

*“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.”*

*- John 6:11*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 28, 2024**

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!  
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

*If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshiping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.*

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:*



***Visitor information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

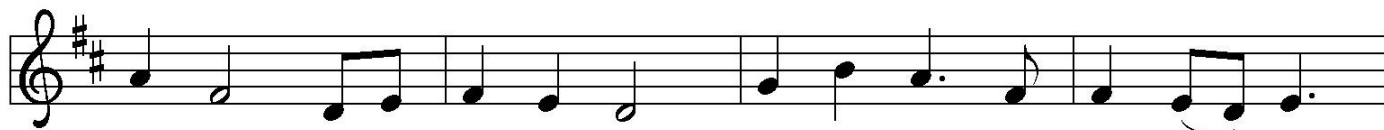
*As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to receive the elements. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

#### \*GATHERING SONG *We Come to the Hungry Feast* (ELW 479)



- 1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
- 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
- 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

## **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
The God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.  
**Amen.**

*We admit our sins*  
Please pray with me.

Jesus, you spread out your arms to welcome the world.  
And then you tell us to feed them.

**But we struggle with your command.**

**We find the seed of doubt growing in our hearts:**

**What is our compassion among so much pain?**

**What is our small kindness in a system infected with injustice?**

**What is one act of reconciliation in a divided society?**

**How can so little food feed so many hungry mouths?**

We have simply forgotten: when you ask us to feed the world, you always provide the bread.

**Even when we have tasted the bread you multiply; even when we gather your leftovers, we still find ourselves between your wondrous power and our sinful reality.**

*We plead for God's forgiveness*

So we ask for your forgiveness.

You are patient with us even when we prove fussy and doubtful, reluctant and argumentative.

**How often do we act this way just because we are hungry?**

*We receive God's immediate forgiveness*

People of God, Jesus knows you are hungry for forgiveness.

So Jesus has set our table with bread from heaven; and a feast to heal the soul.

You are forgiven. God leavens you with eternal goodness. Jesus gives you forgiveness enough to share. And the Holy Spirit fills your life with the flavor of transformation.

You are forgiven.

**God, give us this bread always.**

**\*Canticle of Praise *Now the Feast and Celebration* (ELW 167)**

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



*Refrain*  
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Bread of Life, you nourish our whole selves. You give abundantly. You are present among us. You have embodied the grace of God for us by your life, death, and resurrection. Help us to embody your life-giving grace for others, that all the world may be fed. Amen.**

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

A reading from 2 Kings.

<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.**

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

A reading from Ephesians.

<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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

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

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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.

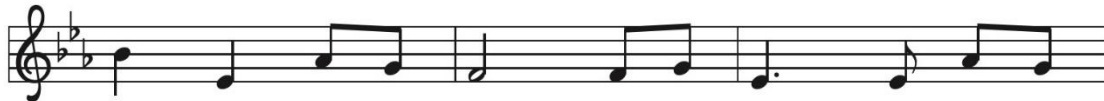
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON and SERMON

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY *Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken* (ACS 966)



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



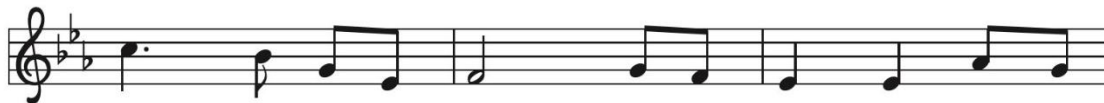
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

### \*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. God of grace, you root us and ground us in love. As you inspired our ancestors 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.**

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. 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 of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering, especially Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Katie, Debi, Anne, those on our prayer list, all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts (*pause for names said aloud*) We lift before you 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 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 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.**

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY HYMN *One Bread, One Body* (ELW 496)

*Rise on 3rd verse*

*Refrain*



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



*Refrain*

wom-an or man, no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath-ered to one for all.

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right and salutary  
that we should at all times and in all places  
offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord,  
through Christ our Lord;  
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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

God of all, mighty and merciful,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We thank you and praise you  
for you have satisfied the hunger of your people in every age,  
and in fullness of time,  
you sent your own Son, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven;

Who, in the night in which he was handed over, 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 in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
The 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 to share with us the great and promised feast.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
And stir in us a hunger for justice and thirst for compassion.  
Open wide you hand and satisfy our deep desire-  
feed us with the Bread that is you.  
All honor and glory to you, almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen**

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

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

*Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.*

## COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

**COMMUNION HYMN *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* (ELW 484)**

*Refrain*



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



*Refrain*

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.  
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.  
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

**COMMUNION HYMN *Here Is Bread* (ELW 483)**

(1) Here is bread, here is wine  
 Christ is with us, he is with us  
 Break the bread, drink the wine  
 Christ is with us here

(2) Here is grace, here is peace  
 Christ is with us, he is with us  
 Know his grace, find his peace  
 Feast on Jesus here

*Refrain*

*Refrain: In this bread there is healing  
 In this cup there's life forever  
 In this moment, by the Spirit  
 Christ is with us here*

(3) Here we are, joined in one  
 Christ is with us, he is with us  
 We'll proclaim, till he comes  
 Jesus crucified

*Refrain*

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace. **Amen**

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of Life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The blessing of God,

who provides for us,

feeds us,

and journeys with us,

✠ be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* (ELW 674)**



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

**\*DISMISSAL**

[Jesus said,] “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.”

*Mark 16:15*

You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The flowers on the altar today were provided by Dave and Cindy Knauff  
in honor of Pastor Katie and Cody.**

**Assisting in worship today:**

**Assisting Minister: Denise H**

**Acolyte: Carissa M**

**Young Reader: Carissa M**

**Ushers:**

**Greeters: Ruth Ann Tully**

**Offering: Ava N and Lydia M**

**Attendance last week:**

**Notes for the day's texts:**

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.

**Today's Music**

*We Come to the Hungry Feast.* Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943, Music: Ray Makeever. Augsburg Fortress.

*Now the Feast and Celebration.* Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. GIA Publications, Inc.

*Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken.* Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007, Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. GIA Publications, Inc.

*One Bread, One Body.* Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939, Music: John Foley, SJ. OCP (Oregon Catholic Press).

*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart.* Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, Music: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996. International Liturgy Publications.

*Here Is Bread.* Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950, Music: Graham Kendrick. Make Way Music.

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ.* Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929, Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP).

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**Next Week's Readings**

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 *The Lord gives manna in the wilderness*

Psalms 78:23-29 *God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels*

Ephesians 4:1-16 *Maintain the unity of faith*

John 6:24-35 *Christ the bread of life*