

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Holstein, IA July 28, 2024 9:00 A.M.
The 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.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We come in the name of the God who created us, the Son who has given us new life, and the Spirit who brings unity and oneness.

Let us worship God, the Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit. May our love for one another be a reflection of the true love of God in Jesus Christ.

God of love, we thank you for the gift of life and the beauty of creation.

We worship you. We praise you. We give thanks to you!

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

#836

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

2 Kings 4:42-44

⁴² 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." ⁴³ 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.'" ⁴⁴ He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:10-18

(read responsively)

¹⁰ All your works shall praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹ They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,

¹² that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.

You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.
- ¹⁵ The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.
- ¹⁶ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- ¹⁷ You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.
- ¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ 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, ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ 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, ²¹ 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.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation



John 6:1-21

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 6th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³ Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵ 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?" ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹ "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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.

¹² When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³ So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴ 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." ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸ The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹ 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.

Message Deacon Lynn Egesdal

Hymn *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* #843

Affirmation of Faith

We believe God is our creator and has promised to love us always.

We believe Jesus Christ, fully God, fully human, experienced all the pain and joy and challenges of human life. God's forgiving love was revealed to us when Jesus suffered death on the cross. He came back to new life and has promised us new life in unity with God.

We believe the Holy Spirit is God's promise touching our spirits, guiding us – even through the darkest and most difficult moments of our lives. We believe God is among us in community. Mysterious, yet very real, God promises to be with us always, even to the end of the age.

From Remembering the Promise, Karol Baer, David Lee Brown, Larry Olson Hanson
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Sharing the Peace

**The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.**

Children's Offering / Offering

Offering Prayer

In loving response to your gracious blessing, we come with the offering of our time and treasure. May these gifts bring hope and healing to a world in need.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

SENDING

Blessing

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

Amen.

Closing Song

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

(see p. 7)

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

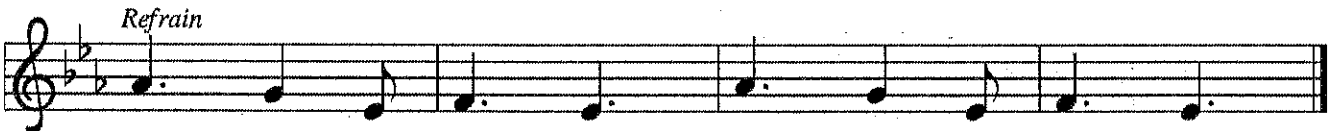
O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

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Worship Participants

Ministers: All the members
Pulpit Supply: Deacon Lynn Egesdal
DYME: Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist: Sharen Borchers
Pianist: Kris Kistenmacher
Lector: Jane Breyfogle
Deacons: Susan Endrulat and Craig Fox
Greeters: Dave & Liz Kistenmacher
Acolytes: Leo Nedved and Wyatt Modrell
Sound & Video: Dave Kistenmacher and Tyler Gebers
Coffee Hosts: Kathy & Randy Vollmar
Jan Grell

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, July 28 ~ Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship

SUNDAY, August 4 ~ Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship