

# ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

## TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

10 A.M.

## INTRODUCTION

*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.*

## PRELUDE

*The assembly stands.*



+ GATHERING +

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C **Amen.**

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection.*

P God, our provider,


C **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.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-cr, be a wel-come guest.  
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
 Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbia Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version

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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.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

### Verse 1

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God. *to Refrain*

### Verse 2

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and  
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

### Verse 3

*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to  
make us peo - ple of God; to make  
all things new. *to Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

*Noisy offering*



**+ WORD +**

## FIRST READING: 2 Kings 4:42-44

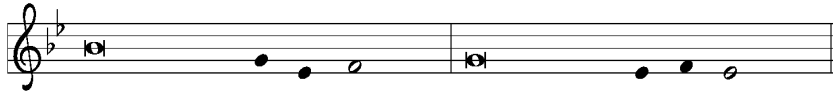
*Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM: Psalm 145:10-18**     *We sing the psalm responsively.*



Leader <sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise <sup>|</sup> you, O Lord,  
and your faithful <sup>|</sup> ones shall bless you.

**C** <sup>11</sup> They shall tell of the glory <sup>|</sup> of your kingdom  
and speak <sup>|</sup> of your power,

L <sup>12</sup> that all people may know <sup>|</sup> of your power  
and the glorious splendor <sup>|</sup> of your kingdom.

**C** <sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures  
through- <sup>|</sup> out all ages.  
You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in <sup>|</sup> all your  
works.

L <sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all <sup>|</sup> those who fall  
and lifts up those who <sup>|</sup> are bowed down.

**C** <sup>15</sup> The eyes of all wait upon <sup>|</sup> you, O Lord,  
and you give them their food <sup>|</sup> in due season.

L <sup>16</sup> You open <sup>|</sup> wide your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every <sup>|</sup> living thing.

**C** <sup>17</sup> You are righteous in <sup>|</sup> all your ways  
and loving in <sup>|</sup> all your works.

L <sup>18</sup> You are near to all who <sup>|</sup> call upon you,  
to all who call up- <sup>|</sup> on you faithfully.

*Spoken after the psalm is sung:*

**Amen.**

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21

*We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

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

<sup>20</sup> 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, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

R The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*The assembly stands.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

**GOSPEL: John 6:1-21**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

**P** The holy gospel according to John, the sixth chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup> Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup> Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup> 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?" <sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup> 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."

<sup>15</sup> 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.

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup> got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup> The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." <sup>21</sup> Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

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

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**    *We encounter the living word of God in the preaching.*    Denise Bookwalter

*The assembly stands.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      **ACS 966**      *Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken*



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us

Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.

*Refrain*  
By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your  
wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your  
peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007  
Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**A** Let us confess our faith.

**C** 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 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**

*Each petition ends: In your mercy,*

***Congregational response: hear our prayer.***

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

*The assembly is seated.*



+ MEAL +

## OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

## OFFERING HYMN

*The assembly stands to sing the offering hymn as the collection and the gifts are brought forward.*

### Refrain

*Congregation:*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

### Verses

1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when  
to Refrain  
may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

P 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

*Congregation:*

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some measures containing rests or ties.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks.*

P      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.

**C      Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P      Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**C      Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

*The assembly is seated.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

*Congregation:*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
you break the chains of ha - tred and  
you are the way of jus - tice and  
you are the way of mer - cy and

*Congregation:*

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

*Congregation:*

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*As the ushers direct you, come to the altar using the side aisles and return to your seat via the central aisle. The assisting ministers offer both the common cup (wine) and a pouring cup (wine or grape juice). If you prefer to receive the wine or juice in an individual glass, take one from the tray as you approach the rail. Leave the empty glass on the rail. Wheat-free wafers are available--simply tell the pastor.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**    **596**    *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (requested hymn)*  
    **479**    *We Come to the Hungry Feast*  
    **515**    *Break Now the Bread of Life*

*The assembly stands.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

## + SENDING +

**BLESSING** *We receive the blessings of the triune God.*

P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be up  
on you now and forever.

C Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The assembly stands.*

**SENDING HYMN**

**674** *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



*Refrain*  
 Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTED, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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## DISMISSAL

A We believe out loud that God's mission for us is:

C to be an active community that welcomes all people to nurture and share their faith and gifts with everyone, according to God's call.

A Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C Thanks be to God!

+ + +

*Sundays and Seasons v.20220805.1416*

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Martha Marky dedicates today's altar flowers  
 to the glory of God.

