

Sunday, August 5, 2018  
11th Sunday after Pentecost

**PRELUDE**

***"Glorious Things of You are Spoken"***

Robbert Hobby

**\*GATHERING SONG**

***"Glories of Your Name Are Spoken" vv. 1, 2, 4***

Glories of your name are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed you for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
you may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply your sons and daughters,  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, while such a river  
ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,  
never fails from age to age.

Savior, since of Zion's city  
I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in your name.  
Fading are the worldlings' pleasures,  
all their boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasures  
none but Zion's children know.

**\*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.**

**\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

***"Gloria, Gloria, Gloria"***

pg. 176

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!  
Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!  
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.  
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ *O God,*

☞ **eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

**“You Raise Me Up”  
Aaron Schmidt**

Lovland/Graham

## FIRST READING

**Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15**

*A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God’s saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.*

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” <sup>10</sup>And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

## **Reflection**

*What was the complaint of the Israelites in the wilderness? (verses 2-3) What was the Lord’s reply to their complaint? (verse 4) What was the instruction about gathering the food the Lord was providing? (see also verse 5) What was Aaron’s announcement as Moses’s spokesman? (verses 9-12) How did the Lord provide food for the people? (verses 13-14) What did the Israelites say when they saw the bread on the ground? (verse 15) Note that “What is it?” is a translation of the Hebrew word that resembles “manna.” Was there enough? (read verses 16-18) Who provides our food? Is there enough for everyone? Why or why not?*

## **Psalm 78:23-29**

<sup>23</sup>So God commanded the | clouds above  
and opened the | doors of heaven,

<sup>24</sup>**raining down manna upon | them to eat**

**and giving them | grain from heaven.**

<sup>25</sup>So mortals ate the | bread of angels;  
God provided for them | food enough.

<sup>26</sup>**The LORD caused the east wind to blow | in the heavens  
and powerfully led out | the south wind,**

<sup>27</sup>raining down flesh upon | them like dust  
and flying birds like the sand | of the seas,

<sup>28</sup>**letting them fall in the midst | of the camp  
and round a- | bout the dwellings.**

<sup>29</sup>So the people ate and | were well filled,  
for God gave them | what they craved.

### **Reflection**

*The text of Psalm 78 that we are reading for today is a retelling of the Exodus text. What words of this psalm do you notice? I especially notice verses 25 and 29, which calls the bread God gave them “the bread of angels,” noting in both verses that they had “food enough,” and the people were “well filled.” What does this psalm tell us about the food we receive? How does it describe the meal we share in the Lord’s Supper each Sunday? How is that meal connected with the food we eat each day? How does God feed us, both in our daily bread (as the Lord’s Prayer has it) and in the Lord’s Supper?*

### **SECOND READING**

**Ephesians 4:1-16**

*Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry, whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ’s one body.*

<sup>1</sup>I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup>But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;  
he gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>9</sup>(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

## **Reflection**

*What is “the calling to which you have been called”? The author here lifts up the gifts that we have been given for this calling. What are they? (verses 2-3) How do these gifts enable us to “maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace”? What can interfere with the unity of the Spirit we have received? Do those things divide us? (verses 4-6) What gives us unity? What is the gift of all these things we have received from Christ? (verse 7) What do you think it means that Christ “made captivity itself a captive”? How does this text say Christ did this? (verses 9-10) If Christ fills all things, is there room for division? What is the variety of gifts that Christ gives the church? (verse 11) What do you think are your particular gifts that Christ gave you for the church? (Note that this list in verse 11 might not be all-inclusive; for example, musicians are not listed, nor deacons, nor bishops, nor janitors....) What is the purpose of these gifts? (verse 12) What is the outcome of these gifts? (verse 13) The author then describes what is NOT the maturity of faith. (verse 14) How do we live into the gifts Christ has given us? (verse 15) How does the author describe the full use of these gifts? (verse 16) As you reflect both on the gifts you have been given, and the ways that you might not be using your gifts to the fullest, how do you experience the work and life of our congregation?*

