

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 1, 2021 10: 45 Blended Service

“Knowing the Tree From the Forrest”

As We Gather

After Jesus miraculously fed the multitudes of people, they struggled to see the forest for the trees. Jesus came to provide the greater things of forgiveness and eternal life. Through His teaching we now can see the forest from the trees-the cross to which He would go.

Welcome

+ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP +

Opening Song "Forever Jesus"

My hymn of praise shall be forever Jesus

My firm foundation in shifting sands

My strength and hope

Through many fears and failures

The disappointments of the past

His constant love has held me fast

So for all my days

I will sing my praise

To the King forever Jesus

Though the storms may rage

He is strong to save

He's the King forever Jesus

My song of joy will be forever Jesus

Who bore my suff'ring who made a way

His life a gift His death a precious ransom

That wipes the sinner's guilt away

And turns my night to glorious day

**So for all my days
I will sing my praise
To the King forever Jesus
Though the storms may rage
He is strong to save
He's the King forever Jesus**

**My final breath shall be forever Jesus
When shadows lengthen before my eyes
My Lord and friend
Companion through the valley
When dearest ones are left behind
His hand will lead me to the Light**

**So for all my days I will sing my praise
To the King forever Jesus
Though the storms may rage
He is strong to save
He's the King forever Jesus**

**When I meet his gaze
I will sing my praise
To the King forever Jesus
All my sorrows past I am home at last
With my King forever Jesus
With my King forever Jesus
With my King forever Jesus**

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Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

- A** "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread.

C **Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God."**

- P** 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.

C **Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life,**

- A** which the Son of Man will give to you. For on Him God the Father has set His seal."

Confession and Absolution

- P** Jesus is the bread of life, come down from heaven to give life to the world.

C **Lord, we hunger for Your presence.**

- A** If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

C **Lord, we hunger for Your forgiveness.**

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father,

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

- A** In the wilderness of this world we forget Your presence.

C **We grumble and complain about Your provision.**

- P** We focus too often on our wants and needs of this world.
- C** **We fail to rejoice in the daily giving of Your grace and mercy.**

A Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

C **Lord, we hunger for You. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. "For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.... Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.'" As a called and ordained servant of Christ, the bread of life, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Lord, You fill us with forgiveness. Amen.**

Song of Forgiveness "My Chains Are Gone"

SSP 39

My chains are gone I've been set free

My God my Savior has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy rains

Unending love amazing grace

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Prayer of the Day

A Let us pray.

Merciful Father, You so loved the world You gave Your only Son to come down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Feed us by Your Means of Grace and fill us through Your Spirit with Your gift of faith as we follow You in ways that lead to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

Old Testament

Exodus 16:2–15

(Bread from heaven)

²The whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, ³and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" ⁸And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD."

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.'" ¹⁰And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹And the LORD said to Moses, ¹²"I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

¹³In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Ephesians 4:1–16

(Unity in the Body of Christ)

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. ⁸Therefore it says,

“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,
and he gave gifts to men.”

⁹(In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until 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, ¹⁴so 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. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Jesus is the bread of life.)

A The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

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

²²On 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. ²³Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus 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. ²⁷Do not labor 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." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?" ³¹Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Jesus 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. ³³For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed

**☩ 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 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.**

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives"

LSB 602

**The gifts Christ freely gives
He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride,
His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blest with these rich gifts
Are children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ
And cling to His strong name.**

**The gifts flow from the font
Where He calls us His own;
New life He gives that makes
Us His and His alone.
Here He forgives our sins
With water and His Word;
The triune God Himself
Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.**

**The gifts of grace and peace
From absolution flow;
The pastor's words are Christ's
For us to trust and know.
Forgiveness that we need
Is granted to us there;
The Lord of mercy sends
Us forth in His blest care.**

**The gifts are there each day
The holy Word is read;
God's children listen, hear,
Receive, and they are fed.
Christ fills them with Himself,
Blest words that give them life,
Restoring and refreshing
Them for this world's strife.**

**The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;**

**We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.**

**All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!**

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Message "Knowing the Tree From the Forrest"

John 6: 22-35

Prayer of the Church

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Ever-present Lord, in this world, a place of sin and wilderness, You give us what we need to sustain our bodies and lives. Greater than anything, You sent Your Son from heaven to be the bread of life that we never hunger for grace and forgiveness. We humbly ask You to be with us, sustain us, lead us, and guide us through this land all our days.

P Lord of all comfort and peace, hear the cries of all who bear burdens emotionally, spiritually, and physically. We especially lay before You those who desire our prayers, Jane Donnica, Layla Clark, Betty Hatfield, Erik Peterson, Gus Hoff, Kathy Gillis, Linda Frank (Melissa's Mom) Katie Curtis Carlson, Henry Helmke, Delpha Kessler, Michael Rasch, Denny Emerson, Jeremy Richard, Betty Williams, Steve Tieken, Bill Mischen, Barbara Kerber, Paul Bruns, Betty Tucker, Jan Meskill, Lillian Taron, Debbie Taboada, Gernot Arbruster, Donna Krueger, Dan Benson, Tammy Tolbert, Tisha Robinson,

Henry Bader, Benny Broadway, Liz Glass, Brian Krueger, Bruce Zehms. Give hope to those who mourn and grieve. Let Your presence be known and heal according to Your will. Point us to the greater healing of eternal life in the resurrection.

