
9th Sunday after Pentecost

10 a.m.

August 2, 2020



Abundance from Scraps

Jesus is able to feed us abundantly, even with scraps. He meets earthly needs by feeding the crowds and continues now to offer himself as holy meal, freely given to all, no matter their income or rank in society. Advertisers have trained us that what's proclaimed as FREE usually isn't. More often, it's a ploy to get our money for some other, larger, purchase.

Today we are invited to trust and receive Jesus' free gift of love without mistrusting that he's got up his sleeve some scheme to swindle our money.

It can be hard to relax and trust God to take care of us and nourish us with the mere scraps we often see around us. We panic and take matters into our own hands instead of trusting. We experience that crushing sense of responsibility, not just to ourselves, but to our children or parents or other loved ones to keep them fed and clothed and healthy. Trusting as the crowd did that day seems completely foreign to those of us living in North America, abundant in resources.

With food freely given, with quantity enough to feed only a few, Jesus makes this miracle, and there are leftovers to clean up. But for most of us, belief comes slowly and warily when we've been burned by experience: how will there be enough for all of us, when we've been the last one at the lunch line, the late arrival at the party, and everything's gone? What if we see people in the crowd we don't want fed and jostle our way to the head of the line to get first choice? Will it be fair? Trusting that our daily bread and even our very lives are in God's hands is hard to do as we grow older and burdened by responsibility, but God has compassion for every member of the crowd, and we are blessed and invited to be joyful recipients of that generosity.

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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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 good 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.

C Beloved of God,

by the radical 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

through the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

“All Are Welcome”

ELW 641

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain*

- 3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain*

- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain*

- 5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed

as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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*GREETING

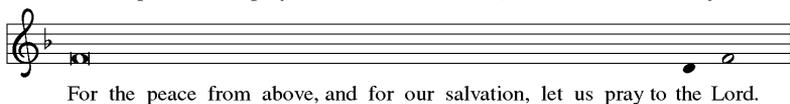
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

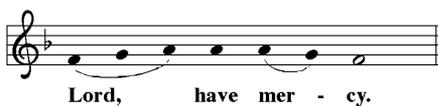
*KYRIE, pp. 138-139



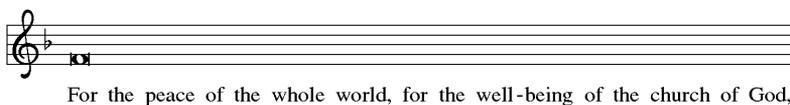
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



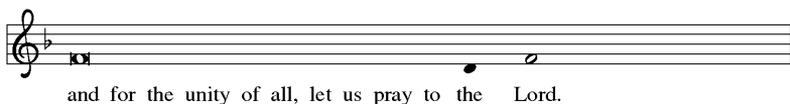
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



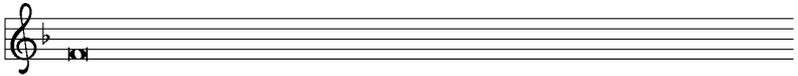
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE, pp. 139-140**



Assisting minister
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



All
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray together.

C **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 your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Janet Johnson

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5

¹Ho, 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.

²Why 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.

³Incline 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.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

⁸The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works.**

¹⁴The 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.**

¹⁶You 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.**

¹⁸You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

¹⁹**You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you;
you hear their | cry and save them.**

²⁰You watch over all | those who love you,
but all the wicked you | shall destroy.

²¹**My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forev- | er and ever.**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

¹I 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. ³For 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. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen. Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, p. 142**

***GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21**

P The holy gospel according to Matthew the 14th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], 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. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹Then 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. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

“O Living Bread from Heaven”

ELW 542

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,
 how well you feed your guest!
 The gifts that you have given
 have filled my heart with rest.
 Oh, wondrous food of blessing,
 oh, cup that heals our woes!
 My heart, this gift possessing,
 with praises overflows!

- 2 My Lord, you here have led me
 within your holiest place,
 and here yourself have fed me
 with treasures of your grace;
 for you have freely given
 what earth could never buy,
 the bread of life from heaven,
 that now I shall not die.

- 3 You gave me all I wanted;
 this food can death destroy.
 And you have freely granted
 the cup of endless joy.
 My Lord, I do not merit
 the favor you have shown,
 and all my soul and spirit
 bow down before your throne.

- 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened
 with heav'nly food, while here
 my course on earth is lengthened,
 to serve with holy fear.
 And when you call my spirit
 to leave this world below,
 I enter, through your merit,
 where joys unmingled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1606-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.

***CREED**

**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.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Petitions conclude saying “God of mercy,” and the congregation is invited to respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”

***PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

ELW 705

1 God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow’r;
crown your ancient church’s story;
bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! The hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us

free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days,

3 Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
let us miss your kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969

***OFFERTORY HYMN**

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

ELW 686

Text: *We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee*

***LORD'S PRAYER, p. 145**

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.**

***BLESSING**

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace.
- C **Sung: Three-fold Amen**

***SENDING HYMN**

"Blessed Assurance"

ELW 638

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*
- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

***DISMISSAL**

- P Go in peace. Share the good news.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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