It’s stormy weather in the Gospel of Mark for Jesus’ disciples. Happy Father’s Day and a belated Happy Juneteenth to all of you. I have had some stormy seas in my life, especially for the ten years I spent on the Mississippi River. The storms would come over the bluffs out of nowhere. And there you were in the middle of it. You probably don’t think that the river is very big since you live by the ocean. However, those storms create whitecaps that can sink ships and very true for my fourteen foot flatbottom boat. So it was with the disciples, who got caught in a storm while crossing the lake. And they were fisherfolk; they knew about high seas, wind and rain. They were terrified, and they woke Jesus who was asleep.

Their trip across the lake became an adventure and they didn’t want anything to do with it. Jesus stands up and quiets the winds and waves. They should already have known this since earlier Jesus had explained to them the secrets of what he was about. There is something about real life that is different from what we are taught because real life involves each of us directly. They marvel at the power Jesus exerts over nature, just like earlier when Jesus exerted power over the unclean spirits and they obeyed him. Dare we trust Jesus amid the storms of our lives that confront us? Just like in the book of Job, God doesn’t take away the pain that Job is experiencing. He simply gives him a way out. Jesus didn’t whisk the disciples off the lake, but he moved them through the waves and high winds to the shore. So God will also move us, so hang on. We are in for quite a ride!!