A Lord of all provision, we thank You for the daily bread You give to us. As You provide for all Your creatures, give us grateful hearts to live in continual thanks to You. Work Your justice and mercy through our leaders and those throughout the world. Enliven our faith that fruits be had in loving service to our neighbors. Feed us with Your Word and Spirit, and as we receive Your body and blood in this Sacrament, satisfy our hunger and thirst for forgiveness and grant nourishment of faith.

P Our Father in heaven, uphold and strengthen all families on the earth. Guide parents to teach their children all that You have done and promised. Be with each member of St. Paul, especially those we lift to You this day, Bruce, Lori, Emily, Joseph Davis, Lisa De Los Santos, Bill & Margie Dellaughter, Dylan, Julie, Alex, Beth, Charlotte Dellaughter. Bless the children of our CLC, Mathew, Odell, Grae, Brooklynn, along with their parents and our staff. Unite the members of all families in a spirit of affection and service that they may show Your praise in our land and in all the world. Grant Your blessing wherever Your people gather around Word and Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Extend Your kingdom, O Lord, through mission efforts around the world. Open voices to speak Your word of law and grace, and open ears to hear Your invitation to turn and be saved. Continue to bless and keep Jerry Lawson in the mission ministry You have called him to in St. Petersburg, Russia. Encourage and strengthen for service Heather and Nathan in their final preparations as they move to Jos, Nigeria. Bless with Your Spirit's presence the ingathering of our international ministries. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord...who has taught us to pray:

C **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.**

Offertory "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

Beverly DuPree

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Communion Instructions

For those who are intolerant to alcohol, grape juice is available in the center of each communion tray marked by purple cups. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Prepare our Hearts for Communion

1. Do I believe that I am sinful without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ Jesus?
2. Do I believe that Jesus is God's Son and my personal Savior?
3. Do I believe that He is personally present with His Body and Blood?
4. Do I desire by the Holy Spirit's power to live a Godly life?

Prayer of Thanksgiving

A Blessed are You, Lord, for You feed and sustain all You have made, and give all we need for this body and life. Above all, we thank and praise You for the gift given and love revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. By His death and resurrection, You have redeemed us and sustained us by the Living Bread from above. To You alone be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

+ WE PREPARE TO RECIEVE +

"We Proclaim Your Death" SSP 9

L The Mystery of Faith

**C We proclaim your death, O Lord,
And profess your Resurrection
until you come again**

Song of Forgiveness "Lamb of God" SSP 10

L Lamb of God,

C **You take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.**

L Lamb of God,

C **You take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.**

L Lamb of God,

C **You take away the sins of the world,
Grant us peace.**

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Distribution Song "Lead Me to The Cross" SSP 35

**Saviour I come quiet my soul
Remember redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled
For my ransom
Ev'rything I once held dear
I count it all as loss**

**Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh lead me lead me to the cross**

**You were as I tempted and tried human
The word became flesh**

**Bore my sin in death
Now You're risen
Ev'rything I once held dear
I count it all as loss**

**Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh lead me lead me to the cross**

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Distribution Hymn "O Living Bread from Heaven"

LSB 642

**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.**

**My Lord, You here have led me
To this most holy place
And with Yourself have fed me
The 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.**

**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.**

**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: Public domain

**Song of Blessing "Lord Bid Your Servant Go in Peace"
Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,
Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,
This child so long foretold.**

LSB 937

**This is the Savior of the world,
The Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst,
The joy of Israel.**

**With saints of old, with saints to come,
To You we lift our voice;**

To Father, Son, and Spirit blest Be honor, love, and praise.

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Post-Communion Thanksgiving

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us in, with, and under bread and wine with the body and blood of Your dear Son, supplying not only for our stomachs but for our souls. Sustain us in faith and life in Christ that we may do the good You desire and faithfully live out our days in Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

+ WE DEPART IN HIS PEACE +

Benedicamus

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

John 6:26–27a; Numbers 6:24–26

A 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.

C **Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life,**

A which the Son of Man will give to you.”

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and X give you peace.

C Amen.

Dismissal

A Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song "Living Waters"

Are you thirsty

Are you empty

Come and drink

these living waters

Tired and broken

Peace unspoken

Rest beside these living waters

Christ is calling

Find refreshing

At the cross of living waters

Lay your life down

All the old gone

Rise up in

these living waters

There's a river that flows

With mercy and love

Bringing joy

to the city of our God

There our hope is secure

Do not fear anymore

Praise the Lord of living waters

Spirit moving

Mercy washing

Healing in these

living waters

**Lead your children
To the shoreline
Life is in these living waters**

**There's a river that flows
With mercy and love
Bringing joy to the city of our God
There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters**

**Are you thirsty
Are you empty
Come and drink
these living waters
Love forgiveness
Vast and boundless
Christ He is our living waters**

**There's a river that flows
With mercy and love
Bringing joy to
the city of our God
There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters**

**There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters**

Postlude

Acknowledgments

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