

# Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25, 2021

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Manistee, Michigan

*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

### CONFESSION

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us pray,

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

### ABSOLUTION

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### GATHERING VOLUNTARY

“Prelude on a Motif by César Franck” – Gordon Young (1919-1998)

### GATHERING HYMN

“Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult” *ELW 696*

**Jesus calls us; o’er the tumult  
of our life’s wild, restless sea,  
day by day his clear voice sounding,  
saying, “Christian, follow me.”**

**As of old Saint Andrew heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for Jesus' sake.**

**Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, "Christian, love me more."**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
"Christian, love me more than these."**

**Jesus calls us! By your mercy,  
Savior, may we hear your call,  
give our hearts to your obedience,  
serve and love you best of all.**

## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

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**

### **FIRST READING**

*2 Samuel 11:1-15*

A reading from Second Samuel.

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a

thing.” Then David said to Uriah, “Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, “Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM**

*Psalm 14*

**Fools say in their hearts, “There | is no God.”**

**They are corrupt, every deed is vile; there is no one who does | any good.**

**The Lord looks down from heaven up- | on us all,**

**to see if there is anyone who is wise, who seeks | after God.**

**They have all proved faithless; all alike | have turned bad;**

**there is none who does good; | no, not one.**

**Have they no knowledge, all those | evildoers**

**who eat up my people like bread and do not call up- | on the Lord?**

**See how they trem- | ble with fear,**

**because God is in the company | of the righteous.**

**Your aim is to confound the plans of | the afflicted,**

**but the Lord | is their refuge.**

**Oh, that Israel’s deliverance would come | out of Zion!**

**When the Lord restores the fortunes of the people,**

**Jacob will rejoice and Israel | will be glad.**

**Glory to the Father, and | to the Son,**

**and to the | Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will | be forever.**

**A | - - men.**

## **SECOND READING**

*Ephesians 3:14-21*

A reading from Ephesians:

For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

*John 6:1-21*

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain

and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. 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?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" 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. 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. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. 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." 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. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. 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. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." 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.**

## **HOMILY**

*Pr. Greene*

## **SONG OF THE DAY**

"Xxxx Xxx Xxxxxxx" – Xxx Xxxxxx

Xxxx xx xxxxx xxxx

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of 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

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Each petition ends with:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## GREETING OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERTORY SONG

“Xxxx Xxxx” – Xxxxx Xxxxxx

Xxxxx xxxx xxxxxxx

## MEAL

### PRAYER

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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, and ever. Amen.**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
You suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
You set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
Eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **COMMUNION HYMN**

*"Break Now the Bread of Life" ELW 515*

**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 word of truth,  
dear Lord, to me,  
as when you blessed 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,  
dear 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.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **SENDING HYMN**

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age” *ELW 729*

**The church of Christ, in ev'ry age  
beset by change, but Spirit-led,  
must claim and test its heritage  
and keep on rising from the dead.**

**Across the world, across the street,  
the victims of injustice cry  
for shelter and for bread to eat,  
and never live before they die.**

**Then let the servant church arise,  
a caring church that longs to be  
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,  
and clothed in Christ's humanity.**

**For he alone, whose blood was shed,  
can cure the fever in our blood,  
and teach us how to share our bread  
and feed the starving multitude.**

**We have no mission but to serve  
in full obedience to our Lord;  
to care for all, without reserve,  
and spread his liberating word.**

### **FROM THE BELFRY**

“Praise and Thanksgiving” *ELW 689*

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.