

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 27 27-44



Then they cried to the Lord in their distress.
He made the storms be still and the waves of the sea were calmed.
Psalm 107:28-29

Praising:

O Trinity of love and power,
sustain us all in danger's hour;
through wreck and tempest, grief
and loss,
renew the triumph of the Cross:
and ever let there rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land
and sea.

Reading:

Acts 27:27-44

Paul is shipwrecked

Control of the ship has been lost. With nearly three hundred people on board and the crew ready to escape by dinghy and abandon them to their fate, St Paul asserts his moral and spiritual authority on proceedings: they will sink or swim together. Paul's next suggestion must take everyone by surprise. His call for them all to eat, is not just an excuse for Paul

publicly to take bread and give thanks to God for it in the traditional Jewish way. In the first instance, Paul is broadcasting his unwavering faith that the Lord will hold to his promise and see all concerned through this perilous situation. But Paul is also ensuring that his shipmates have re-charged their weary bodies to face whatever physical effort may lie before them. They are going to have to swim for shore.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord help us to trust that you will always meet all our needs

- the personal physical needs of food and home and security
- the emotional, communal needs of family and friendship and relationship
- the spiritual needs of word and worship and sacrament

Father: in the provision of the earth, the love of those around me and the fellowship of the church, you supply everything I need. Stop me from living like I've been short-changed. Amen

Doing:

Wednesday, 20 July 2016