

Family Worship for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 20, 2020

Leader / Response

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the (+)Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, **who made heaven and earth.** (*Ps 124:8*)

If you kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand before you?

But with you is forgiveness; therefore, you are adored. (*Ps130:3-4*)

As we gather to hear God's Word, let us open our hearts to God and confess our sins, trusting in his infinite mercy for forgiveness and asking for his Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives.

Almighty God, have mercy on me, hear this my confession, forgive all my sins, and renew me by your Holy Spirit for right living. (*Silent confession*)

In Holy Baptism our merciful God has declared us to be his royal children and forgives our sins for Jesus' sake, our risen Savior and Lord. Give praise now to the Lord of heaven and earth and live joyfully as his witnesses in the world. **Amen**

PSALM OF PRAISE – PSALM 27:1-9

¹The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

²**When the wicked advance against me to devour me,
it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.**

³Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

⁴**One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

⁶**Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me;
at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

⁷Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.

⁸**My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.**

⁹Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper.
Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior.

HYMN [Jesus Shall Reign](#) (*With Lyrics*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Direct our hearts, O Lord, by your merciful reign, because without your help it is impossible to please you.

Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 55:6-9

SECOND READING – Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

GOSPEL VERSE *(Spoken/Sung; Stand for Gospel Reading if you can)*

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel from St. Matthew, chapter 18. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 20:1-16

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN [My Faith Looks Up to Thee](#) *(With Lyrics)*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

OFFERING PRESENTATION *(Spoken; LBW #482, st.4)*

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

PRAYERS *(See Prayer Sheet)*

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, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING *(Romans 15:13)*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN [When We All Get to Heaven](#) *(With Lyrics)*

EXTRA

[Parable of the Unmerciful Servant](#) *(Children)*

READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. ⁸ “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. ⁹ “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

¹² Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. ¹³ As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴ And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

¹⁹ For I know that through your prayers and God’s provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. ²⁰ I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

²⁷ Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰ since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

¹ “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. ³ “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ ⁵ So they went. “He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ ⁷ “‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

⁸ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

⁹ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

¹⁶ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

PRAYERS

Lord God, your thoughts and ways are higher than our sinful thoughts and ways, so you invite us to the great feast of salvation offered through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us to hunger and thirst for you living presence and the splendor of your gracious love and make disgusting to us the junk food of this world which can never feed our souls. Lord, in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

We ask, O God, that you continue the sanctifying work of your Holy Spirit in our lives that we may conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We ask, O God, that we never grumble at the grace and good things you have given to others, but rather that we learn the grace of being content in all circumstances. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We ask, O God, that you help every person and family displaced by fires and storms, and that you raise up among the people of this nation a true concern for the neighbor in need. Help us to help others in ways that are concrete and meaningful. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We ask, O God, that your continued gospel blessing rest upon Charity Lutheran Church and School in Bismark, North Dakota. Let their ministry to children help raise up a new generation of faithful servants in your kingdom and bless Pastor Scott Baumann as he serves among your servants. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We thank you, O God, for being present with us yesterday at our congregational gathering. And we ask that the seeds of our vision sowed into the soil of your kingdom may grow into many years of gospel mission and ministry among our families, community, and the world at large. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We thank you, O God, for the life and death in faith of your servant Preston Exley, and we ask that the comforting ministry of your Holy Spirit and Christian friends and family be with the Exley family and all who mourn his passing. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We thank you, O God, that you hear the prayers of your saints. Today we cry out for your healing help in the lives of Betty and Nick Robinson and that you bring healing to their bodies and strength to their souls. We cry out again for Sarah Smith that you battle the cancer in her body and relieve her of her pain. We cry out that you protect Sadie and her classmates and all our children and school employees as they are exposed to the covid virus. And we cry out to you from our hearts the names of those whose needs concern us this day.... (silent prayer) Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we have prayed, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayers for September 20, 2020

Prayers for Healing, Recovery, Wholeness, Divine Help *(Requests remain on list for 2 months and may be resubmitted)*

Nick and Betty Robinson, diagnosed with Covid-19 and recovering at home (B.Robinson, 9.18.2020)

Sadie and classmates, protection from Covid-19 (R. Rollins, 9.14.2020)

Connie Zeigler, having severe back problems (C. Zeigler, 9.9.2020)

Helen Zeigler, dementia and sent to new care center (A. Terry, 9.6.2020)

Alice Stephenson, ready for her heavenly home (R. Stephenson, 9.6.2020)

Leiann Sapp, cancer surgery (L. Waldhour, 8.30.2020)

Paula Peterson, sickness (D.Vorel, 8.23.2020)

