

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 13



They All Ate and Were Satisfied

August 2, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Happiness and contentment are hard to find. Even with our abundance of possessions and opportunity, our hearts remain restless for things new and different, for the promise of something better. Paul reminds us that contentment does not come from having everything we desire, but with faith in the Lord, who is gracious and merciful and supplies all our needs. Today, we hear the terrible news of John the Baptist's martyrdom and a crowd restless with hunger. In the midst of it all, Jesus shows forth grace to rest our fears and satisfy us with all we need. We pray that we learn to trust in the Lord and to find contentment and peace in His grace sufficient for all things.

Miracles tend to be big things in our minds. But the miracles Jesus does are more often tied to the simple things of ordinary life—like food! Jesus provides the simple things of life in miraculous ways. That is one of the things the five thousand learned when Jesus took a light lunch and fed thousands. It also confronts us here in simple water that becomes the means to new and everlasting life, or in simple bread and wine that feeds us the flesh and blood of Christ, or in efficacious words that accomplish what they say. But this is also true in our daily lives, as our Good Shepherd supplies all our needs of body and soul.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION:

Loving God, You are our Creator and Sustainer. When You open Your hand, You satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. And so, we look to You whenever we are in need, trusting in Your love and Your abundant goodness. As You once fed the hungry crowds with five loaves and two small fish, we ask that You would again fill those who are empty this day. Pour out Your Spirit on all who hunger and thirst. Lord, today we recall your faithfulness. Thank you that you walk with us every day, that you are with us in each moment. Thank you that your promises are true and your goodness never fails us. In this moment we come to you and we lay our lives before you. May we worship and

adore you with every fiber of our being. May everything within us cry "Holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come". And so today we join with all those who worship and confess you as Lord, from generations past and present, and with all the angels that sing in heaven of your greatness and beauty. Lord we adore you. Lord we love you. Lord you are so precious to us. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED TODAY:

All are welcome to the Lord's Table and the Lord's Supper. He is our host and provider. As we practice Open Communion, we invite you to receive the gifts He gave so freely: His body and His blood, through bread and wine.

WELCOME:

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE....*Let the hungry come to me, let the poor be fed, Let the thirsty come and drink, share my wine and bread Though thou hast no money, come to me and eat! Drink the cup I offer, feed on finest wheat! Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church! We are hungry, Lord! We come to church today with different types of hunger for you. Some of us sit down at the table eagerly, because we are hungry. Some of us have come because we know we should eat, even though we don't feel like it. Some of us are ravenous. And some of us have lost our appetite, and we don't even know why. And yet you have drawn us to your welcoming table, one and all, your arms open to embrace us just as we are. As we settle in this afternoon, fill us with your presence so that when we leave today, we can leave saying, "That is exactly what I needed!" Let's worship together!*

PRAISE WORSHIP - Minister Terry Dale

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.**

Pastor: The Lord remembered us in our low estate,

People: **His steadfast love endures forever;**

Pastor: He rescued us from our foes,

People: **His steadfast love endures forever;**

Pastor: He gives food to all flesh,

People: **His steadfast love endures forever;**

Pastor: give thanks to the God of heaven,

People: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: May the God who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For heavenly peace amid the earthly trials of life and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For peace between the nations and that the work of the Church prospers, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all here assembled to worship the Lord in the beauty of His holiness and receive the blessings of His grace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For ears to hear the Word of life and hearts that find contentment in Christ alone, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For unity and peace that strife does not distract or hinder us from the work of God's kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That Your will be done on earth as in heaven, that we rest in Your peace and quietness, and that You defend us against all our adversaries, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:1–5 (Come, all who hunger and thirst, and the Lord will satisfy you with all that you need.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

EPISTLE *Romans 9:1–5 (6–13)* (Paul anguishes over the people of Israel.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Psalms 78:25*

People: **Alleluia. Man ate of the bread of the angels; He sent them food in abundance. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 14:13–21* (Jesus feeds the five thousand, and all were satisfied.)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SELECTION

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SERMON

SELECTION

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(We Bring Our Tithes and Offering)

CREED *Nicene Creed*

People: **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were**

made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \times of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Hungry and thirsty we come to You, O Lord, and we pray You to supply us with all things needful to this body and life, and to teach us to receive Your gifts with thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: With restless hearts we come to You, O Lord, and we pray that by faith we rest our hopes, dreams, anxieties, and needs upon Your everlasting arms and find contentment and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Knowing that You have established Your Church by Your Word and Spirit and endowed her with the Means of Grace, we pray for those who serve us in Your name: for Matthew Harrison our Synod President; Eric Johnson our District President; and for our Leaders and church workers. Raise up those who will follow in their footsteps and serve You faithfully on our behalf. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Knowing that all power is Yours both in heaven and on earth, we thank You for all the blessings bestowed upon us in this nation and for those who govern for the protection of the weak, the punishment of the evildoer, and the encouragement of virtue. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Broken and wounded, we come to You, O Lord, for healing, comfort, and consolation. Hear us on behalf of all those who cry to You in any need, [*especially . . . and those we name in our hearts*], that Your gracious will be done and all be preserved in affliction and raised to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Mindful of the poor and those who struggle with daily needs, we ask You, O Lord, to grant us the good fruits of the earth and the fruits of our honest labors to supply what we need and for the poor, the needy, and the unemployed. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Local concerns may be added here.

Leader: Bidden by Your Word, we come as Your baptized people to feast upon the very flesh of Christ in this bread and His blood in this cup. Grant us the Holy Spirit that we receive these holy gifts in faith and manifest the full fruits of repentance in lives of faith and obedience. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

✠ 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.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by

taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS “Holy, Holy, Holy (TLH 246 St. 1)

1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *Revelation 22:20*

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS (Music) – “Just As I Am” [TLH 388]

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in our want we cry to You and You answer us with the food of Your mercy and grace in Christ, our Savior. Keep us from being satisfied by things that have no power to forgive our sins or lead us to everlasting life. Lead us to trust in You, for Your grace will not disappoint us, and Your gifts satisfy us today and through all eternity; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale