



***Welcome to  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Child Development Center and Pre-School  
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor***

*July 28, 2024*

Jesus then took the loaves,  
and when he had given thanks,

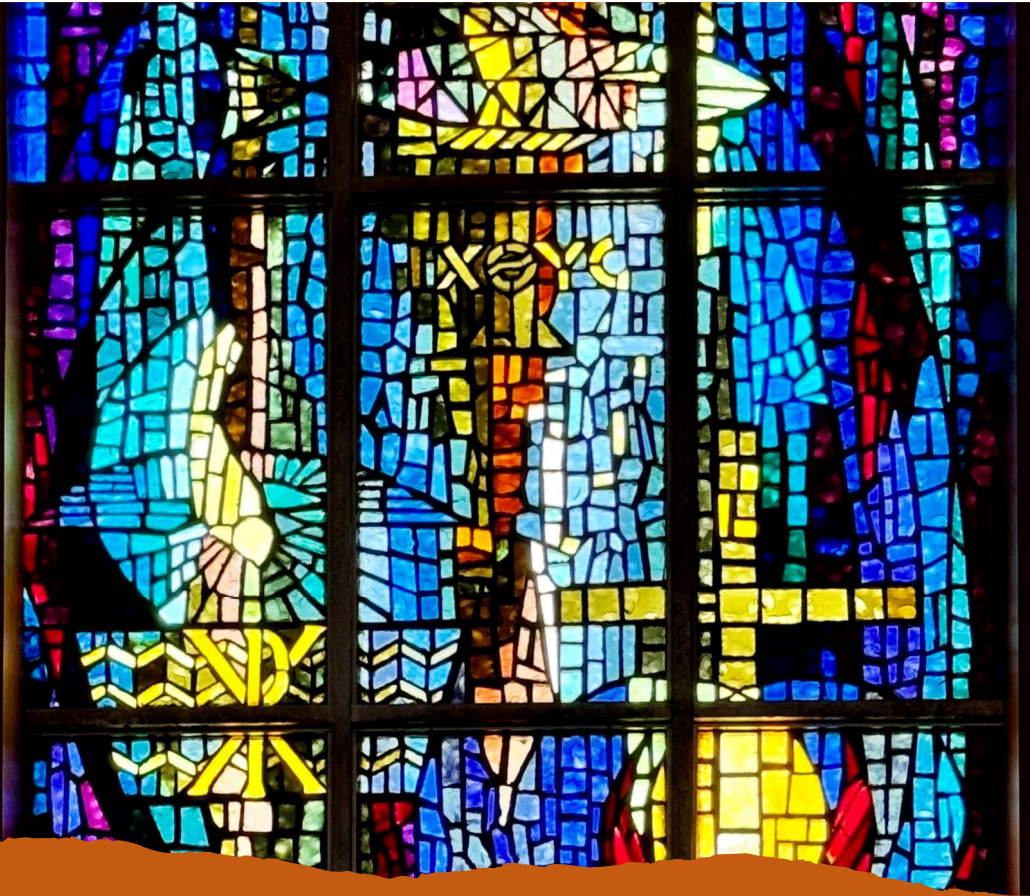
he distributed them.

John 6:11



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**lcmc**

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US

## **INTRODUCTION**

*Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.*

# CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,+ one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.  
We question your ways when they differ from  
the ways of the world in which we live.  
We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.  
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.  
Through Jesus, + the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**