Steven Jackson, in ICU (A. Terry, 8.23.2020)

Johnnie Barnes, chemotherapy (J. Smith, 8.19.2020)

Elli, 8yrs. old, high fever (K. Wheeler, 8.9.2020)

Frank Gray, health issues (K. Hall, 8.9.2020)

David Gray, cancer (K. Hall, 8.9.2020)

Brenda Reiser, Lymphoma (M. Reiser, 8.2.2020)

Sarah Smith battling cancer again (F. Smith, 8.2.2020)

Jason Pridgen, still suffering with liver problems, friend of Betty Robinson (7.22.20)

Amy Holcomb undergoing cancer treatments (R. Ratliff, 7.22.20)

Don Hasty suffering from heart troubles (D. Vorel, 7.22.20)

Marie Callahan recovering from a Brain Aneurysm (S. Sommervold, 7.19.2020)

Pat Gollihue on diagnosis of bone cancer (R. Zipperer, 7.19.2020)

Jeff Byrd on diagnosis of non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (L. Byrd, 7.19.2020)

Shirley Hogan hospitalized with Covid 19 (K. Warnell, 7.19.2020)

Ann Reiser, undergoing cancer treatments (M. Reiser, 6.28.2020)

Mary Jane Duff, hospitalized for heart problems (K. Hall, 6.7.2020)

Prayers for Comfort in Bereavement *(Requests remain on list for 6 months and may be resubmitted)*

David & Connie Zeigler and family on death of Son, Marcus. (9.6.2020)

Ben & Karen Williams and family on death of Ben's brother, Dale Williams (8.26.20)

Karen Hall and family on death of her Aunt, Sheila Saxon (8.9.2020)

Cecelia Zeigler and family on death of her mother, Mary Bloomberg (8.4.2020)

Brenda Dasher and family on death of her cousin, JW Porter (7.19.2020)

Bobby Exley and family on death of daughter, Teresa (J. Arnsdorff, 6.7.2020)

Stacey York and family upon death of her mother Annette (A. Terry, 6.6.2020)

Family of Karen Hall's Great Aunt, Katherine who went to be with the Lord. (5.17.2020)

Family of Laura Brown (S. Smith, 4.20)

Family of Rosemary Atkinson (Dot Zipperer's Sister, 4.19)

Military, Fire, Law Enforcement Personnel

Fire: Kenny Whitten, Jimmy Thompson; Law Enforcement: Warren Blanton

Military: Trent Zeigler, Christopher Zeigler(C.Zeigler); Michael Hubbard(A.M.Hubbard); Stephen Strickland(B. Dasher)

Long Term Support

Audrey Zipperer (Lakeview Manor); Helen Zeigler (Eff Care Center); Sarah Smith (Home); Dorothy Zipperer; Betty Greenwood (Home), Charles & Virginia DiSalvo(Home); Keith Cornell (Recovering at home;Helmly); Clyde Johnson (Home;Muthersbaugh); Thomas Owens (Home;Garner); Clay Stewart (Dementia;Sommervold); Rick Boyd, multiple health problems (C. Boyd, 6.21.2020); Ruby & Earl Neurath (C. Bazemore, 7.30.2020); Alice Stephenson (R. Stephenson, 9.6.2020)

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Pentecost 16 - September 20, 2020

**But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?' -
Matthew 20:13**

There are certain sermons that really stick with you over the long haul. We hear so many that it's hard to remember most of them, but once in awhile there's a message that gets through and sticks with us. This is the case for me with a sermon that was preached over twenty years ago on this parable.

I was working at a toxicology research laboratory right out of college, making \$7 an hour, which wasn't much even then! I wanted a job in the field of science because that was what my degree was in, but the job was very low paying. I knew I had to get experience in order to find something better later on, but I was young and newly married and we didn't have much money. I had an attitude about the pay which tainted my joy over the opportunity.

My pastor said something to the effect of "agreeing to a certain wage and being satisfied with that." It's hard when we think we are worth more than what we're paid, or when someone new comes in and you find out they are making more than you are and you've been there longer! Can you relate? This doesn't bode well for employee relations at all. Yet there was a truth to his words that I could not shake - I agreed to work for that \$7 an hour. I could have refused the job, and yet I needed to break into the industry somehow. An agreement is an agreement.

