

April 2, 2020

Dear Members of Christ on the Mountain Parish,

I would like to share a hymn by Edward Mote:

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust in
the sweetest frame, but wholly trust in Jesus' name.*

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is
sinking sand.*

*When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on His unchanging grace. In every high
and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.*

*His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the whelming flood. When all around
my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.*

This hymn reminds me where I stand. I stand on blood and righteousness. I stand on the solid rock of Christ. I stand on his unchanging grace. I stand in the storm and gale and my anchor holds firm. We may feel we are in a storm but as Pope Francis reminded us in his, extraordinary moment of prayer last week, Christ is with us in the storm. He is our anchor. He holds us firm.

The dogmatic constitution on the church Lumen Gentium, no. 9, states that Christ established a new covenant, the New Testament in his blood, calling into being, from Jews and Gentiles, a people that was to form a unity, not in human fashion but in the Spirit. This is what we call the Mystical Body of Christ, you are part of this body, and it stands firm through this storm. Faith is the subtle chain that binds us to the infinite and if we hold on to this chain we have nothing to fear.

Anchored to Christ,

Fr. David