**Faith & First**

## Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

## ~ August 4, 2024 ~

**Gathering**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\* Confession & Forgiveness** WOV pg. 10

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***C: Amen.***

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

***C: Amen.***

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Gracious God,

***C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Entrance Hymn “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”**

LBW #343ELW #618

Vs. 1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this

barren land. I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me

with your pow'rful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
 feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.

Vs. 2 Open now the crystal fountain where the healing

waters flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me

all my journey through. Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
 shield me with your mighty arm, shield me with your mighty arm.

Vs. 3 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 and praises, songs and praises  
 I will raise forevermore, I will raise forevermore.

**Greeting** *WOV pg. 28*

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

***C: And also with you.***

**\* Kyrie***WOV pg. 28*

P: Kyrie eleison:

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: Christe eleison:

***C: Christ, have mercy.***

P: Kyrie eleison:

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

**\* Hymn of Praise** *WOV pg.29*

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.

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.

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.

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**

P: O God,

***C:*** ***eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

**Word**

**First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15**

*A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.*

2The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. 3The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

4Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. 9Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" 10And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. 11The LORD spoke to Moses and said, 12"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

13In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. 14When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. 15When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

**Psalm 78:23-29**

23So God commanded the clouds above and opened the doors of heaven,

**24raining down manna upon them to eat and giving them grain from heaven. God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels.**

25So mortals ate the bread of angels; God provided for them food enough.

**26The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens and powerfully led out the south wind,**

27raining down flesh upon them like dust and flying birds like the sand of the seas,

**28letting them fall in the midst of the camp and round about the dwellings.**

29So the people ate and were well filled, for God gave them what they craved.

**God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels.**

**SECOND READING**: **Ephesians 4:1-16**

*Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.*

1I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

7But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;

he gave gifts to his people."

9(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) 11The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. 14We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. 15But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

**\* Gospel Acclamation** *WOV pg. 31*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel**: **John 6:24-35**

*Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.*

24When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. 25When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" 26Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." 28Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" 29Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." 30So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" 32Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

35Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day “We Come to the Hungry Feast”** WOV #766

Vs.1 We come to the hungry feast hungry for a word of peace.

To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is

not denied. We come, we come to the hungry feast.

Vs. 2 We come to the hungry feast hungry for a world released

from hungry folk of ev'ry kind, the poor in body,

poor in mind. We come, we come to the hungry feast.

Vs. 3 We come to the hungry feast hungry that the hunger cease,

and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay

with us still. We come, we come to the hungry feast.

\* **Apostles’ Creed** *WOV pg. 33* 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 into hell.

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.

**\* The Prayers**

***Lord, listen to your children praying,*** *WOV #775*

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom, to guide our hearts, and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

O Wise One, your wisdom has been present in this world since its beginning. Pour out your wisdom into the hearts of the whole church, especially the newly baptized, lay leaders, deacons, pastors and bishops. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God of all creation, you are the source of all life. Where the sun blazes hard and strong, bring a gentle breeze. In the places experiencing the cold of winter, bring your warmth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, help government leaders of this world untie for peace and justice. Humble all who hold authority, that power is directed toward a more just society. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Bread of life from heaven, you feed us. Fill all who hunger with needed nutrition and open our hearts to eliminate hunger in this world. May we see a day when all are fed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O Wisdom of truth, help us to understand your will for the church. Be with congregations experiencing transition, redevelopment and the exciting yet frightening path of newness. May your wisdom be found in every step. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Redeeming God, we give thanks for the lives and witness of your saints now departed (especially). Bring your beloved into eternal glory, opening wide the gates to the heavenly banquet. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

**Meal**

**Peace**

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

***C: And also with you.***

**\* Offering *“Let the vineyards”*** *WOV pg. 35*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we

offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\* Offering Prayer**

P: Merciful God,

***C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given to us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**\* Great Thanksgiving** *WOV pg. 36*P: The Lord be with you.

***C: And also with you.***

P: Lift up your hearts.

***C: We lift them to the Lord.***

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**\* Words of Institution** *WOV pg. 36*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Lord’s Prayer** *WOV pg. 39*

***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.***

**Communion Distribution**

**\*Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep

you in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Canticle** *WOV Pg. 40*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell every-

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord rejoice and bear Christ’s holy name.

Send us with your promises, O God,

and lead us forth in joy with shouts

Of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

**\* Prayer** WOV Pg. 41

P:Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

***C: Amen.***

**Sending**

**\* Blessing** WOV Pg. 41

P: Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\* Sending Hymn “Blessed Assurance”** WOV #699

Vs.1 Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory

divine!  
 Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his

blood.

***Refrain:  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.***

Vs. 2 Perfect submission; perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on

my sight;  
 angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of

love. ***Refrain***

***Refrain:  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.***

Vs. 3 Perfect submission: all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
 watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in

his love. ***Refrain***

**\* Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***