



# Sunday, August 8, 2021

## Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

### **Introduction**

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

# Gathering Hymn....."Come to the Table"

## VERSE



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, — pre -



-pared with the wine — and the bread; —



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, —

## CHORUS



come and your souls — will be fed. — Come at the Lord's — in - vi - ta -



- tion, — re - ceive from His nail - scarred hand; —



Eat of the bread — of sal - va - tion, —



drink of the blood — of the Lamb. —

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## 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.**

## Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

*First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the LORD is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.*

[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **Second Reading: Ephesians 4:25-5:2**

*Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.*

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **Choir Anthem....."Come to Jesus"**

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## **Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.*

Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ.**

## Sermon

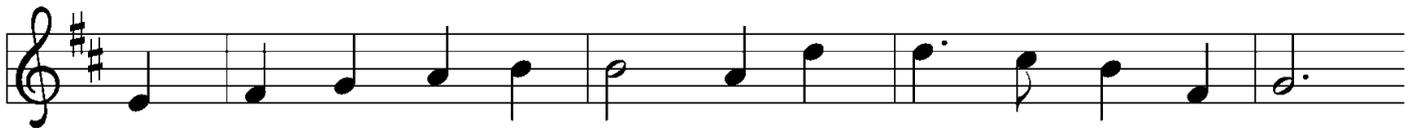
### Sermon Song....."O Living Bread from Heaven"



- 1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
- 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
- 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
- 4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.  
and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;  
And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.  
my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;



O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!  
for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,  
My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,  
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!  
the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.  
and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.  
where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

## The Apostles' Creed

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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

For the church of Christ in all its diverse forms. For mission developers, new mission starts, and all communities of faith exploring new models of ministry for the sake of the gospel. For congregations facing difficult decisions about their future. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

For the health and well-being of creation. For shade trees that provide refuge from the hot summer sun. For lakes, rivers, and oceans contaminated by pollution and all who lack clean water.

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

For those called to positions of authority in our legal system, we pray. For judges, lawyers, law clerks, and court employees who ensure the fair administration of justice. For corrections officers and prison chaplains, that they would deal mercifully with those who are incarcerated. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

For all who cry out to you in their affliction. For exiles, refugees, and others who face long and difficult journeys, uncertain about the future. For all who mourn the death of a loved one. For all who are sick (*especially Samantha, Judi, Don, Vincent, Barbara, Victoria, Christi, Larry, Kristina, Vicki, Joy, Michelle, LauraLee, Gloria, Sharon, Janis, Janet, Judith, Michael, JJ, Ellen, Cheryl, Elijah, John & Christine, Darell, Rebecca, Richard, Henry, Lisa, Ruth, Karen, James, Nancy, David and Lew*). Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

For this assembly gathered around your table, we pray. For those among us who bake bread and prepare the vessels for our communion celebration. For those who bring the food from this table to those who are homebound or hospitalized. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

For those who have been raised to eternal life, we give thanks. With all the saints we praise you for the bread of life that keeps us in your love forever (*especially Iura*). Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

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

### **Offering**

#### **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.**

### **Thanksgiving at the Table**

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.

### **The 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.

## **Invitation to the Table**

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

## **Distribution**

*At this time take the elements you have with you saying these words:*

**The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

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.**

## **Blessing**

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

**Amen.**

## Sending Hymn....."Be Thou My Vision"



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

### Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**