



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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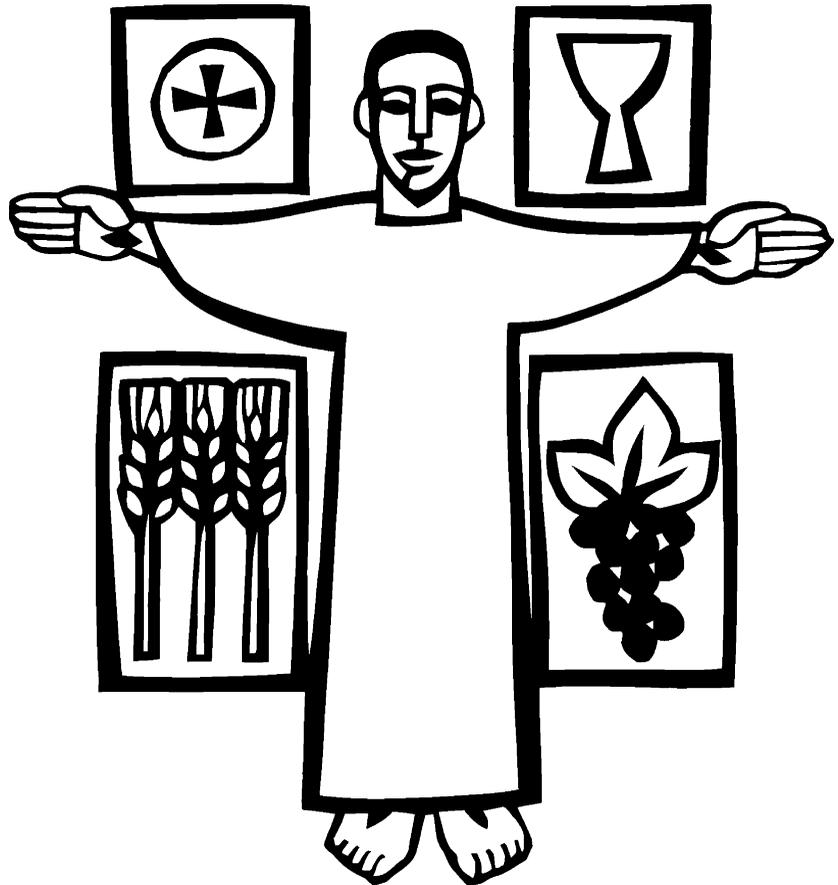
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Worship Times
Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor
Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



August 8, 2021
Eleventh Sunday
After Pentecost

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

✠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 – All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly (ELW #461)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 All who hunger gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring.
Here in truth we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good. | 2 All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here in joy we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good. |
|--|--|

3 All who hunger, sing together,
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here in peace we have been fed.
Blest are those who from this table
live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

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✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Word

✠ FIRST LESSON – 1 Kings 19:4-8

First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

⁴But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." ⁵Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." ⁶He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. ⁷The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." ⁸He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

✠ RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 34:1-8

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

²**My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

³O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.**

⁵Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

⁶**This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,
and was saved from every trouble.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

⁸**O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.**

✠ SECOND LESSON – Ephesians 4:25—5:2

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **GOSPEL – John 6:35, 41-51**

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ **SERMON**

✠ **HYMN OF THE DAY – O God, Who Gives Us Life (ACS #1086)**

See Next Page

O God, Who Gives Us Life



1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
2 O God, who calls your peo - ple out to ven - ture and to dare,
3 O God of cov - e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,



Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900

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✠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Let us offer our prayers to God.

A brief silence.

A O God, Bread of life, feed the baptized with your mercy. Uphold the preachers of the church. Bless Sunday sermons, parish education, and new models of ministry, and nourish us with hymns and prayers both classic and recently composed. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A O God, Manna in the wilderness, protect the countless terrains that you have created. Tame the wild weather that human activity has generated. Grant healthy harvests around the globe, and provide water and shade in each wilderness. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A O God, you are the Staff of all life, the Corn of life, the Rice of life. Look with favor on each area of the globe, and open our hearts to the wide world you have made. Show us how to feed those who hunger, and bless world agencies of relief. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A O God, the Sustenance of life, lead our country and all the nations of the world out of divisive controversies and into pathways toward peace. Nurture in our elected leaders the desire for truth. Strengthen our efforts to combat the coronavirus. Guide school administrators as they plan the fall semester. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A O God, Cup of goodness, heal the sick and comfort those who suffer. Give a home to refugees and housing for those who have been evicted. Fill the emptiness of persons who are lonely or rejected. Empty our reservoir of prejudice. Especially save those we name here before you now, silently or aloud. . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A O God, Food for our journeys, accompany each of us on our ways, and in mercy hear our personal petitions. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A O God, Feast at the end of time, we praise you for all the faithful departed. Gather us at the end of time around your heavenly table of grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A To you, O God, Source of life, we commit all for whom we pray, confident in the promise of your saving love through 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.

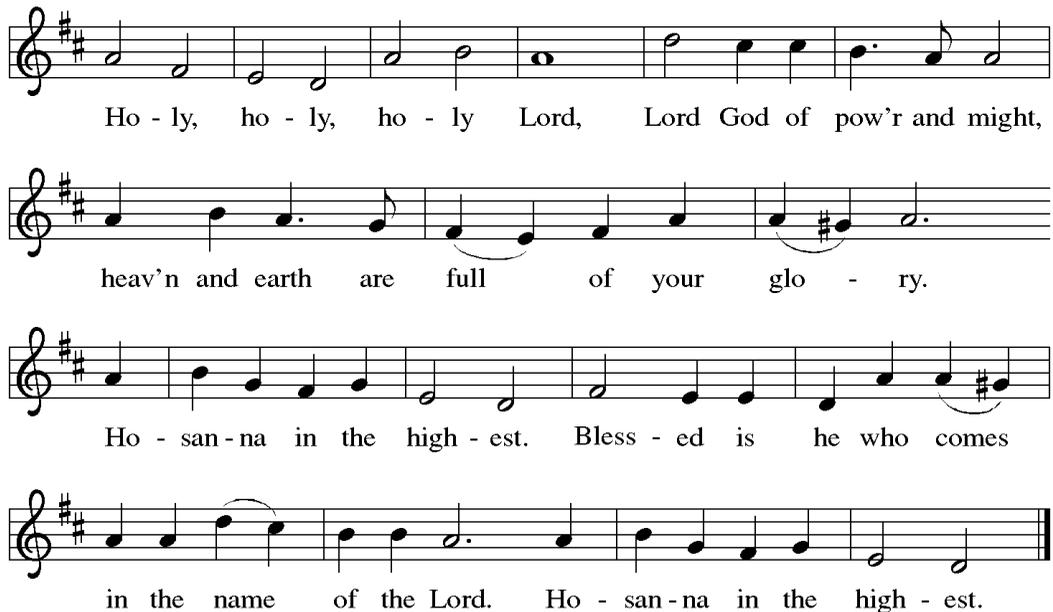
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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 – United at the Table (ELW #498)

Refrain

United at the table:

all our joy is joined in song.

United in the faith:

all our joy to God belongs.

- 1 We will praise God, we will sing
alleluias with hymns and with psalmody;
we will praise God for the love
that sustains us eternally. *Refrain*
- 2 We will praise God, we will feast
at the bountiful table of life and grace;
we will praise God and give thanks
for communion with ev'ry race. *Refrain*
- 3 We will praise God, we will play
alleluias with rhythm and instruments;
we will praise God for the love
that invites all creation to dance. *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 – O Living Bread from Heaven (ELW #542)**

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,
how well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given
have filled my heart with rest.
O wondrous food of blessing!
O cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing,
in thankful song o'er flows.
- 2 My Savior, you have led me
within your holiest place,
and here yourself have fed me
with 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened
with heav'nly food, while here
my course on earth is lengthened,
to serve you, free from fear;
and bring me home to praise you
where none can peace destroy,
where I will ever raise you
glad songs in endless joy.

✠ **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:	Julie Schmidt
Lay Reader:	Hattie Hammer
Usher:	Leah Adix
Videographer:	Steve Curry

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