

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Distribution

***Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.***

"Lamb of God"

ELW p.191

### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.**

### Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

\*Hymn "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

ELW #547

### Dismissal

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



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI

10th Sunday after Pentecost  
July 28, 2024

**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*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*

***\*(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)***

*Announcements*

### Gathering

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

### \*Confession and Forgiveness

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

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

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**



Hymn "Break Now the Bread of Life"

ELW#515

**\*Apostle's 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** (In your mercy, hear our prayer.)

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.

**OFFERING**

**\*Offertory Hymn** "We Are an Offering"

ELW #692

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Please join together in the Offertory Prayer

**Word**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**First Reading**

*Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

A reading from 2Kings 4:42-44

<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.**

**Psalm 145:10-18**

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures  
throughout all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your  
works.**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup> **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,  
and you give them their food in due season.**

<sup>16</sup> You open wide your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup> **You are righteous in all your ways  
and loving in all your works.**

<sup>18</sup> You are near to all who call upon you,  
to all who call upon you faithfully.

### **Second Reading**

*We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

A reading from Ephesians 3:14-21

<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**

“Alleluia”

**ELW p. 188**

### **GOSPEL READING**

*In John’s gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called “signs,” because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

The holy gospel according to John 6:1-21

**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.**

**Sermon**

Karen Sparling  
Synod Authorized Minister