



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

10:30 Service of the Word

We are familiar with Jesus' miracle of the "Feeding of the 5000." Today we look at another great feeding miracle, the "Feeding of the 4000." Both miracle accounts have a lot in common. Yet they have differences too. In both we see God's generosity for people in need.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is shown in the nursery.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

The worship leader stands by the baptismal font. Water may be poured into it.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered
over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into
freedom's, land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal
life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with
the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the
floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,
though the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth
(for music, please turn to Hymn 735 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Mothering God, you gave me birth
in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of ev'ry breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.**
2. **Mothering Christ, you took my form,
offering me your food of light,
grain of new life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.**
3. **Mothering Sprit, nurt'ring one,
in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow
until I flow'r, until I know.**

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933, based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342-c. 1413 Music: Caroly Jennings, b. 1936; Test© 1991 Jean Janzen.
Music© 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13, Romans 10)

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.

A: The word is near you,

C: on your lips and in your heart.

A: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

A: Faith comes from what is heard,

C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray:

Glorious God, you generously create life and give food and water to all living things. At the end of life you gather your people to yourself.

Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Exodus 16:9-16

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard you 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. ¹⁶This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.’”

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 81:9-17 (read responsively)

D: “My people, hear my complaint;
Israel, if you would only listen.

**C: You shall have no other gods,
do not bow before them.**

D: I am the Lord your God.
I have brought you out of Egypt
and fed your hungry mouths.

**C: But you would not hear me,
my people rejected me.**

D: So I hardened your hearts,
and you left me out of your plans.

**C: My people, if you would only listen!
Israel, walk in my ways!**

D: Then I will strike your enemy,
and put them all to flight.

**C: With their fate sealed,
my foes will grovel at your feet.**

D: But you, O Israel,

will feast on finest wheat,
will savor pure wild honey.”

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

E: [Paul writes] I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Mark 8:8)

C: Alleluia. They ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Mark 8:1-13

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

In those days when there was again a great crowd without anything to eat, [Jesus] called his disciples and said to them, ²“I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. ³If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way—and some of them have come from a great distance.” ⁴His disciples replied, “How can one feed these people with bread here in the desert?” ⁵He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven.” ⁶Then he ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground; and he took the seven loaves, and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute; and they distributed them to the crowd. ⁷They had also a few small fish; and after blessing them, he ordered that these too should be distributed. ⁸They ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. ⁹Now there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. ¹⁰And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

¹¹The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven, to test him. ¹²And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said,

“Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation.”¹³ And he left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other side.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day O God, Our Help in Ages Past
(For music see Hymn 632 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:**
2. **Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.**
3. **Before the hills in order stood
or earth receive its frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same.**
4. **A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.**
5. **Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.**
6. **O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.**

Apostles' Creed

P: We confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

**C: 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

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each portion of the prayer: P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

The prayer concludes:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† THANKSGIVING †

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your Word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard,
break the stone away.
When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost,
lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God,

C: ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen

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.**

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn My Life Flows On in Endless Song
(for music please turn to Hymn 763 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.**

Refrain

**No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?**

2. **Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain***

3. **What though my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain***

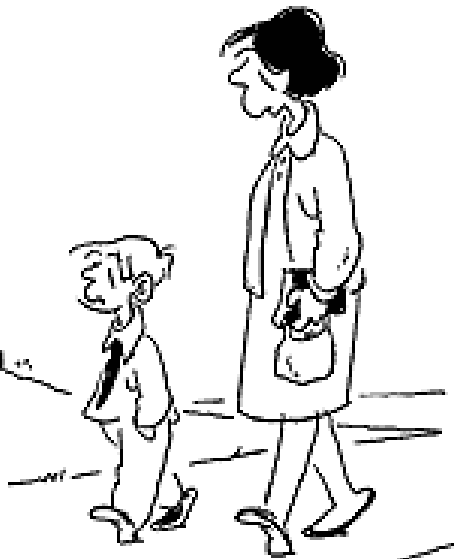
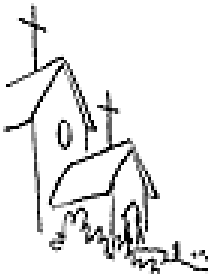
4. **The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain***

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**





Campbell.

"I can't even entertain myself for five minutes.
How am I going to handle eternity?"

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Linda Flood
Acolyte	Alyssa Young
Counters	Mary and Greg Zuege
Coffee Hour	Mother's Day

Worship assistants for next Sunday, May 19, 2024

Greeters and Ushers	Janice Lockwood
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Mary Zuege
Communion Assistant	Christine Campbell
Counters	Helen Crown and Michele Myers
Coffee Hour	Sunday School – End of Year Celebration

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