

**GOD WITH US—3rd Sunday of Advent
IN THE STORM
December 16, 2018**

“Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’” Matthew 1:23 NLT

**NEVER LET THE PRESENCE OF A _____ CAUSE
YOU TO DOUBT THE PRESENCE OF _____ .**

When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved. Acts 27:20

After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: “Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss.” Acts 27:21

“But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. ²³ Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me” Acts 27:22-23

... everyone deserted me ... ¹⁷ But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength ... 2 Timothy 4:16-17

I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:8

“Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me ²⁴ and said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’” Acts 27:23-24

“So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me.” Acts 27:25

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though it’s waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Psalm 46:1-3

For the Week Ahead

What’s a major storm you’ve experienced in your life? How has it changed the way you relate with God?

“Peace isn’t found in the absence of a storm. Peace is found in the presence of a good God.” What are some ways you try to find false peace? How will you seek God’s presence instead?

What did you learn in a storm that God can use to help someone else through their own storm? Who can you reach out to this week?