I think we can all relate to those first workers in Jesus' parable. They agreed to a certain wage, a fair day's pay, but when they found out that the boss has paid those who worked only one hour the very same wage they received for working a whole day, they were upset. The boss was right though! He didn't cheat them out of anything. He just happened to be very generous with those who showed up at the end of the day. It was his money to give, and those who fussed forgot that part. All of this touches on our sense of fairness and if we are honest, our sense of what we are worth. It also reminds us of God's great generosity and that without his love and mercy we would have nothing. We can never say that God is unfair to us - he gives us that which we do not deserve - forgiveness and new life. Amen.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Aug-20	Beginning Balance	Donations	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$155,651.00	\$35,885.02	(\$15,094.76)	\$176,441.26
Building Fund	\$61,635.33	\$545.50	\$0.00	\$62,180.83
Cemetery Fund	\$3,340.96	\$0.27	\$0.00	\$3,341.23
Theological Fund	\$3,647.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,647.20
Memorial Fund	\$7,516.22	\$0.06	\$0.00	\$7,516.28
Youth Fund	\$16,569.61	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$17,069.61
Total Funds	\$248,760.27	\$36,930.85	(\$15,094.76)	\$270,196.41
General Fund Donations		Aug-20	\$35,885.02	
Monthly General Fund Requirement		-	\$17,727.08	
Over/(Short) General Fund		Aug-20	\$18,157.94	

BLC NEWS & NOTES

WORSHIP SERVICE

Please remember as we restart our worship services, the offering plate will not be passed, only presented at the altar. A plate for receiving offerings is in the hallway on the Usher Stand. Holy Communion will be served at a table with the Pastor and Assistant masked and gloved. A single line will form down the middle aisle and each communicant should go to the table and consume the bread and wine while at the table before departing. Ushers will help direct communicants from their pews.

SPECIAL CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESCHEDULED

The congregational meeting to discuss amending the budget to allow for the hiring of a youth coordinator will be held on October 4th after service. This will be the only topic that will be discussed at this meeting. Copies of the job requirements for this position and requirements necessary for voting were included in an email sent out previously. Please see any Council member if you need further information before the meeting.

FUTURE FOSTER PARENT MEETINGS

We still need volunteers to help with future Foster Parent Meetings. One to write a Thrivent Action Team grant, one to plan and prepare a meal, and one to help host the event and work in the kitchen. That's 3 people minimum, though 4 or 5 would be ideal. The time commitment is 3 hours and 1 evening a month (June-July off). It's a worthwhile project so please call Pastor Dave to let him know when to sign you up! His church cell number is 912-661-8735.

LOVE OFFERING

We will be collecting a love offering for Habitat for Humanity on Sept. 27th and Oct. 4th. Some of their regular fund raisers were not possible this year due to the Covid 19 virus. Please consider making a special offering in the next two weeks. Check out the display for more information.

QUILTER'S GROUP NEWS

The Quilter's Group found a collection point in Columbia, SC and delivered 24 boxes (70 quilts—218 pounds) to be delivered to Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Baltimore. In addition to this, they have placed a few of their quilts in the foyer that are for sale. Please see one of the quilters for further information.

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING SCHEDULED

Defibrillator training will be offered after worship service on October 4th. Please contact Karen Warnell if you are interested in being trained.

BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2021

The finance committee asks all committee chairpersons to submit their 2021 budget requests no later than Nov. 1, 2020. Please send electronic and/or paper copies to the church office blc.rincon@gmail.com

Worship Servants	This Week (September 20th)	Next Week (September 27th)
Acolyte/Crucifer	Clara Vorel / Julianna Hall	Grant Rutland
Altar Care	Martell Hall / Ann McDaniel	Martell Hall/Ann McDaniel
Announcer	Melissa Osteen	Melissa Osteen
Children's Moment	Dawn Vorel	Dawn Vorel
Council Servant	Steven Hill	Steven Hill
Communion Asst.	Connie Bazemore	Connie Bazemore
Head Usher	Ben Williams	Ben Williams
Lesson Reader	Julie Thompson	Karen Williams
Musician-Comm	Karen Warnell	Karen Hall
Musician-Service	Karen Warnell	Karen Hall
Nursery Assistants	Katie Whitten / Beth Helmly	Kimberly Bazemore / Marci Burnsed
Presiding Minister	Pastor Dave Hansen	Pastor Dave Hansen
Yellow Ribbon Host	Evangelism	Evangelism
Last Sunday Attn.	SS: 0 Worship: 112	
Local Florists	New Life, 826-4261; Joanne's, 754-9116	
If you are unable to fulfill your assignment, please inform the church office: 912-826-2711		

Plan Ahead!

