A Service of the Word

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 1, 2021

Pastor Bonnie Jacque

\*Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

**Bold** indicates reading or singing aloud

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Greeting

**One: The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

MANY: And also with you.

Announcements

\*Call To Worship

One: You call your people to prayer and praise in many ways. This day, bring us together just as you called the people of Israel to gather manna in the desert to eat and sustain life.
**Many: God of unity, give us this day our daily bread.
Offer us the nutrients we need to remain connected to you.
As spiritual beings, we desire to receive food that endures—faith, hope, and love.**One: God of grace, give us this day our daily bread. All life is created and nourished by you! **Many: May we grow into new circles of understanding and being, reflecting the ways in which we have been touched by your holy manna.
ALL: Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.**

\*HYMN #498 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

Responsive Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

One: When we feel so negative about ourselves and we do not hear the acceptance of those who care about us.

**ALL: Forgive us, O Lord.**

One: When our sense of isolation blocks out our awareness of your abiding love.

**ALL: Forgive us, O Lord.**

One: When we feel so guilty, we cannot hear your forgiveness and find new life.

**ALL: Forgive us, O Lord. Amen. The good news is that we are accepted and affirmed by God as we are.**

One: The good news is that we are not strangers to ourselves or to one another.

**ALL: We are God’s children, members of one body. Our sins are forgiven. We have been brought into new life.**

Scripture Readings: Exo 16: 2-4, 9-15; Psalm 78:23-29; John 6:24-35

Meditation

The Morning Offering

 Offertory Doxology Prayer of Dedication

* Prayer of Dedication
**O God, we share these gifts in the spirit of those who shared their loaves and fishes: we ask that you take these gifts and use them to feed all of creation—to produce seed and grain, filling humans and animals alike, and to restore wholeness in the places where malnourishment exists.**

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn #332 As We Gather At The Table verse **1**

Words of Institution

Communion Prayer

**We thank you, God, that you have provided for all the worlds that ever were or will be by giving yourself to them in love. We thank you for Jesus, your Word, who lived among us, uncovering your presence. We ask now that you bless us, as we share this bread and cup, that we might be nourished by that same unbounded love and so be encouraged to be your servants to the world. And now, as your daughters and sons who you have reconciled to yourself, we pray: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving **Bountiful God, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,**

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,**

**And we pray that our unity may one day be restored.**

**And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,**

**Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*ORGAN POSTULE

Worth a Thought

What drives our pursuit of Jesus?

Do we follow Jesus to get what we want or are we following Jesus to participate in and witness to the miraculous work of God?

“The lotus is the most beautiful flower, whose petals open one by one. But it will only grow in the mud. In order to grow and gain wisdom, first you must have the mud — the obstacles of life and its suffering. … The mud speaks of the common ground that humans share, no matter what our stations in life. … Whether we have it all or we have nothing, we are all faced with the same obstacles: sadness, loss, illness, dying and death. If we are to strive as human beings to gain more wisdom, more kindness and more compassion, we must have the intention to grow as a lotus and open each petal one by one. ” — Goldie Hawn