
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 5, 2018

AS WE GATHER...In today's Gospel, the crowds are still trying to stay close to Jesus, but He says it's for the wrong reason. They want to fill their stomachs, and He declares that He is the bread of life. As the manna in the wilderness wasn't produced by Moses, but was a gift from God, so Jesus didn't come to produce physical bread. He is God's gift to us for what we need in every part of our lives here in time and for eternity. Let Jesus fill you up with His grace, mercy and love today!

Note: Due to recording error – unable to record first part of service – Starts at Gospel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLING ON GOD

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

C: Amen.

P: We walk in darkness when the words that we use do not build others up. As we begin our worship today, we do well by recognizing our poor choice in words. Too often our words have brought people low so that we can simply feel better about ourselves. Let's take some time in silence to reflect upon our past mistakes.

Silence for reflection

P: Let us confess together,

C: We confess, O Lord, that we have fallen short. We are guilty of sharing words that hurt instead of words that build up. We are guilty too of not using comforting words when we should. As we work in Your kingdom, we sometimes think that we can make little influence. The truth is that we can. We thank you for Your promise of forgiveness. We also ask that we see You in a new way today. You are generous with grace. You have compassion for all.

P: Isaiah 55 says, "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." God's amazing and generous grace is hard for us to imagine. The good news is that He gives it to You freely today in the forgiveness of sins. I announce God's grace. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE *"Freely, Freely"*

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received:
Freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
Others will know that I live."

All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name,
In earth and heav'n in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His pow'r as He told me to.
He said, "Freely, freely you have received:
Freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
Others will know that I live."

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOCUS OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray...Merciful Father, You gave Your Son, Jesus, as the heavenly bread of life, and You have given us as gifts to one another.

C: Grant us faith to speak the truth in love and to build up the Body of Christ;

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 4:1-16 *God has created, redeemed, and called us all the one Church, a unity shown in our love for one another and all people.*

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,

who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says,
"When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,
and he gave gifts to men."

(In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL

John 6:22-35 *Referring to the manna in the wilderness, Jesus calls Himself the bread of life.*

On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had

eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

SERMON HYMN "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
Hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me now and ever more,
Feed me now and ever more.

Open now the crystal fountain
Where the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
Shield me with your mighty arm,
Shield me with your mighty arm,

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forever more,
I will raise forever more,

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life + everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ and for everyone in need.

P: Paul writes in today's Epistle that Christ gave to the Church "the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists."

C: Strengthen them, heavenly Father, to go where they are sent, to teach the truth in love, and to call all people to the Gospel of Your Son.

P: Christ also gave "the shepherds and teachers."

C: Guide all pastors and lay leaders, Lord Jesus, to nurture Your people, young and old, strong and weak, in faith and love.

P: Christ gave these gifts so that we may each function as part of the Body of Christ as it builds itself up in love.

C: Help us, O Holy Spirit, to use all our gifts to build one another up in love here and, through our mission efforts, around the world.

P: God rescued His people from slavery in Egypt, destroying the forces of the nation of Egypt and providing for the Israelites wandering in the desert.

C: Raise up leaders in the governments of the nations, Lord, that freedom and justice abound within their borders and peace break out between neighboring peoples. Give protection and courage to refugees and resources and strength to those who care for them. Grant wisdom and courage to all who provide protection within communities and to all who defend our nation and others around the world.

P: Our Lord Jesus offered much more than physical food—He gave Himself, the bread of life, to the disciples and all His followers in their need.

C: Hear the prayers of all who call out to You, O Lord, in their distress from ills of body or soul, problems of house or home, employment and finances, dignity and food, and especially those near and dear to us, whom we name in our hearts before You.

Moment of Silence

P: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"In His Time"

1. In His time (*in His time*), in His time (*in His time*),
He makes all things beautiful, in His time (*in His time*).
Lord please show my ev'ry day as you're teaching me your way,
That you do just what you say, in your time (*in Your time*).
2. In Your time (*in Your time*), in Your time (*in Your time*),
you make all things beautiful in your time (*in Your time*),
Lord, my life to you I bring; May each song I have to sing.
Be to You a lovely thing, in Your time (*in Your time*).

"How Great Thou Art"

1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed,
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin;
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

"Bind Us Together"

Bind us together Lord, Bind us together with cords
that cannot be broken,
Bind us together Lord, Bind us together
Bind us together with love.

There is only one God. There is only one King.
There is only one body. That is why I sing.

Bind us together Lord, Bind us together with cords
that cannot be broken,
Bind us together Lord, Bind us together
Bind us together with love.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG *"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"*

Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you: You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing You are My own.

Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.

Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.
I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

DISMISSAL