

PENTECOST 12

August 12, 2018 5:00 PM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

☞ **Amen.**

☞ Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

☞ **Amen**

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

☞ Eternal God our creator,

☞ **in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

☞ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins.

☞ **Amen**

GREETING

☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☞ **And also with you.**

☞ You are the treasured people of the LORD,

☞ **a people holy to the LORD our God.**

☞ Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

☞ **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

The Greatest Bread

Jesus uses the image of bread to demonstrate that, even compared to all the great things God has done before, God's greatest miracle is in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus, the bread of life, is a greater miracle than the manna God sent in the desert (Exod. 16:14), greater than the bread the angel brought to restore Elijah (1 Kings 19:4-8), greater even than the loaves Jesus had just multiplied to feed a crowd of more than five thousand people (John 6:1-14)! In Jesus, God gives bread for the journey—not only for this life, but also into eternal life.

We're so familiar with this image that it loses some of its original power. But the claim Jesus is making here is a radical one—and a dangerous one. To Jesus' original audience, his claim to be the bread from heaven, the Son of God, must have sounded like outrageous blasphemy. "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know?" they say. "How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" (John 6:42). Who does this guy think he is?

Jesus' message is both outrageous and outrageously comforting: anyone who eats this bread will live forever. The Son of God meets us in this life and gives us real and certain hope for eternal life. Normal bread is amazing in its own right; manna is miraculous. But Jesus Christ is the true bread and the greatest miracle of all. "Taste and see that the LORD is good" (Ps. 34:8).

- ☞ One does not live by bread alone,
☛ but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☞ The Lord be with you.
☛ And also with you.
☞ Let us pray.
☞ Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
☛ Amen.

THE FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:4-8

First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

⁴[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."⁵ Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."⁶ He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. ⁷The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."⁸ He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

- ☞ The Word of the Lord! ☛ Thanks be to God!

PSALM 34:1-8 (read responsively)

- ¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.
²**I will glory in the LORD;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**
³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God's name together.
⁴**I sought the LORD, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.**
⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,

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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE BLESSING

- ☞ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
☛ Amen.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ Jesus Christ, host of this meal,
☛ you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen

THE BENEDICTION

- ☞ May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
☛ Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace and serve the Lord.
☛ We Will! Thanks be to God!

and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE (Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**)

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

☞ Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

☞ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☞ **And also with you.**

HOLY COMMUNION

☞ 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 him thanks and praise.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

☞ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

☞ **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,**

and let not your faces be ashamed.

**⁶I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.

**⁸Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:35, 41-51

☞ The Gospel according to John the 6th Chapter ☞ **Glory to you, O Lord**

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

³⁵Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."

⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

☞ The Gospel of the Lord. ☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

Pastor Josh Johnson

THE APOSTLES' CREED

☞ In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

☞ **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

☞ **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit