

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

August 5, 2018

10:00 am



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Food for Every Part of

AS WE GATHER

In today's Gospel, the crowds are still trying to stay close to Jesus, but He says it's for the wrong reason. They want to fill their stomachs, and He declares that He is the bread of life. As the manna in the wilderness wasn't produced by Moses, but was a gift from God, so Jesus didn't come to produce physical bread. He is God's gift to us for what we need in every part of our lives here in time and for eternity. The Epistle focuses on our being part of the Body of Christ, with "one Lord, one faith, one Baptism." Indeed, we are gifts of God to one another, called to faith to speak the truth in love and to work together to build up the Body to the measure of Christ Himself.

GATHERING SONGS

THE LION AND THE LAMB

Brown/Johnson/Mooring

He's coming on the clouds,
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break,
As broken hearts declare His praise
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

**CHORUS: Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before You
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
For the sin of the world,
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow
Before the Lion and the Lamb
Oh every knee will bow Before the Lion and the Lamb**

So open up the gates, make way before the King of kings
Our God who calls the saved is here to set the captives free
Who can stop the Lord Almighty? **CHORUS**

THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

Wickham

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness,
whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder,
who leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

**CHORUS: This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
that You would take my place, that You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me.**

Who brings our chaos back into order,
who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The King of Glory, the King of Glory.

Who rules the nations with truth and justice,
shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings. **CHORUS**



"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and...
honor and glory and praise!"
Revelation 5:12, NIV

✘ PREPARATION ✘

PASTORAL GREETING

OPENING SONG EVERLASTING GOD

Brown—Riley

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord

Our God You reign forever
Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

**CHORUS: You are the everlasting God The everlasting God
You do not faint You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✘ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Ephesians 4:1–3, 5–6*

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and His forgiving grace.

Paul urges us in today's Epistle "to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

People: But we are not worthy of the calling. We confess that at times we have refused to be humble or gentle. Our patience has been lacking. We have dealt with one another in anger. We have valued ourselves over the unity of the Spirit. In our fallen condition, we cannot free ourselves; so we can only call out to God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Pastor: Paul reminds us that there is one Lord, who has created you and all things; there is one faith in Christ, who by His death has paid for your sins and by

His rising has opened the way to eternal life; and there is one Baptism, by which the Holy Spirit has brought You to faith in the one God and Father of us all, who is over all and through all and in all.

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.

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 16:2–15

(Although the Israelites, freed from Egypt, grumble, God provides quail and manna in the wilderness.)

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 the 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Lead a life
worthy of the calling ...
making every effort
to maintain the unity
of the **Spirit** in
the bond of **peace.**
Ephesians 4:1-3

EPISTLE: Ephesians 4:1–16

(God has created, redeemed, and called us all to the one Church, a unity shown in our love for one another and all people.)

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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:22–35

(Referring to the manna in the wilderness, Jesus calls Himself the bread of life.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Pastor: On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with His disciples, but that His disciples had gone away alone. Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

When they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him,

People: “Rabbi, when did You come here?”

Pastor: Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on Him God the Father has set His seal.” Then they said to Him,

People: “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?”

Pastor: Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.”

People: So they said to Him, “Then what sign do You do, that we may see and believe You? What work do You perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

Pastor: Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but My Father 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.”

People: They said to Him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Pastor: Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kathy Johnson

SONG OF THE DAY IN CHRIST ALONE

Townend—Getty

In Christ alone my hope is found.
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh.
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid, Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death.
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

SERMON "Jesus Christ: The Bread of Life"

Pastor John Larson
TEXT: John 6:22-35

NICENE CREED *Text found in the back of the Hymnal.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: **And also with you.**

*We share the Lord's peace with one another, saying,
"Peace be with you."*



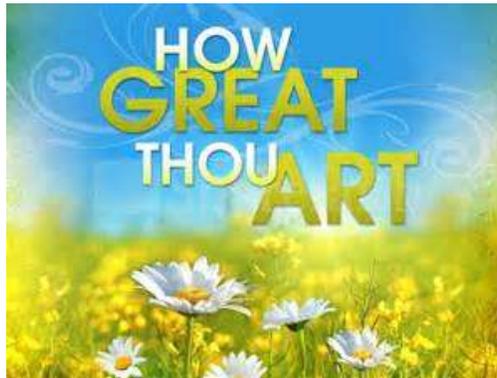
O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
 Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
 I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
 Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

REFRAIN: **Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
 How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
 Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
 How great Thou art, How great Thou art!**

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
 I hear the birds sing sweetly in the tress;
 When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
 And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. **REFRAIN**

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;
 Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
 That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
 He bled and died to take away my sin. **REFRAIN**

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
 And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
 Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,
 And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" **REFRAIN**



HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.



✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
People: And also with you.
 Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*
People: We lift them to the Lord.
 Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

LORD’S PRAYER *Text found in the back of the Hymnal. (Matthew 6:9–13)*

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

OCEANS

Crocker/Houston

You call me out upon the waters,
The great unknown where feet may fail.
And there I find You in the mystery,
In oceans deep, my faith will stand.

**CHORUS: And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine.**

Your grace abounds in deepest waters,
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide.
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me,
You've never failed and You won't start now. **CHORUS**

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Savior. **CHORUS**

JESUS

Chris Tomlin

There is a truth older than the ages There is a promise of things yet to come
There is One born for our salvation, Jesus
There is a light that overwhelms the darkness There is a kingdom that forever reigns
There is freedom from the chains that bind us Jesus, Jesus

**CHORUS: Who walks on the waters Who speaks to the sea
Who stands in the fire beside me He roars like a lion
He bled as the Lamb
He carries my healing in His hands, Jesus**

There is a name I call in times of trouble
There is a song that comforts in the night
There is a voice that calms the storm that rages
He is Jesus Jesus **CHORUS**

Messiah, My Savior There is power in Your name
You're my rock and my Redeemer
There is power in Your name In Your name **CHORUS**

BETTER IS ONE DAY

Redman

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for You. For here my heart is satisfied
within Your presence. I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

**CHORUS: Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,
Than thousands elsewhere.**

One thing I ask and I would seek: To see Your beauty, to find You in the place
Your glory dwells. One thing I ask and I would seek:
To see Your beauty, to find You in the place Your glory dwells.

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.

My heart and flesh cry out for You, the Living God.
Your Spirit's water to my soul. I've tasted, and I've seen. Come once again to me.
I will draw near to You. I will draw near to You, to You. **CHORUS**

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

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. *Numbers 6:24–26*
People: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG GOD'S NOT DEAD (LIKE A LION) DANIEL BASHTA

Let love explode and bring the dead to life
A love so bold to see a revolution somehow **REPEAT**

Now I'm lost in Your freedom Oh this world I'll overcome

**CHORUS: My God's not dead He's surely alive
He's living on the inside Roaring like a lion
God's not dead He's surely alive
He's living on the inside Roaring like a lion,
Roaring, He's roaring, He's roaring like a lion**

Let hope arise and make the darkness hide
My faith is dead I need a resurrection somehow **REPEAT**

Now I'm lost in Your freedom Oh this world I'll overcome **CHORUS**

**“I am the
LORD,
and there is no other.”**

Isaiah 45:5



CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
ORGANIST
YOUTH PRAISE BAND

Pastor John Larson
Michael Zehnder
Diana Gaide
Brooke Boeding, Larry Boeding, Lilly
Brinkman, Will Kopriva, Sam Riebling,
Bob Shiflet, Brian Johnson

ELDER 8:00
10:00

Arvin Michel
Roger Gaide

LECTOR 8:00
10:00

Mavis Slifka
Ted Lemke

ACOLYTE 8:00
10:00

Jake Faulk
Ethan Pankow

USHERS 8:00
10:00

Barry Kratzer, Members of the
Congregation

Jason Dierking, Members of the
Congregation

SERVER 10:00
ALTAR GUILD

May Bible
Shelia Beu, Rita Kratzer, Phyllis
McConnell

FLOWERS

Edna & Linda Achziger, in celebration of
Jacob Achziger's 95th birthday and in
loving memory of Bertha Propstein