

**St. Olaf Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, July 25, 2021**  
**9 am Traditional Service**  
**Lectionary 17, Year B**

**Introduction**

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.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

**help us.**

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

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,

you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN**    *“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”*

**ELW 533**  
**Vs. 1-4**

**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.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*Glory to God**

**p. 139**

**Prayer of the Day**

**P:**     Let us pray.

**C:**     Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**First Reading 2 Kings 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

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 145:10-18**

*You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)*

<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 through- | out all ages.  
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works. R**

<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 up- | on you faithfully. **R**

## **Second Reading: Romans 8:28-39**

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who<sup>[a]</sup> have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. <sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,<sup>[c]</sup> neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither

height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: Word of God, word of life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel: John 12:20-26**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>20</sup> Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

P: The gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

*Emily Wikner*

**SERMON**

*Grace Braun*

**HYMN**

*“Praise and Thanksgiving”*

**ELW 689  
Vs. 1-4**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.  
**Amen.**

## **Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you. (feel free to do an 'air' high five or a peace sign).**

## **Offering**

*Thank you for joining us in worship. At this time we will receive the offering for the mission and ministry at St. Olaf Lutheran Church. Our congregation relies on the generosity of God's people to sustain the work of our Lord. You can give by mailing a check to the church or on our Paypal link [paypal.me/stolaffd](https://paypal.me/stolaffd)*

### **\* Offering Prayer**

O God,  
receive these gifts as you receive us:  
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.  
Nourish us anew in your tender care,  
and empower us in faithful service  
to tend to others with this same love,  
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

**Amen.**

### **\*Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**\*Blessing**

May the God of all creation,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved,  
who strengthens us for service,  
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!  
The blessing of God,  
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,  
be with you today and always.  
**Amen.**

**HYMN**

*“Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”*

**ELW 548  
Vs. 1-3**

**\*Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Assisting in Worship**

Presider: Pastoral Intern Grace Braun  
Children’s Sermon: Emily Wikner  
Reader: Nancy Hamilton  
Organist: Jason Swedlund  
Sound Tech(s): Marc Matthes  
Mark Oester  
Robert Younie  
Greeters/Ushers: Terry Hanson, Craig Hamilton  
Bus: Dan O’Brion  
Fellowship Hosts: Loren & Janette Miller

*Galatians 6:9-10*

*⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*

*Thank you to all who labor on the Lord’s behalf!*