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Liturgy: Vicar Moon
Sermon: Pastor Christianson
Organist: Evelyn Orth

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 13

Sustaining Bread
August 1, 2021 – 10:45 AM



AS WE GATHER

Bread, in one form or another, is a diet staple in most every culture. Though today we can be overwhelmed at the grocery store with countless types and styles, even in its simplest form, bread continues to sustain stomachs in a variety of ways. Bread, or the simplest form of manna, is what the Lord would use to sustain His people in the wilderness, and the image of bread is what He would use to help people understand the greater gift He came to give in His own Son. Yet, more than sustaining a diet for this body and life, Jesus, the bread of life, has come to serve us salvation, sustain our souls, and feed us with His forgiveness.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN

“Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear” Sts. 1–2 *LSB* 908

- 1 **Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e'er pure retain;
Let me Your child and heir remain.**
- 2 **Your Word inspires my heart within;
Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;
Your Word brings peace and happiness.**

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Exodus 16:12; John 6:26–27

Vicar: “I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread.
People: **Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”**
Vicar: Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.
People: **Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life,**
Vicar: which the Son of Man will give to you. For on Him God the Father has set His seal.”

HYMN

“Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear” St. 3 *LSB* 908

- △ 3 **To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be
Now and throughout eternity.**

CONFESSION

John 6:33, 35; 1 John 1:9

Vicar: Jesus is the bread of life, come down from heaven to give life to the world.

People: Lord, we hunger for Your presence.

Vicar: If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: Lord, we hunger for Your forgiveness.

Vicar: 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.

Vicar: In the wilderness of this world we forget Your presence.

People: We grumble and complain about Your provision.

Vicar: We focus too often on our wants and needs of this world.

People: We fail to rejoice in the daily giving of Your grace and mercy.

Vicar: 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.

People: Lord, we hunger for You. Amen.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

Vicar: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Lord, You fill us with forgiveness. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE

LSB 204

- 1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.
- 2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—
- 3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Vicar: Let us pray. Merciful Father, You gave Your Son, Jesus, as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in Your Word and Sacraments that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 16:2–15

(Bread from heaven)

The whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.'" And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 145:10–21; antiphon: v. 15

Vicar: The eyes of all look to you,

People: **and you give them their food in due season.**

Vicar: All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,

People: **and all your saints shall bless you!**

Vicar: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom

People: **and tell of your power,**

Vicar: to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds,

People: **and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

Vicar: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

People: **and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

Vicar: The LORD is faithful in all his words

People: **and kind in all his works.**

Vicar: The LORD upholds all who are falling

People: **and raises up all who are bowed down.**

Vicar: The eyes of all look to you,

People: **and you give them their food in due season.**

Vicar: You open your hand;

People: **you satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

Vicar: The eyes of all look to you,
People: and you give them their food in due season.
Vicar: The LORD is righteous in all his ways
People: and kind in all his works.
Vicar: The LORD is near to all who call on him,
People: to all who call on him in truth.
Vicar: He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;
People: he also hears their cry and saves them.
Vicar: The LORD preserves all who love him,
People: but all the wicked he will destroy.
Vicar: My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
People: and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

GRADUAL

Romans 11:33, 36

Vicar: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!
Vicar: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
People: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 4:1–16

(Unity in the Body of Christ)

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE

John 6:35b

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Vicar: I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.
People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Vicar: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:22–35

(Jesus is the bread of life.)

On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him,

“Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” *LSB* 821

- 1 **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;**
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”
- 2 **Alleluia! Not as orphans**
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him
When the forty days were o’er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise:
“I am with you evermore”?
- 3 **Alleluia! Bread of heaven,**
Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.
- 4 **Alleluia! King eternal,**
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Your footstool, heav’n Your throne.
As within the veil You entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,
Here on earth both priest and victim
In the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”

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SERMON

“No Worries?”
Matthew 6:24-34

HYMN

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer” LSB 918

- 1 Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield;
Be Thou still my strength and shield.
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell’s destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan’s side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

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APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Vicar: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

People: 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.

BENEDICTION

John 6:26–27a; Numbers 6:24–26

Vicar: Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

People: **Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life,**

Vicar: which the Son of Man will give to you.”

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.

People: Amen.

HYMN

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” LSB 643

**1 Sent forth by God’s blessing,
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended.
O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching,
Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us
To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.**

**2 With praise and thanksgiving
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev’ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.**

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