## **Gathering Hymn**

**“Will You Come and Follow Me”**

**Hymn # 798**

**1 Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't  
know  
and never be the same?**

Hymn # 798

**Will you let my love be  
shown,  
will you let my name be  
known,**

Hymn # 798

**will you let my life be grown  
in you  
and you in me?**

Hymn # 798

**2 Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?**

Hymn # 798

**Will you risk the hostile stare,  
should your life attract or  
scare?**

Hymn # 798

**Will you let me answer pray'r  
in you  
and you in me?**

Hymn # 798

**3 Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free  
and never be the same?**

Hymn # 798



**Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,**

Hymn # 798

**and admit to what I mean in you  
and you in me?**

Hymn # 798

**4 Will you love the you you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?**

Hymn # 798

**Will you use the faith you've  
found  
to reshape the world around,**

Hymn # 798

**through my sight and touch  
and sound in you  
and you in me?**

Hymn # 798

**Final Lord your summons  
echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.**

Hymn # 798

**In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps  
show.**

Hymn # 798

**Thus I'll move and live and  
grow in you  
and you in me.**

Hymn # 798



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.**

# Kyrie

*Kyrie eleison*

***Lord, have mercy.***

*Christe eleison*

***Christ, have mercy.***

*Kyrie eleison*

***Lord, have mercy.***

## **Glory To God**

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you  
thanks, we praise you for your  
glory.*

*[Refrain]*

*[Refrain]*

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the  
Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated  
at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.*

*[Refrain]*

*[Refrain]*

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus  
Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the  
glory of God the Father. Amen.*

*[Refrain]*



*[Refrain]*

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth, and peace to God's people  
on earth.*

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# WORD

*FIRST READING: 2 Kings 4:42-44*

*Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

<sup>42</sup>A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha], the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." <sup>43</sup>But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" <sup>44</sup>He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 145:10-18

*You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.  
(Ps. 145:16)*

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory of your  
kingdom  
and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting  
kingdom;  
your dominion endures throughout  
all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your  
words,  
and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup> **The eyes of all wait upon you, O  
LORD,  
and you give them their food in due  
season.**

<sup>16</sup> You open wide your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup> **You are righteous in all your ways  
and loving in all your works.**

<sup>18</sup> You are near to all who call upon you,  
to all who call upon you faithfully.



## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21**

*We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,  
<sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes  
its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that, according to the riches of his  
glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in  
your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup>and  
that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as  
you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup>I pray that  
you may have the power to comprehend, with all the  
saints, what is the breadth and length and height and

depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

***Alleluia.***

***Lord, to whom shall we go?***

***Alleluia.***

***You have the words of eternal Life.***

***Alleluia, alleluia.***

# GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John 6:1-21

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL: John 6:1-21**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy

bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.

<sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little."

<sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so



many people? <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing

may be lost." <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

<sup>15</sup>When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

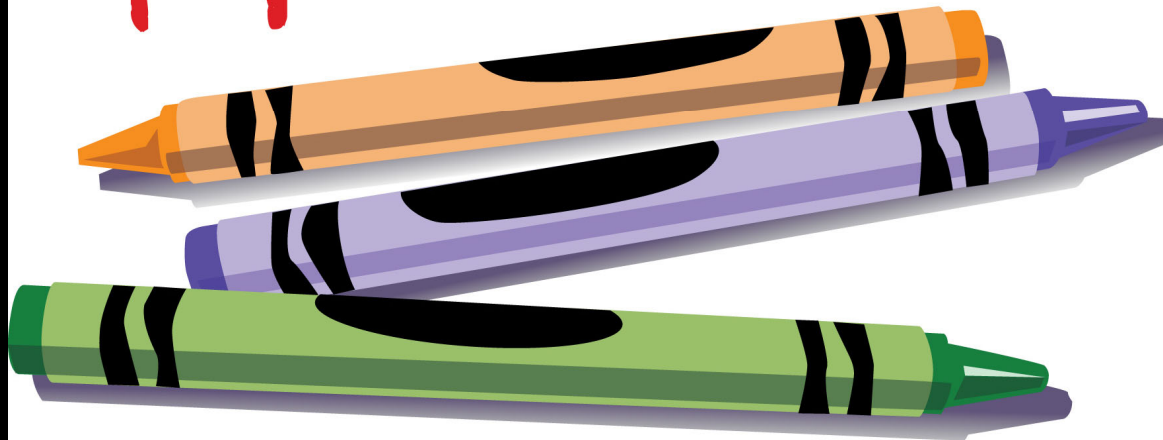
<sup>16</sup>When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup>got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup>The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup>When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup>But he said to them, "It is I; do not be

afraid." <sup>21</sup>Then they wanted to take him into the boat,  
and immediately the boat reached the land toward  
which they were going.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# Children's Message



# **Sermon**

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley



John 6, 1-15

**Hymn of the Day**

**“When We Are Living”**

**Hymn # 639**



**<sup>1</sup> When we are living,  
it is in Christ Jesus,  
and when we're dying,  
it is in the Lord.**

Hymn # 639

**Both in our living  
and in our dying,  
we belong to God,  
we belong to God.**

Hymn # 639

**2 'Mid times of sorrow  
and in times of pain,  
when sensing beauty  
or in love's embrace,**

Hymn # 639

**whether we suffer,  
or sing rejoicing,  
we belong to God,  
we belong to God.**

Hymn # 639

**Final** Across this wide world,  
we shall always find  
those who are crying  
with no peace of mind,

Hymn # 639

**and when we help them,  
or when we feed them,  
we belong to God,  
we belong to God.**

Hymn # 639

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

## **CREED**

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the  
Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and  
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

God of generations, you work in us far more than we can ask or imagine. Bless the church you have called into being across time and space, and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of field and forest, streams and seas, you are the fullness of all things. As grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation. Protect harvests and give every person food in due season. In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God beyond borders, you rule all in all. Bless the work of humanitarians and peacekeepers, shield those who live, work, or serve in harm's way, and bring an end to war and conflict (nations and places may be named). In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering (especially), families in our community who endure hunger, those who seek asylum or citizenship, and our beloved for whom death is near. In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you root us and ground us in love. As you inspired our ancestors in this place in their ministry, sustain us also in new endeavors, that your glory may be made known, and your lovingkindness shared anew. In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries: for Cheryl Kruckemeyer our missionary in Tanzania, for Mac & Selah in South Asia, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings, Texas & Denny Park Lutheran Church in Seattle, Washington. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you sent your son with a mission to seek and to save the lost. Give us the courage and faith to join you in the Kingdom work that you are up to right in our own community. We thank you for our network of churches, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ and our Texas District. By the power of your Holy Spirit, guide our District Council and give them wisdom as they promote our mission to multiply disciples and churches. Today we also give you thanks for Emmanuel in Inez, Texas and their pastor Cindy Bailey. Bless their work for your Kingdom's sake. In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**



God of all, your love in Christ surpasses all knowledge. We give thanks for the departed who have come to know the fullness of your grace. Join our voices with theirs (and with musicians Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel) and all the saints in singing your praises. In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you. Amen.**

## **Canticle of Thanksgiving**

*Refrain* ***Salvation belongs to our God  
and to Christ the Lamb for ever and  
ever.***

***<sup>1</sup> Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations.***

***Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name?***

*Refrain* **Salvation belongs to our God  
and to Christ the Lamb forever and  
ever.**

***2 For you alone are the Holy One,  
and blessed is the one whose  
name is the Word of God.  
All praise and thanks to you, holy  
God!***

*Refrain* **Salvation belongs to our God  
and to Christ the Lamb forever and  
ever.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**



Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

**Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn**

**“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”**

**Hymn # 674**

**<sup>1</sup> Let us talents and tongues  
employ, reaching out with a  
shout of joy:**

Hymn # 674

**bread is broken, the wine is  
poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen  
and heard.**

Hymn # 674

## Refrain

**Jesus lives again, earth can  
breathe again,  
pass the Word around:  
loaves abound!**

Hymn # 674



**2 Christ is able to make us  
one, at the table he sets the  
tone,**

Hymn # 674

**teaching people to live to  
bless, love in word and in  
deed express.  
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 674

## Refrain

**Jesus lives again, earth can  
breathe again,  
pass the Word around:  
loaves abound!**

Hymn # 674

**Final Jesus calls us in, sends  
us out bearing fruit in a  
world of doubt,**

Hymn # 674

**gives us love to tell, bread to  
share: God (Immanuel)  
ev'rywhere!  
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 674

## Refrain

**Jesus lives again, earth can  
breathe again,  
pass the Word around:  
loaves abound!**

Hymn # 674

# DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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