### **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”***

**ELW 172**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.**

### **\*GOSPEL**

**John 6:24-35**

*Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.*

<sup>24</sup>When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

<sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup>So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?” <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup>They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

### **Reflection**

*The gospel reading this week skips to John, where the crowds who have just been fed by Jesus now go looking for him. (verses 24-25) Why do you think they want to find him? Why does Jesus say they want to find him? (verse 26) Why is that not a good reason to look for Jesus? (verse 27) There is something called the Prosperity Gospel, which claims that if you believe in Jesus, you will always be rich, and good things will happen to you. The trouble with this is that it's not what Jesus promises, nor what he gives us. What does Jesus promise that the Son of Man will give us? (verse 27) How do we find that "food that endures for eternal life"? (verses 28-29) What do the crowds want from Jesus? (verses 30-31) Not surprisingly, they mistake what Jesus has to give them. What do they (still) think he is talking about? (verses 32-34) What does Jesus promise to give them? (verse 35) How do you understand Jesus as the bread of life? What does this mean to you when you think of the Lord's Supper, the bread we eat together every week? How does the Bread of Life (Jesus) feed you every day?*

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Kris Langdon

### **SERMON**

#### **Bread of Life *Labor's Reward***

Rev. Roger Lenander

### **SONG OF THE DAY**

#### ***"God Will Make a Way"***

**God will make a way  
Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me  
He will be my guide  
Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength  
For each new day  
He will make a way  
He will make a way (*repeat*)**

**By a roadway in the wilderness  
He'll lead me  
And rivers in the desert will I see  
Heaven and earth will fade  
But His Word will still remain  
He will do something new today**

**God will make a way  
Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me  
He will be my guide**

Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength  
For each new day  
He will make a way  
He will make a way

**\*APOSTLES' 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.

**\*PRAYER SONG**

*"Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying"*

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you give gifts and talents to every member of the church. Strengthen all your children and bring them to a full understanding and maturity in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, our complex and wonderful world is a sure sign of your abundance and care. Provide for every creature, and rain down the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Peaceful God, draw the nations of the world to harmony and mutual understanding. Bind all of humanity in the unity of love and peace that comes through the Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for those who are hungry, homeless, and who have lost family or friends. Lead them to places of safety, food, and rest. We pray especially for those in need of your healing hands: *especially Alivia, David, Lisa and her baby Lara, Klaire, and Dorothy, Linda, Kay,* and for those we name before you aloud or silently in our hearts (pause for 10 seconds). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, you have brought us all together in this time and place. Bless this congregation and the Sudanese congregation, including those who are absent, and draw us into closer communion with you, each other, and our community. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Infinite God, we praise you for the lives of those who have died in Christ. Keep our hearts in hope, for we have all received the food that endures to eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen!**

#### **\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P** *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

**G** **And also with you!**

#### **OFFERTORY**

***"I Am the Bread Of Life"***

##### ***Chorus***

**I am the Bread of Life  
All who eat this Bread will never die  
I am God's love revealed  
I am broken that you might be healed**

**All who eat of this heavenly Bread  
All who drink this cup of the covenant  
You will live forever  
For I will raise you up *Chorus***

**No one who comes to Me shall ever hunger again  
No one who believes shall ever thirst**

All that the Father draws shall come to Me  
And I will give them rest *Chorus*

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** (*The final chorus of "I Am The Bread Of Life"*)

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** *Merciful God,*

**C** **you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen!**

**\*DIALOGUE**

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** *Lift up your hearts.*

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*PREFACE**

**P** *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God,  
God, the Lord of earth and heaven. Holy, holy is our God.  
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God,  
God, the Lord of all of hist'ry. Holy, Holy is our God.**

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**P** *In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.*

*Do this for the remembrance of me.*

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**C** **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen!**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** *Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.*

**\*BLESSING**

**P** *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and  
keep you in his grace.*

**C** **Amen!**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** *Jesus Christ, host of this meal,*

**C** **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!**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**P** *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!**

**\*SENDING SONG** *“Blessed Assurance”*

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

***Refrain***

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior, all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain***

**Perfect submission, all is at rest;  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain***