



**Sunday, July 28, 2024**

## **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.*

### **GATHERING**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**Amen**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,  
**help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

**OPENING SONG ELW 461** vs. 1, 3 *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

1 All who hunger gather gladly;  
holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wand'ring.  
Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness,  
all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

3 All who hunger, sing together,  
Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing.  
Here in peace we have been fed.  
Blest are those who from this table  
live their days in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

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**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE ELW 836** vs. 1 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,  
praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.

Text: Kevin Mayhew

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth.

**Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC *Congregation Sings***

**ELW #487** vs.1 *What a Feast of Love*

1 What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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### **First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44**

*Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

<sup>42</sup> A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." <sup>43</sup> But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" <sup>44</sup> He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia***

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

### **Gospel: John 6:1-21**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup> Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup> When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

<sup>15</sup> When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup> got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup> The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup> When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup> But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." <sup>21</sup> Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

## SERMON

**SONG OF THE DAY ELW #674** all verses *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

- 1 Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

### *Refrain*

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

- 2 Christ is able to make us one,  
at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express. *Refrain*

- 3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! *Refrain*

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

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Let us confess our faith in the words of the

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, Gods only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

God of generations, you work in us far more than we can ask or imagine. Bless the church you have called into being across time and space, and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of field and forest, streams and seas, you are the fullness of all things. As grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation. Protect harvests and give every person food in due season. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God beyond borders, you rule all in all. Bless the work of humanitarians and peacekeepers, shield those who live, work, or serve in harm's way, and bring an end to war and conflict (*nations and places may be named*). In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering (*especially*), families in our community who endure hunger, those who seek asylum or citizenship, and our beloved for whom death is near. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you root us and ground us in love. As you inspired our ancestors in this place in their ministry, sustain us also in new endeavors, that your glory may be made known, and your lovingkindness shared anew. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Accept our thanksgiving for the people you surround us with, especially for those who celebrate their lives and birth this week:

Jerry Shaw

enrich them with a sense of joy and grace for yet another year. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Save us from ourselves, from racism in all its hidden forms, from hollow words without actions, forgive us, renew us, call us to action In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For those fighting cancer and other serious illnesses, grant strength and grace. We pray for doctors, nurses, technicians, researchers and all who work toward treatments and cures. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For police officers and firefighters, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For your people in the midst of war, civil unrest, or conflict, grant protection, strength and hope for a better tomorrow. Bring peace and an end to the conflict. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For Vicar Tom Helmich this year, may your Spirit surround him with all that is needful and joy-filled. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all, your love in Christ surpasses all knowledge. We give thanks for the departed who have come to know the fullness of your grace. Join our voices with theirs (*and with musicians Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel*) and all the saints in singing your praises. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## MEAL

### OFFERING

*The Worship/Communion Registration Card may be placed in the offering plate on the table in the Narthex. Thank you for your support of our ministry.*

*(Please stand as you are able)*

### OFFERTORY ELW #186 *Create In Me a Clean Heart*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Text: Lutheran Book of Worship

### OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,

**you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times  
and in all places offer thanks and praise to you,

O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Music:** *Holy, Holy, Holy* – ELW Service Page144 (Setting 3)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

## **PRAYER AT THE TABLE**

Let us pray together the prayer our Lord taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

*(Please be seated)*

## **COMMUNION**

*The presiding minister invites the assembly*

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

**COMMUNION SONG** *Lamb of God*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Text: Evangelical Lutheran Worship

**CONTINUOUS COMMUNION BEGINS**

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE ELW #207** *Thankful Hearts and Voices*

**Thankful hearts and voices raise;**

**tell ev'ryone what God has done.**

**Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice**

**and bear the name of Christ.**

**Send us with your promises**

**and lead your people forth in joy**

**with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus, Bread of life,

**we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.**

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

*(Please be seated)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLESSING**

The blessing of God,

who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✠ be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG ELW 689 Vs 1 & 3** *Praise and Thanksgiving*

1 Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer  
for all things living, you have made good:  
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

3 Father, providing food for your children,  
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share  
one with another, so that, rejoicing  
with us, all others may know your care.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR THE DAY

**Psalm 145:10-18**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOR

August 4, 2024

### 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

**Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15**

*The LORD gives manna in the wilderness*

**Psalm 78:23-29**

God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels. (Ps. 78:24, 25)

**Ephesians 4:1-16**

*Maintain the unity of the faith*

**John 6:24-35**

*Christ the bread of life*

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

**July 28, 2024**

### **Will There Be Enough?**

“Will there be enough?” This is perhaps a question as old as humanity itself. Will there be enough money? Enough food? Enough time? It’s a question that threatens to consume our faith communities. Will there be enough volunteers? Enough preachers? Enough money in the offering plate? Enough people in the pews? Will there be enough donations or energy or creativity to carry us through?

We aren’t alone in these fears. The disciples asked the same of Jesus. “Will there be enough to eat?” Surely, a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish could never feed this crowd. Better to send the people away to fend for themselves.

Perhaps like the disciples, we tend to panic and turn inward when resources start to dwindle. And yet, again and again, God calls us together, taking our fears and transforming them into gifts of abundance. A few crumbs become a feast. A hungry crowd becomes a community bearing witness to God’s grace.

This story is an antidote to our anxious times, when we are tempted to cling, to hoard, to squander away resources for an uncertain future. Miraculous things happen when we open our fists and trust that with God, all things are possible.

This is not an easy mindset to hold, so together, we practice! We practice a theology of “enoughness” each week when we share communion with one another. We witness the tremendous power of a little bread and a little wine to sustain us on our journey. We practice generosity when we pass the offering plate, turning our meager offerings into a gift for the greater good. We witness how the gifts and talents of a community come together to create something that on our own would never have been possible. Because, in Christ, there is always more than enough.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

## **Upcoming Commemorations**

**Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians**

**Sunday, July 28, 2024**

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, *Messiah*, is a setting of scriptural texts.

**Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany**

**Monday, July 29, 2024**

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

**Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030**

**Monday, July 29, 2024**

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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