



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

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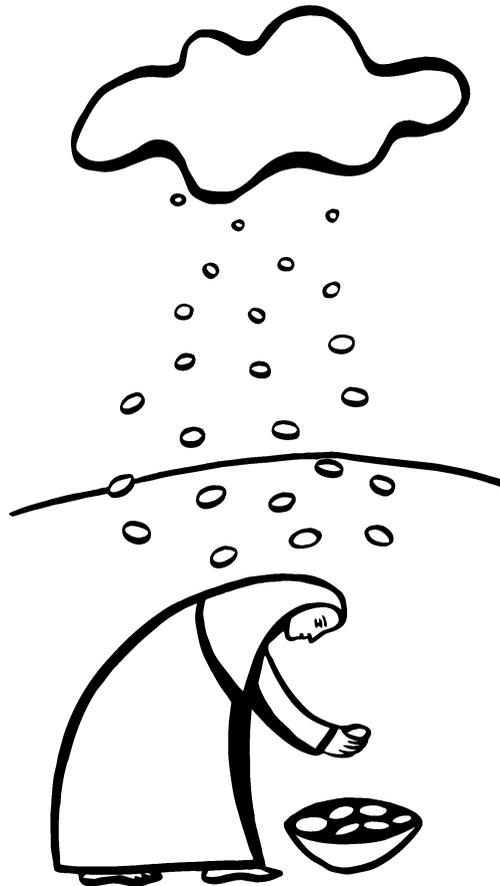
Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



August 1, 2021
Tenth Sunday
After Pentecost

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

✠CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

C **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.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

✠GATHERING HYMN – What Feast of Love (ELW #487)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | What feast of love is offered here,
what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life,
what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given! | 2 | What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given! |
|---|--|---|---|

3 What wine of love is offered here,
what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!

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✠PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. O God, 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.

C Amen.

Word

✠FIRST LESSON – 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 78:23-29**

²³Yet he commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven;

²⁴**he rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.**

²⁵Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
he sent them food in abundance.

²⁶**He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;**

²⁷he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;

²⁸**he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.**

²⁹And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.

✠ **SECOND LESSON – 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **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.

P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the sixth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, 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.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

✠SERMON

✠HYMN OF THE DAY – I Am the Bread of Life (ELW #485)

- 1 "I am the Bread of life.
You who come to me shall not hunger,
and 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."

- 2 "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*

- 3 "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*

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

- 5 Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,
who have come into the world. *Refrain*

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✠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Let us offer our prayers for all in need.

A brief silence.

A O God, we lament the ways that your church is divided by past and present controversies. And we pray: guide our denomination toward ecumenical cooperation with other Christians; uphold the many ministries in your church; and direct each one of us toward the ministry for which you have formed us. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We lament the harm that humans have inflicted on your earth. And we pray: ensure the fertility of farms and fields; lessen the power of extreme weather; and strengthen worldwide efforts to live in such a way that climate change is slowed. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We lament the injustices that daily afflict people around the globe. And we pray: halt gun violence in our land; form our elected leaders to honor the rights of the powerless; and bring an end to prejudices against those who differ from us in color, ethnicity, or language. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We lament that countless people suffer daily from hunger and thirst. And we pray: lead us to provide food and clean water to all peoples; strengthen ELCA World Hunger programs and sustain the efforts of local food banks. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We lament that the coronavirus continues to kill thousands each week. And we pray: send healing to all the sick and suffering, especially to those who receive no medical care; look with compassion on health care workers; and visit all whose pain is known only to you. We especially remember those we name before you now, silently or aloud. . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We lament before you, O God, our secret sorrows, and we ask you to hear our personal prayers. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We lament all who this past week have died through sickness, disaster, or violence. We praise you for all who have ministered in your church throughout the world. And we pray that at the end of all things, we will join with all the saints at your banquet of joy. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A Into your merciful hands, O triune God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the life you offer us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

✠ **PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Meal

✠ **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

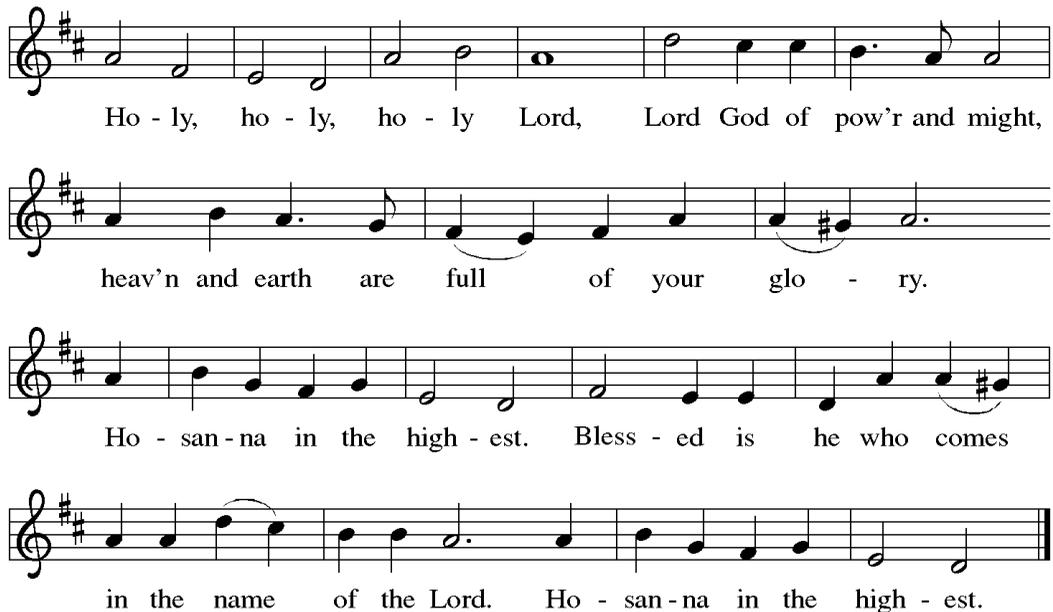
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✠ **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 4, p. 153) *See Next Page***



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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✠ Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

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

C 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.

✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

✠ COMMUNION HYMN – In the Singing (ELW #466)

1 In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in your presence at this table,

Refrain

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the wine of grace;
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the bread of peace.

2 In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people, *Refrain*

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✠ BLESSING

P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,

✠ be upon you now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ **SENDING HYMN – Blest Be the Tie That Binds (ELW #656)**

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.
- 4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

✠ **DISMISSAL**

- P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
C **Thanks be to God.**

✠SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal
Music Director:	John Zacharias
Altar:	Leah Adix
Assisting Minister:	Mel Hammer
Lay Reader:	Jeff Adix
Usher:	Leah Adix
Videographer:	Steve Curry

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