### Calendar for July 21 - 28

July	28	Sun.	9:00 am	Book study
			10:00 am	Worship, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August	4	Sun.	9:00 am	Book study
			10:00 am	Worship, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

### Next Sunday's Readings, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost:

[Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15](#)

[Psalms 78:23-29](#)

[Ephesians 4:1-16](#)

[John 6:24-35](#)



### SERVING EVERY SUNDAY

Pastor Tom, presiding and preaching

Katharine Gossman, piano

Karl Barton, flute

Denise Bookwalter, announcements

Choir: Karl Barton, Melissa Barton, Mark Canning, Judi Duffy, Kirsten Ebbesen, Rita Ford, Martin Guttenplan, Vicki Guttenplan, Rudy Hehn, Susan Hehn, Colleen Holdcraft, Pastor Tom Holdcraft, Sandy Ness, Dave Suhrweir, Cassandra White

### SERVING TODAY AND ONE WEEK FROM TODAY

Serving	July 28	August 4
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Jennifer Dritt	Audrey Post
<b>Cup Minister</b>	Susan Warren	Rita Ford
<b>Cantor</b>	Susan Hehn	Karl Barton
<b>Lector</b>	Erik Robinson	Jennifer Buchanan
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ceilia Greeley or Graham Reece or Bastian Stover	
<b>Tech Team</b>	Audrey Post Sylvia Smith	Colin Hacklet Cindy Suhrweir
<b>Ushers</b>		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Rita Ford Erik Robinson	Billie Reardon
<b>Counters</b>	Billie Reardon Susan Warren	Margaret Bowers Patricia Handschy

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**New concerns:** Family and friends of Dan Graney (friend of Cheryl Stuart), our shared sympathy on his death from ALS; Doris Michel (sister of Dave Suhrweir), recovering from gall bladder surgery; Sue Berent (sister of Sharon Simmons) for comfort and peace at end of life; Wayne McCully (friend of Audrey Post), undergoing dialysis for kidney failure; Gladys Kane for continued healing.

**For the sick:** Margarete Decker (mother of Caroline Collins); Sallie Robinson (wife of Erik Robinson); Theresa Martin (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Sarah (friend of Cassandra White); Laura McDuffie (sister of Rob Schiffer), diagnosed with primary immunodeficiency and Sjogren's syndrome.

**In treatment for cancer:** Ruth Hartung; Scott Simmons (son of Sharon Simmons); Gordon Fleischer; Stephanie Barber; Jim Saxman (uncle of Rob Schiffer); Jenny (niece of Laura Sullivan & Colin Hackley); Rosalinda Wright; James Sablan (brother of Donna Schiffer); Craig Timm (friend of Cheryl & Steve); Laura Ketchum-Jahn, (friend of Cheryl & Steve); Aubrey Thonvold (Reconciling Works Exec. Dir.); Judy Renwick (friend of Judi Duffy); Gil Johnson (friend of Judi Duffy); Amanda George (daughter-in-law of Rob Schiffer); David McManus (friend of Audrey Post); Shannon Miller (friend of Barb ODonnell); Becky Graves (friend of Ridy Hofer).

**Health and protection:** For all affected by the coronavirus – especially those experiencing mental-health difficulties due to isolation, those struggling to recover from the disease, those on the front lines fighting, researching and treating the disease (doctors, nurses, medical personnel, EMTs), the millions of unemployed people, etc.; for the unaccompanied children entering the U.S., including those “unaccounted for.”

**For prisoners:** All those on Death Row.

**Other concerns:** For Karen Olson; Kevin Robinson (son of Erik Robinson), in need of encouragement; Isaac (son of Terri Schmitt), for physical and emotional healing; Steve Michael (cousin of Rob Schiffer), in rehab after a serious accident.

**Church concerns:** St. Stephen's Church Council; the Florida-Bahamas Synod Council; all congregations searching for ways to stay connected and proclaim the Good News; Reconciling Works; Grace Lutheran Church; Bishop Pedro Suarez; Our Savior Lutheran Church in Freeport, Bahamas; the ELCA Advocacy offices and ministry; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pensacola.

**World concerns:** For all people suffering and/or recovering from hurricanes; migrants and asylum seekers; civil rights for people around the world; a ceasefire in Ethiopia and in Ukraine; peace in Afghanistan and the Middle East.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans)** will resume in August with a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 13, in the fellowship hall. It's a "Bring Your Own Lunch" event where we'll plan future luncheon events.

**FLOWER CHART FOR 2024:** Do you have an anniversary, birthday or special memory you would like to honor? Celebrate the occasion by sponsoring the flowers for our service by signing up for the 2024 Flower Chart located in the narthex. The cost is \$40, and you can place it in the offering plate.

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER:** Want to read a sermon you missed? Visit <https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters>. Want to read the latest newsletters? Go to <https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters>. Want to browse a collection of St. Stephen songs? They're at <https://ststephenlutherantally.com/newsletters>.

### Summer Hymn Request

ELW #: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please place in the offering plate or email to Lori.*