

# GBUMC COMPASS

A Weekly Worship Guide

www.GrandBlancUMC.org

Sunday, September 11, 2022



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**"Friends in Christ exercising love, hope and grace to enrich all lives."**

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## Sermon Recap

As we join Jesus and our Dramamine focused friend for coffee, we realize that there are, in fact, many ways to interpret this familiar story of Jesus calming the storm...even when awoken from his rest and sleeping. Occasionally, life can start to feel like this boat with Jesus asleep in the bunk. We feel like the waves and storm are growing while we're becoming smaller and smaller, more and more afraid, more and more alone. We may even begin to accept our fate: "we are perishing!" But Jesus offers this reminder: "Do not be afraid." The God revealed to us in Jesus Christ is a God of comfort, calm, and rest. God's love never leaves us. Even sleep – which might leave us ineffective – can't stump the God of all grace and love.

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*A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion, and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" And waking up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Be silent! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" – Mark 4:37-41*

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## Applied to My Life:

Challenges, pain, and uncertainty are some of the few certainties in life for *all of us*. If you haven't yet, you will face a storm of some sorts. And so, maybe the story of the stormy boat full of disciples is rather relatable.

When we do face storms of life, it helps to trust in our God who can still the storm. It doesn't mean that God takes us off the boat but remains on the boat with us. And so, the next time you face the storm, perhaps adopt this mantra: *"In this world, you will face trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

## An Invitation

If you are worshiping with us today, and you don't have a church home, but are looking for a faith community full of people who are also journeying as disciples of Jesus, following Christ's example, love and grace, then we would love the opportunity to be that church home and family for you. If this sounds good to you, we simply want to encourage you to keep coming, talk to those around you, and discover what it means to be part of this beautiful church family and family of Christ.

Membership in the church is not about a status. Instead, it's about taking a step as a follower of Jesus to commit yourself, along with others, to that journey! If you are interested in joining the church as a member, or even just learning more about it, please indicate that on your Connect Card, and we'll be sure to reach out quickly!

Meeting you is a blessing for us, and we hope that this day was a blessing for you!

-Pastor Brian