

## TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### The Bread of Life

July 29, August 1 & 2, 2015

#### AS WE GATHER

Jesus had just miraculously fed the crowd. Amazed, they wanted more. Perhaps they imagined that Jesus had come to feed the entire world and solve the problem of famine forever. But Jesus had a surprise for them. While it would be a wonderful thing to feed everyone in the world, something would be missing. People would still be in need of forgiveness of sin, and they would still need hope for life beyond the grave. They would still need a more deeply nourishing food than food for their stomachs. Yes, Jesus fed hungry people with food for their stomachs. But He also gave them much more. God had given the Israelites manna in the wilderness; now God was giving them a new manna to satisfy their deepest hunger. He was giving them His only Son, Jesus, who declared to all, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst." We come to church perhaps expecting to connect with friends, sing songs, and get on with our summer activities; instead we get Jesus, the bread of life, to feed us with forgiveness, with hope, and with renewed energy to feed the world, both body and soul.

#### WELCOME

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.  
Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy  
and be glad all our days. (Psalm 90:12, 14, NIV)

#### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### OPENING HYMN #629

#### "What Is This Bread"

What is this bread? Christ's body risen from the dead:  
This bread we break, This life we take, Was crushed to pay for our release.  
O taste and see the Lord is peace.

What is this wine? The blood of Jesus shed for mine;  
The cup of grace Brings His embrace Of life and love until I sing!  
O taste and see the Lord is King.

1 continued

So who am I, That I should live and He should die Under the rod?  
My God, my God, Why have You not forsaken me?  
O taste and see the Lord is free.

Yet is God here? Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,  
In mouth and soul He makes us whole Christ, truly present in this meal.  
O taste and see the Lord is real.

Is this for me? I am forgiven and set free!  
I do believe That I receive His very body and His blood.  
O taste and see the Lord is good.

(Rise)

#### INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

#### OPENING SENTENCES *John 6:34–35*

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life;

**People: whoever comes to Me shall not hunger,**

Pastor: and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst."

**People: Lord, give us this bread always.**

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.**

Pastor: We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

**People: We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

Pastor: We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment.

**People: For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

Pastor: Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

**People: so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.**

**All: Amen.**

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Pastor: God brought the Israelites from slavery and death to freedom and life by bringing them through the sea. God brought you from sin and death to freedom and life by your Baptism into Christ. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

#### **“This is the Feast”**

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Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**People:** (sung)

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength  
and honor and blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Father, you gave your Son, Jesus, as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in your Word and Sacrament that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**9:00 BAPTISM** of Mason Ray Hagel

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### **☩ WORD ☩**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Exodus 16:2–15* (The Israelites grumble about the scarcity of food, and God lavishes them with quail and manna.)

In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the LORD's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death." Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt, and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?" Moses also said, "You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD." Then Moses told Aaron, "Say to the entire Israelite community, 'Come before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.' " While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud. The LORD said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.' " That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat.

**EPISTLE** *Ephesians 4:1–16* (Unity as the Body of Christ)

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit--just as you were called to one hope when you were called--one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is

why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 6:22–35* (Jesus is the bread of life, God's manna to us.)

The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." "Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread." Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

(Be seated)

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## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON HYMN

### "I Am the Bread of Life"

W & R #703

"I am the Bread of life. You who come to Me shall not hunger; you who believe in Me shall not thirst.

No one can come to Me unless the Father beckons."

**Refrain:** "And I will raise you up, And I will raise you up.  
And I will raise you up on the last day."

"The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever." **Refrain**

Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink of His blood, and drink of His blood, you shall not have life within you." **Refrain**

I am the Resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live forever." **Refrain**

Yes, Lord, we believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come into the world. **Refrain**

### SERMON

### "The Bread of Life"

John 6:22-35

(Rise)

**6:00 & 5:00 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 Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

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*After each petition:*

Pastor: let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Pastor: . . . through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## 6:00 & 5:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

### ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

#### 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 #642 "O Living Bread from Heaven"

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.

#### HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing,

Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.

He Himself makes preparation, And I hear His invitation:

"Come and taste the blessed feast."

Christ Himself, the priest presiding, Yet in bread and wine abiding

In this holy sacrament,

Gives the bread of life, once broken, And the cup, the precious token

Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy,

Blood and body, giv'n for me,

Very Lamb of God from heaven, Who to bitter death was given,

Hung upon the cursed tree.

God descends with heav'nly power, Gives Himself to me this hour

In this ordinary sign. On my tongue His pledge receiving,

I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine.

Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor,

Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me,

With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.

Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation,

Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry tremor,

Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

**HYMN #918 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”**

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more:  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer, Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell’s destruction, Land me safe on Canaan’s side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee; I will ever give to Thee.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Almighty God of heaven and earth, you command the skies above and provide sunshine and rain to nourish the land, producing food to nourish our bodies. You spoke your Word into the world, our Lord Jesus Christ, who rains upon us daily with mercy, forgiveness, and hope. For this bread of life, we thank and praise you, and we ask that you continue to form us to be a people filled with gentleness and patience, bearing with one another in love, and eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace; through Jesus Christ, the bread of life, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: You have been fed with the bread of life. You are maturing into the full stature of the fullness of Christ. You are no longer tossed to and fro and carried by every wind of doctrine. You are being built up into the Body of Christ in love. 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.**

**CLOSING HYMN #680 “Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”**

Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise  
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread  
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup  
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be  
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee  
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry  
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest  
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be  
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war  
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise  
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways  
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least  
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light  
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally  
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee  
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

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Preacher & Liturgist  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Organist  
Music Coordinator

Pastor Gregg Stanton  
Laurel Privatt, Manley Hurst, Jim Adams  
Abbie Moravec, Abigail Fellenbaum, Emily Reinhardt  
Roger Gottschalk  
Kim Woller

