

Electronic Giving Options are now available if you wish to make a donation to Harbor Church. In this time of economic uncertainty, Harbor Church is not asking anyone undergoing financial hardship to give to our church. We merely wish to facilitate donations at this time of social distancing; Accordingly, Harbor is now offering the following options for those who wish to support the ongoing ministries of our church:

- Online through our Website www.harborchurchblockisland.org

- Through mobile apps “GivePlus” at Google Playstore and Apple Store

All Charitable contributions to Harbor Church are tax deductible. Year-end statements are sent to all donors.

All transactions are securely protected and encrypted to ensure the safe handling of debit and credit card data with Vanco’s PCI-DSS Compliance Management Service. For more info visit:

<https://www.vancopayments.com/>.

 **Birthday Club News** 

 Celebrating Birthday Club Members for the Month of AUGUST!

Sonny Kern August 11
Marlow Millikin August 15
Paul Marte August 26

 Wishing you a special and Happy day!

Much love from all of your other Birthday Club Members! 

Happy Birthday and may God Bless you!

Thanks to the generosity of our Birthday Club Members, our fund to underwrite youth activities at Harbor Church has received over \$1,000 in a few short months! That's worth CELEBRATING !

“Senior Saints” offering by the American Baptist Churches of RI Join a Weekly Elder Care Ministries Zoom Meeting each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. For more info on how to connect, contact Kathryn Palen at kpalen@abcori.org or 401-522-9731.

Offshore Twelve Step Group Meetings—All meet at Harbor Church

Sundays NA 4:30 p.m.

Mondays AA 5:30 p.m.

Tuesdays AA 8:30 a.m.

Wednesdays AA Noon

Thursdays AA 8:30 a.m.

Fridays AA 7:30 a.m.

Saturdays AA 7:00 a.m.

Saturdays AA 5:30 p.m.