

## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Desert Feasting  
July 18 & 19, 2015

### AS WE GATHER

Jesus and the His disciples were confronted with thousands of hungry people in the wilderness. Not unlike the exodus desert centuries earlier, there is almost no food; logic suggests sending them back home. But Jesus, filled with compassion, miraculously feeds everyone. We live in a society we might call a spiritual desert. Yet here, too, our compassionate Shepherd meets our physical and spiritual needs. Instead of scattering us to fend for ourselves, as did the leaders of God's Old Testament people, He unites us as His one flock. Jews and Gentiles, in the Epistle, find a unity in the peace of their one Savior, and so do we. Today, we have a feast of Word and Sacrament, yes, even here in the midst of our desert wandering, thanks be to God.

### WELCOME

*As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10-11)*

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### OPENING HYMN #818

#### “In Thee Is Gladness”

In Thee is gladness Amid all sadness, Jesus sunshine of my heart.  
By Thee are given The gifts of heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art.  
Our souls Thou wakest, Our bonds Thou breakest;  
Who trust Thee surely Has built securely;  
He stands forever: Alleluia!  
Our hearts are pining To see Thy shining,  
Dying or living To Thee are cleaving;  
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

Since He is ours, We fear no powers, Not of earth nor sin nor death.  
He sees and blesses In worst distresses; He can change them with a breath.  
Wherefore the story Tell of His glory With hearts and voices;  
All heav'n rejoices In Him forever: Alleluia!  
We shout for gladness, Triumph o'er sadness,  
Love Him and praise Him And still shall raise Him  
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Isaiah 53:6*

Pastor: All we like sheep have gone astray;

**People: we have turned—every one—to his own way;**

Pastor: and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Let us therefore go to our Lord, confident of His grace and mercy. Our heavenly Father,

**People: we are by nature sinful and are entirely lost, fallen, and blind. Our cares and worries—our sins—blur our vision of your grace and mercy. We do not always trust that you are concerned enough to meet all our physical and spiritual needs. For Jesus' sake we humbly ask your forgiveness for all our failures of weak faith and for listening to other voices. Open our ears and our eyes so that we may follow you, our True Shepherd, through every shadowy valley until we behold the streams of quiet water that eternally flow from your throne of grace.**

Pastor: O people of His pasture, the sheep of His hand, surely for Jesus' sake, goodness and mercy shall follow you all the days of your life. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

*Continued next page*

**HYMN OF PRAISE #711 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Stanzas 1 & 2**

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.  
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.  
  
We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;  
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.

**SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Good Shepherd of the sheep, you provide the protection, nourishment, and guidance we need every day of our lives.

**People: Remind us again through your gracious Word that we need not fear lacking anything physical or spiritual within your compassionate care;**

Pastor: for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**5:00 ADULT BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION of Timothy Odor**

✠ **WORD** ✠

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Jeremiah 23:1–6* (God promises to replace Israel's sinful human shepherds with a truly righteous Shepherd.) "Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the LORD. "I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the LORD. "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will

reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.

**EPISTLE** *Ephesians 2:11–22* (Jews and Gentiles are united in Christ.) Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)-- remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Mark 6:30–44* (Jesus feeds the five thousand in the desert.) The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?" "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said,

"Five--and two fish." Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to set before the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**SERMON HYMN** "Two Little Fish, Five Loaves of Bread" Tune: LSB #595

Two little fish, five loaves of bread, Too few that hungry crowds be fed!  
Shall we this small meal give to You, When we've naught else to see us through?

We see compassion in Your eyes; Our ev'ry fear it so defies!  
Good Shepherd, what can You still do When these our off'rings are so few?

Why do You pray, a blessing say? Will they our inner fears allay?  
But then there's more, enough to share! Your gracious love trumps our despair!

Teach us, Lord Jesus, here today, Your grace to trust, Your will obey.  
Move us our "fish," our "bread" to give That many may rejoice and live.

You are the Bread of Life, O Lord; You paid the price that we might live.  
Through us, now, Savior, may grace flow That Your great love thousands may know.

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**SERMON** "A Feast in the Middle of Nowhere" Mark 6:30-44

(Rise)

**9:00 APOSTLES' CREED** *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

**OFFERINGS** As your offering is collected, ***please sign our attendance book*** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their need. Almighty God, you have redeemed us from sin and death by the blood of your Son and made us fellow citizens with the saints and members of your household. Keep us steadfast in the one true faith.

**People:** **Guard us from temptations to change your Truth according to sinful reason. Grant us grace to joyfully hear your Word and submit to your gracious will.**

**Pastor:** Most merciful God, you appoint pastors to carry on the apostolic ministry of proclaiming your Gospel to all nations. Set shepherds over your people who truly care for them and lead them by your Word. Preserve them and their households from every attack of the evil one, from every temptation and from arrogance and discouragement.