- 9/27 Confirmation Class after worship
- 9/27 MASKED Service, 4 PM
- 9/28 GRITS Loaves & Fishes @ 6 PM
- 9/29 Quilters Group Meeting 10 AM
- 10/1 Property Committee Meeting 6 PM
- 10/1—10/3 Fellowship Hall reserved
- 10/4 Confirmation Class after worship
- 10/4 Evangelism Meeting after worship
- 10/5 Church Council Meeting 6:30 PM
- 10/6 AFPAG Foster Parents Meeting 6 PM
- 10/11 Finance Comm. Meeting after worship
- 10/11 MASKED Service, 4 PM
- 10/13 Quilters Group Meeting 10 AM
- 10/21 Christian Ed. Meeting 5:30 PM
- 10/25 Confirmation Class after worship

Next Week's Lessons

- Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
- Psalms 25:1-10
- Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18
- Matthew 21:23-27

WEEKLY IN THE WORD OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday:

- ◆ Confirmation Class : After Worship
- ◆ Sunday School/Adult Classes 8:45 AM
 - Adult 1: Beth Helmly
 - Adult 2: Melissa Osteen
 - High School: Pastor Dave
- ◆ Worship Service 10:00 AM
- ◆ Bible Youth Group (BYG) 6:00 PM

Wednesday: Pastor Dave's Class 11AM via Zoom.
Call to be added to the Zoom list: 912-661-8735.

Small Group Bible Studies:

Ebenezer Study Group - 1st & 3rd Tues. 6 PM Meets in member homes. Contact: Connie Bazemore (912) 659-2188

DIRECTORY

Pastor Dave: 912-661-8735 blc.pastordave@gmail.com
Office Hours: Wed & Thur: 11am-4pm or by appt; Fri: off
Council Pres: Beth Helmly 912-657-3539 stillwell708@gmail.com
Church Office: Deb Lowe 912-826-2710 blc.rincon@gmail.com

Kingdom Wages

Find the 33 bold words from Matthew 20:8-13, 16 (ESV)

E S E E A B X D D O F F R D B
B L E N G S E R B I R L E B U
A A E G O N A W R I A I C W R
G F G V A Y I S E S L Y E T D
R N E R E W T N T P H A I H E
E V I N R N D X E G C D V G N
E U I V B W T R D V A G E U B
S V M E I O I H M O E N D O J
O M A S T E R E N W O I H H U
L L A C D I C N D W E H X T E
O N L Y A P S E E R O C E S C
L A B O R E R S R Q U R U A E
D E L B M U R G I Y O O K Q T
E Q U A L S N N H M H C H E D
N E K E Q J M J G I N S P T D

And when **evening** came, the **owner** of the **vineyard** said to his foreman, “**Call the laborers and pay them their wages**, beginning with the last, up to the first.” And when those hired about the **eleventh hour** came, each of them received a **denarius**. Now when those hired first came, they **thought** they would receive **more**, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they **grumbled** at the **master** of the **house**, saying, “These last **worked only one hour**, and you have made them **equal** to us who have **borne the burden** of the **day** and the **scorching heat**.” But he **replied** to one of them, **Friend**, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not **agree** with me for a denarius? So the last will be **first**, and the first **last**.”

Whom Shall I Fear?

Find the 40 bold words from Psalm 27:1-5 (ESV).

C D T T W D S A D R L A E T B
E O R F A W T R L A O F R E M
S L N O I E U M O W I A A I H
W E B F L L M Y H L E U N O D
Z C I U I L B D G H T Q U I L
K C O R O D L A N Y U S A N A
S Y A D A R E Y O I E R O S E
Y F O E S S T N R M F I E R C
A S S A I L R E T A T E N A N
R E T L E H S E S A K F C E O
H G A Z E T M T V A Q P A F C
S A R I S E H L H D S X M L P
E L P M E T A G G I A K P G L
L T N E T S E V I L D O E R S
F T X R E V O C H L O E S D P

The **LORD** is my **light** and my **salvation**; whom shall I fear? The **LORD** is the **stronghold** of my **life**; of whom shall I be afraid? When **evildoers** assail me to **eat up my flesh**, my **adversaries** and **foes**, it is they who **stumble** and **fall**. Though an **army encamp** against me, my **heart** shall not fear; though war **arise** against me, yet I will be **confident**. One thing have I **asked** of the **LORD**, that will I **seek** after: that I may **dwell** in the **house** of the **LORD** all the **days** of my **life**, to **gaze upon the beauty** of the **LORD** and to **inquire** in his **temple**. For he will **hide me** in his **shelter** in the **day** of **trouble**; he will **conceal me** under the **cover** of his **tent**; he will **lift me high upon a rock**.