



**PROJECT RECONNECT**

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**Liturgical Date: Year B, Pentecost 5, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**

**Presenter: Rev Tom Stuart**

**Focus Reading: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 and Mark 4:35-41**

**Message** 13 minutes 18 seconds

**“Why Are You Afraid?”**

### **Discussion Starters**

- 1** Discuss your understanding of today’s message.
- 2** Having heard Tom’s stories, share one of your special, unique, or sacred memories.
- 3** How might you encourage each other to hold onto the message of “do not be afraid”?
- 4** How have you seen the “peace of God” at work in lives in the wider community?

### **Lectionary readings for the day**

**1 Samuel 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49** God enables the shepherd David to defeat the Philistine giant Goliath.

**Psalms 9:9-20** This individual lament presupposes that the psalmist remembers that God is a stronghold for the oppressed (v9), that God remembers the needy (v18) and that God does not forsake those who trust God (v9).

**2 Corinthians 6:1-13** Although glitzy super-apostles told the community that Paul’s sufferings showed that he could not be an authentic apostle, Paul insists that God’s support in suffering is proof of his authority.

Abingdon Theological Companion to the Lectionary, Year B. Copyright c2014 by Abingdon Press, an imprint of the United Methodist Publishing House. (Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

**All Age Message: Rev Tom Stuart**

**“The Love and Care of Jesus”**

**Length** 2 minutes 45 seconds

### **Precis of AAM**

The apostle Paul had a lot of afflictions so it is no wonder he suffered sleepless nights! However, he was telling people about Jesus, sharing his patience and general love for people and that he had experienced God’s power within himself. The Holy Spirit calmed his fears and brought stillness no matter what was raging outside.

**Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 17: Pages 254**

### **Rev Tom Stuart**

Minister in Placement at Charlestown Garden Suburb Congregation of the UCA. A member of the management committee for Project Reconnect. Will very likely have a 4<sup>th</sup> grandchild when this message is viewed!