**People:** **Give our pastors and all pastors grace to daily repent of sin and trust in you for every good gift they need in their calling.**

**Pastor:** Almighty God, your beloved Son had compassion on the great crowd in a desolate place, and He taught them many things because they were like sheep without a shepherd. Grant us, who know your mercy, to be compassionate to all those who are lost and in need of your grace.

**People:** **Help the weak, the unbelieving, and those straying from you to hear your Word and rejoice to follow Christ as their good shepherd.**

**Pastor:** Heavenly Father, in Jesus' compassion for the crowd, He also provided bread and fish until all had eaten their fill and were satisfied. Provide daily bread for all people, according to your will.

**People:** **Wherever people are hungry and lack essentials for daily life, give to us, your people, the compassion and means to be instruments of your love and provision.**

**Pastor:** God of all grace, as Jesus provided food in abundance to the multitude, He also provided healing throughout His ministry to those in need. Remember all in need of your help and deliverance, especially Chandler, Eleanor, Linda, Jo, Gladys, Helene, Roy, Ron, Russ, Kathleen, Gretchen, Jack, Marge, Sharon, Helen, Shirley, Marion, Jack, Gretchen, Lois and Sarah.

**People: Hear and answer all who cry out for your mercy. Grant strength and healing according to your good and gracious will.**

Pastor: Holy God, your Son is the living bread from heaven. He provides His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Bless your people who receive your gifts in the Holy Supper this day.

**People: Guard us from irreverence and all manner of unworthiness. Grant us to rejoice in your grace and salvation.**

Pastor: Lord of baptismal grace, we pray for Tim Odor as he is baptized into your kingdom this day, and becomes a member of our church family.

**People: May we be a blessing to him, and he a blessing to us.**

Pastor: Risen and victorious Savior, grant comfort and hope to all who grieve, and especially this day Denton who remembers his wife Linda.

**People: Show us the victory you have won for us in your own resurrection, and remind us that death has no hold over those who put their trust in you.**

Pastor: We give thanks to you, O Lord, that you have made us fellow citizens with the saints in light. Keep us in the true faith for as long as you preserve us in this world, so that we might hopefully and eagerly await the day when we stand in your presence with them; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## 9:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

### AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

### **HYMN #774 "Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy"**

Feed Thy children, God most holy; Comfort sinners poor and lowly.

O Thou Bread of Life from heaven, Bless the food Thou here hast given!

As these gifts the body nourish, May our souls in graces flourish

Till with saints in heav'nly splendor At Thy feast due thanks we render.

### **HYMN #540 "Christ, the Word of God Incarnate"**

Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;

Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I Am;

Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all;

Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.

Christ, the living bread from heaven, Food for body, food for soul;

Christ, the manna daily given, Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.

Feed us with the food of heaven, Fore-taste of the feast to be;

Quench our thirst with living water Springing up eternally.

Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant From the stump of Jesse's tree;

Christ, true vine, You nurture branches To bear fruit abundantly.

Graft us into You, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain

Fruitful branches in Your vineyard Till eternal life we gain.

Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, Watching all Your lambs and sheep;

Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, Never failing vigil keep.

When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home;

Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice alone.

Christ, the way that leads unfailing To the Father's home on high,

Christ, the truth that frees the captive, Christ, the life that cannot die.

Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest:

Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, There to share Your wedding feast.

Christ, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the firstborn from the dead,

Christ, the life and resurrection, Christ, the Church's glorious head:

Praise and thanks and adoration And unending worship be

To the Father and the Spirit And to You eternally.

**HYMN #625 “Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread”**

Lord Jesus Christ, life giving bread, May I in grace possess You.  
Let me with holy food be fed. In hunger I address You.  
Prepare me well for You, O Lord, And, humbly by my prayer implored,  
Give me Your grace and mercy.

To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, To restful waters lead me;  
Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me.  
Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak, Refuge in You alone I seek,  
To share Your cup of healing.

O bread of heav’n, my soul’s delight, For full and free remission  
I come with prayer before Your sight In sorrow and contrition.  
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me That I receive You worthily,  
Assured of Your full pardon.

I do not merit favor, Lord, My weight of sin would break me;  
In all my guilty heart’s discord, O Lord, do not forsake me.  
In my distress this comforts me That You receive me graciously,  
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

**HYMN #709 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”**

The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul He leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me  
And on His shoulder gently laid And home rejoicing brought me.

In death’s dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise Within Thy house forever!

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING** *Psalm 107:1*

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

**People: for His steadfast love endures forever!**

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING HYMN #644 “The Church’s One Foundation”**

The Church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation By water and the Word.  
From heav’n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o’er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, “How long?”  
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.  
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

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Preacher  
Liturgist  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Organist  
Music Coordinator

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Pastor Harold Bender  
Dalen Heinzen, Heidi Leiser  
Dante Militello, Sophie Moravec  
Roger Gottschalk  
Kim Woller