

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SPARTA, NC
PENTECOST 3 (PROPER 7B), JUNE 21, 2009
The Rev. J. Barry Kramer
"Who is your Pilot?"

OUTLINE:

- Old bumper sticker - "God is my Co-Pilot" etc. Something always bothered me.
- Deaf work - Paul Kolish, assistant - pilot and flight instructor - flew me to Avl - on the way back to Raleigh flew through a thermal (explain). I complained and Paul ask if I didn't believe that God was our co-pilot? I said that under the circumstances I would rather have God as my Pilot!
- Now imagine a small fishing boat - same turbulence - up and down, etc.
- Little known fact about the Sea of Galilee - below Mt. Hermon, sweeping winds and sudden storms, etc.
- No surprise that the disciples were terrified, plus Jesus was asleep! Imao the scene.
- The whole point is that life often throws turbulence at us. It comes in many forms: sickness, grief, financial problems, emotional distress, etc.
- Ultimately, the only way to get through that turbulence is to turn the controls over to Jesus. What does that mean?
- When I first became sick I was unable to turn over control of my life to God. It had always been that way. As a young

postulant studying for Holy Orders my Bishop once told me, "If you ever learn to control your cockiness, etc."

- Control was my life issue. Like the disciples, I had to learn what it really means to acknowledge that I was not in charge of my life.
- What is your life issue? Is control a problem? Is there turbulence in your life?
- Seriously consider asking God to be, not your co-pilot, but your Pilot.
- And remember that, depending on your situation, it may take Jesus a little time to smooth out the waves!