Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge <u>Sunday August 3, 2025</u> <u>Carlisle 10:00 AM</u>

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Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths. – Proverbs 3:5-6

TRUSTING GOD: "We honor God by choosing to trust Him when we don't understand what He is doing or why He has allowed some adverse circumstance to occur. If we are to trust God, we must learn to see that He is continuously at work in every aspect and every moment of our lives. Trust is not a passive state of mind. It is a vigorous act of the soul by which we choose to lay hold on the promises of God and cling to them despite the adversity that at times seeks to overwhelm us." – *Jerry Bridges*, <u>Trusting</u> God Even When Life Hurts

Welcome | Introduction

Opening Prayer

Old Testament Scripture:

Psalm 46:1-3, 9-11 (NIV)

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
- 3 though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. [c]
- 9 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."
- ¹¹ The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Hymn: In You There Is a Refuge MV 84

This hymn was written in 2005 by Keri K. Wehlander (words) and Linnea Good (music), two BC-based women. While Wehlander is currently the minister at Oasis United Church in Penticton and author and editor of several books, Good is a touring Christian singer-songwriter with ten studio albums. Their hymn collaboration is performed by musicians of Golden Ears United Church.

MV 84 In You there is a Refuge

- In you there is a refuge, in you we find our peace.
 When all we know is chaos may our trust in you increase.
 In you there is a silence, in you our minds are clear.
 When all we hear is discord may your quiet draw us near.
- In you there is a vision, in you we learn to dream
 When all we see is desert may you be our living stream.
 In you there is a future, in you we find our way.
 When hope has shed its brightness may you show us a new day.

Old Testament Scripture:

Jeremiah 17:5-8 (NIV)

This is what the LORD says:

"Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶ That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes.

They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives.

7"But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him.

⁸ They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.

It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green.

It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Psalm 37:3-5 (NLT)

Trust in the LORD and do good.
Then you will live safely in the land and prosper.

4 Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desires.

⁵ Commit everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you.

Isaiah 26:3 (NLT)

You, God, will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

Brief Introduction to This Morning's Theme

Hymn: All the Way My Saviour Leads Me VU 635 Widely considered one of Fanny Crosby's best known hymns, "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me" was set to music by Baptist minister Dr Robert

Lowry and published in New York in 1875. Since we know this hymn so well, I offer a recording by Paul and Hannah McClure, who perform a new (and radically different!) interpretation by Chris Tomlin and Matt Redman. All The Way My Savior Leads Me | Simple Hymns | Official Music Video

- All the way my Saviour leads me; what have I to ask beside?
 Can I doubt his tender mercy who through life has been my guide?
 Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell, for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.
- 2 All the way my Saviour leads me, cheers each winding path I tread, gives me grace for every trial,

feeds me with the living bread. Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul athirst may be, gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see!

All the way my Saviour leads me;
O the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed, immortal,
wings its flight to realms of day,
this my song through endless ages,
"Jesus led me all the way!"

New Testament Scripture:

Philippians 4:4-7 (NLT)

Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! ⁵ Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:25-34 (NLT)

"I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? ²⁷ Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

"And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, ²⁹ yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. ³⁰ And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? "So, don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' ³² These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. ³³ Seek

the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

"So, don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Reflection: Trusting God through Life's Times and Seasons

Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus VU 664

Joseph Scriven, an Irish immigrant to Canada, wrote his poem "What a Friend" in 1855 to comfort his sick mother in Dublin. With music by Charles Converse, it is performed here by three members of the Redeemed Quartet. This Indiana-based quartet consists of four best friends and brothers known for their Southern Gospel music. At this time of year, I appreciate those glimpses of snow in the music video!

What A Friend We Have In Jesus | In The Country | Official Music Video | Redeemed Quartet

- What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
 O what peace we often forfeit,
 O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.
- Have we trials and temptations?
 Is there trouble anywhere?
 We should never be discouraged;
 take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Can we find a friend so faithful,
 who will all our sorrows share?
 Jesus knows our every weakness;
 take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Christ the Saviour is our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer. Do our friends despise, forsake us?

Are we tempted to despair? Jesus' strength will shield our weakness, and we'll find new courage there.

Closing Prayer:

Reinhold Neibuhr (1892-1971)
God grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
Forever and ever in the next. Amen.

Benediction:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Online Postlude: Be Still, My Soul (Finlandia)

In 1899-1900 Finnish composer Jean Sibelius wrote the symphonic poem *Finlandia* as an expression of nationality and a protest against Russian censorship. While much of the piece consists of turbulent music depicting the struggle of the Finnish people who, at the time, were considered part of a state within the Russian Empire, near the end a serene hymn-like section appears. This section, the *Finlandia Hymn*, was later reworked by Sibelius as a stand-alone piece and, with different words, is sung as the Christian hymn "Be Still, My Soul," an expression of trust and faith in God. It is performed here by the Lyceum Philharmonic, a youth ensemble at American Heritage School in American Fork, Utah.

Be Still My Soul / Finlandia - Lyceum Philharmonic