

AUGUST 2, 2020

WELCOMING WORD *In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink with cost. In the gospel, Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The Lord is gracious and merciful,

C: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love

L: The Lord is good to all,

C: and his compassion is over all that he has made.

L: The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

C: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season

OPENING HYMN #165 Holy, Holy, Holy (vs. 1, 2, 4)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God, in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God, in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin,

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

C: We confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us: through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P: Beloved of God, by the abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

INVOCATION

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Glorious God,

C: your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through you Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 55:1-5 Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 9:1-5 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh.⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish."¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me."¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

HYMN #235 *Break Now the Bread of Life*

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
As once you broke the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page, I seek you, Lord;
My spirit waits for you, O living Word.

Bless your own truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,
As when you blest the bread by Galilee.
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;
And I shall find my peace, my all in all!

You are the bread of life, O Lord, to me.
Your holy word the truth that rescues me.
Give me to eat and live with you above;
Teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Oh, send your Spirit, Lord, now unto me,
That he may touch my eyes and make me to see.
Show me the truth concealed within your word,
And in your book revealed, I see my Lord.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

OFFERTORY PRAYER Of all the gifts which you have given us, we treasure your Holy Spirit, O God. In gratitude for guidance and discernment, we offer these tributes before you and ask your blessing. May our lives be a blessing to others, in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence

L: You take resources that appear to be meager, bless them and there is enough. May your church trust that what you bless and ask us to share with the world is abundantly sufficient. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Your bountiful creation offers sustenance and life for all creatures. Protect this abundance for the well-being of all. Help us reverse the damage we have caused your creation, and replenish life all around the world. Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You offer yourself to all the nations and peoples of the earth, inviting everyone to abundant life. Bring your prophetic vision to its fullness that all nations will run to you and that nations who do not know you will find their joy in you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Hear the anguish of tender hearts who cry to you in suffering and satisfy their deepest needs. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body, heart, soul, and mind (*especially...*) Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You offer freely the fullness of salvation Give our congregations such a welcoming heart, that our words and actions may extend your free and abundant hospitality to all whom we encounter. Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

L: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

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. 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.

BENEDICTION *May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again*

CLOSING HYMN: #543 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear, now to the altar draw near, joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning,
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen, all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again, gladly forever adore him!

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 2, 2020

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding
Monday, Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29, God's goodness and Israel's Ingratitude
Tuesday, Acts 2:37-47, The First Converts
Wednesday, Exodus 16:2-15, 31-35, Bread from Heaven
Thursday, Psalm 85:8-13, Prayer for God's Favor
Friday, Acts 18:24-28, Paul in Corinth
Saturday, 1 Kings 18:41-46, The Drought Ends

TALK: Consider some of these ideas: " And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full." Matthew 14:20 After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is move to perform one of his greatest miracles.

- Have you felt like the disciples when it looked like they didn't have enough?
- Does Jesus put any 'pre-conditions' on who should get fed?
- Are we willing to follow Jesus' instructions and trust his power to make things happen?

PRAY: Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through you Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESS: May you trust in Jesus' power to do great things. Amen!



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson)
Helen Martinson
Makenzee Smith
Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher)
Martha Hartman
Jeannie U'Ren
Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower)
Irene Bruflat
Laurie Duden (Brenda Martin's aunt)
Bill Steinhauer
Peter Toniazzo
Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg)
John Conrad (Kathy Conrad's son)

Nick Sydow (friend of Connie Curran's sons)
Sammy Peede (nephew of Kari and Dan Hustad)
Delores Bryant
Brock Howe
Dorothy Jelle
Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother)
Ruth Ann Nemet
Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl)
Harlan Oimoen
Grace Aavang
Trevor Sayre (son of Tamie Reichert)
Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith)