

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost August 8, 2021

The following worship service may be used on its own or along with the video found on the Swamp Lutheran YouTube page.

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.

Hymn "Be Thou My Vision"

ELW 793

- Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art: thou my best thought both by day and by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- Light of my soul, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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

And also with you.

Let us pray:

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. ⁴[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."⁵Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." ⁶He 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. ⁷The 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." ⁸He 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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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.

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves 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. ²⁹Let 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. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: JOHN 6: 35, 41-51

The Holy Gospel according to 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.

³⁵Jesus 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. ⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They 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'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It 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. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I 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.**

Homily The Rev. Kurt S. Strause

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," and the response is "Hear our prayer."

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as is 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.

Blessing

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 give you peace; In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Hymn "Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor"

- Lord, enthroned in heav'nly splendor, first-begotten from the dead, you alone, our strong defender, lifting up your people's head.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
 Jesus, true and living bread!
 Jesus, true and living bread!
- 4 Life-imparting heav'nly manna, stricken rock with streaming side, heav'n and earth with loud hosanna worship you, the Lamb who died, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! ris'n, ascended, glorified; ris'n, ascended, glorified!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "O Living Bread From Heaven" J. Wayne Kerr

Altar Flowers given in memory of loved ones by the congregation.

Sanctuary Candle given in memory of loved ones by the congregation.

NOTE – Please contact Joyce Stoner if you want to sponsor the Sanctuary Candle or Altar Flowers – 717 336-7077. Sundays in August available.



Michael A. Crowther Clarice Haws Betty Hornberger Charles Moyer Alverta Showalter Clyde Showalter Mary Ann Weitzel Ella Shirk Margaret Elser Pastor Jim Miller Josie Reitz Katie Houck Sue Kittler Katie Mera Susan Levan Nancy Kulp Mary Kring (aunt of Linda Ream) Clair Sweigart Janice Moyer Kelly Josie Reitz Margaret Elser Pastor Jim Miller Debbie Myers Lisa Buckles (friend of Sue Ellen Knauer) Phyllis Miller (cousin of Jen Weitzel) Glenn Beard, Sr. Sharon Fremont – (friend of Sue Kreitz) Shirley Achey – (neighbor of Sue Kreitz) Hunter Leisey Family of Patricia Gress Jean Wolf Ashton Faust John Frantz Earl Myers Joan Long Judy Sauder Shirley Martzall (friend of Ranck family) Kelly O'Hara (friend of Jen Weitzel) Matt Hollinger (friend of Weitzel Family) Marie McQuate

When someone is put on the prayer list, we will keep them on for four weeks. After that time, they will be taken off unless you make another request to have them put back on.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – Our distribution of food continues on an ongoing basis. We specifically are short of canned meat items – except tuna! We have plenty of tuna but could use corned beef, Spam, chicken, canned ham. *Canned fruit*, toilet paper and paper towels (individually wrapped), *pasta (other than macaroni)*, *cereal, soups and snacks (including cookies, graham crackers, crackers)* are also in short supply. Watch the newsletter for a more comprehensive list. Thank you to the congregation for your continued support!

COMMITTEE NEED - Service committee needs new members. Some of our activities are summer lunch program, serving community meals, upkeep of the little library and pantry, Luther Acres activities, and Lutheran World Relief kits. We serve and outreach to our local community and to our global neighbors. Would love to see new members join us and help us reach out more. If interested contact, Jodi Showalter at 717-413-7149.

SECOND SUNDAY – August 8 is our third 2nd Summer Sunday with a theme of "Growing in Grace". Weather permitting it will be held outside directly following our 8.30 service. Plan on joining us!

SCHOOL KITS - We are presently accepting donations of items for school kits through the end of September for this year's LWR school kit project. The items most needed are the **notebooks**, **rulers**, **and pens**. No backpacks are needed thanks to Jane! All items are listed below. Donations may be given to Jane Lesher, Denise Null and Connie Taylor. Last year, despite the obstacles, we put together 54 backpacks and delivered to the LWR pick-up site. Thank you to all who donated supplies and a special thanks to Beatty Gress for helping us achieve this amount. Thanks for all the help! While we still have a surplus of pencils, we depleted most of our other supplies last year, so we are starting from "scratch". We appreciate everyone following the guidelines listed below, as Lutheran World Relief will not send anything that does not adhere to these guidelines.

Thanks so much! Debbie Carvell

70-80 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper approximately $8" \times 10 \frac{1}{2}" - 4$ per backpack

30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other side – 1 per backpack

Pencil sharpeners – 1 per backpack

Blunt scissors (safety scissors). (They must say this on the packaging) – 1 per backpack

Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers – 5 per backpack

Black or blue ink pens – 5 per backpack

Packs of 16 or 24 crayons – 1 pack per backpack

 $2\frac{1}{2}$ " erasers – 1 per backpack