
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.



John 6:11, NRSV

July 25, 2021

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
38801 Blacow Road
Fremont, CA 94536
Church: (510) 793-6285

July 25, 2021
9th Sunday after Pentecost
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

[Click here for a video of the service.](#)

PRELUDE . . . “Hallelujah”

Favorite Hymn of The Miedema Family

WELCOME

SINGING BOWL

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

INVOCATION

P: We gather together to celebrate the joy in our lives.

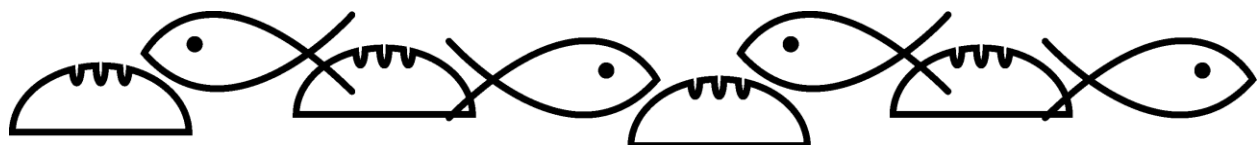
All: God's love fills our hearts to overflowing with laughter.

P: We gather, in God's presence, to find comfort and hope for our pain.

All: God's grace wipes away our tears and knits us together as one people.

P: We gather together, in God's presence, to worship God in faith and truth.

All: Alleluia! Amen!



CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We continue with the Call to Worship:
Why have you come to this place?

All: We are tired in body and spirit.

L: Why have you come today?

All: We have come to follow Jesus.

L: Come and eat your fill.

All: But there are only five barley loaves and two fish.

L: There is plenty for all.

All: Jesus gathers the fragments of our lives, that nothing may be lost. Come! Let us worship.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All may make the sign of the cross.

P: Gracious God, pour out your mercy on us. Where there is despair,

All: fill us with hope.

P: Where there is sorrow,

All: fill us with comfort.

P: Where there is sin,

All: fill us with forgiveness.

P: Where there is hatred,

All: fill us with love.

P: Where there is worry,

All: fill us with assurance.

P: Gather us in the arms of your grace and glory,

All: that we may reflect your glory with honor and praise all the days of our lives.

P: In your holy name, we pray.

All: Amen.

Silence for Reflection

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

P: God, who saves, is amongst us now: filling our lives with grace,

All: forgiving us and making us one, perfecting all of creation, through the mercy of God's steadfast love.

LITANY

L: God of our hopes and dreams, we are empty,

All: and long to be filled;

L: we are hungry,

All: and long to be fed;

L: we are lost,

All: and long to be found.

L: Invite us once more to eat our fill and find our true nourishment in Jesus,

All: the bread of heaven.

L: Just as Jesus gathered up the fragments of the five loaves and two fish after feeding the five thousand,

All: gather up the pieces of our lives and shelter us in your love. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth.

All: 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.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: God, teach us how to dance to the rhythm of your wisdom;

All: show us how to laugh

Reader: so that we can live for the praise of your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

READING . . . *Ephesians 3:14-21*

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. 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, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL . . . *John 6:1-21*

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. 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?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" 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. 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. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. 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.”

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.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. 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. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Reader: Jesus feeds us in our need.

All: We are sustained by God’s loving Spirit.

Reader: Jesus brings us hope.

All: We are strengthened by God’s mercy and grace.

Reader: Jesus gathers the lost and the scattered.

All: We are reclaimed by God’s saving love. In Jesus, we are made whole.

CHILDREN’S TIME . . . *Pastor Tim*

HOMILY . . . *Pastor Tim*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

L: With what shall we bring our praise and honor to God?

All: As we bring offerings and gifts this day, we are invited to reflect on the myriad ways we might offer our words, our actions, our lives, and our very being in praise and honor to God.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self,

All: and called us to the feast of plenty.

L: Gather what has been sown among us,

All: and strengthen us in this meal.

L: Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

All: Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation. We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations. Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global neighbors. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration, that all people may know your loving works. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and come to the aid of those enduring sweltering heat. Nurture wheat and barley crops grown for the nourishment of your people and conserve aquatic habitats and fish populations. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for those bowed down by heavy burdens: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those unable to find affordable housing, and those without health insurance. Console those who grieve and hear the cries of those who call to you for healing. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for this assembly. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. When we worry that we do not have enough resources for ministry, assure us of your abundance. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Hear now the prayers of our hearts said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

All: 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.



GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: Go to follow Jesus,

All: who gives us the bread of life.

P: Go to walk in the ways of Christ,

All: who strengthens us in our inner being through the power of the Holy Spirit.

P: Go to serve our living God,

All: who gathers the fragments of our lives, that nothing may be lost.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE . . . “Every Breath I Take”

Favorite Hymn of Cassie Di Paola

SINGING BOWL

Pastor: Tim Huff

Lay Liturgist and Reader: Steve Guerzon and Pamela Metcalf

Music: Leilani Camara and Dean Sieglaff,

Leah, Kathleen and Michael Keating

Video Editing: Carmen Blair

Web and Social Media: Keith Hillesland and Kathy Miedema

