

GOSPEL: John 6:24-35

Jesus is the bread of life.

²⁴Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

²⁶Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

²⁸Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

²⁹Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

³⁰So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

³²Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴"Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

³⁵Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY #923: "Guide Me, O Though Great Jehovah" - see slides

SERMON: I Am the Bread of Life

(Based on John 6:24-35)

1. Life that is Given
2. Life never-ending

THE APOSTLES' CREED (page 163) - see slides

OFFERING PRESENTATION HYMN #750 - see slides

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (page 164 - Spoken responsively) - see slides

HYMN #591: "O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace" - see slides

PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER, & BLESSING - see slides

CLOSING HYMN #509: "Feed Your Children, God Most Holy" - see slides

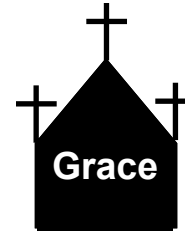
We celebrate the baptism of Clayton William Guenther, son of Cody and Shayna Guenther during the Sunday Worship Service

Altar Flowers are from the family of Rev. Henry Koch in celebration of his 95th Birthday. Happy Birthday!

Thank you to our Worship Team:

Worship Music Leader: Cait Henning

ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 9:00am - 80; Monday: 38; Total: 118



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Worship Services Sundays 9am, Mondays 6:30pm



**I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE
"SPIRITUAL FOOD
FOR THOSE FOCUSED ON THE EARTHLY"**

**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 11 & 12, 2024**

**“SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOSE FOCUSED ON THE EARTHLY”
AUGUST 11 &12, 2024**

In the name of our Lord Jesus, welcome to one and all! We pray that here at Grace you will find the warmth of Christian hospitality, the abiding truth of God's Word, and the quiet assurance of peace in Christ. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. Come worship with us again!

Listening Assist Aids are available. Please see an usher.

“SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOSE FOCUSED ON THE EARTHLY”

Physical food is a blessing from God without which we would literally wither away and die. That is why Jesus lovingly and miraculously fed thousands of followers with only five loaves of bread and two fish. Yet, while physical food is a good thing, it is far from the greatest thing God provides us. The greatest blessing God provides is spiritual food. The best thing God gives us is his Son, the bread of life. Without that spiritual food, we wither and die in a much worse way. This week we see the multitudes coming to Jesus looking for two things: ever more temporal blessings— full bellies, healthy bodies—and an explanation of how to gain them. Jesus explains the greater need for spiritual food. He assures us that there is nothing we do to earn it. Our Father urges us to come to him for our daily bread, asking him to provide for our temporal needs. But may we hunger most for our greatest need: spiritual food that Christ freely gives.

The Service - Setting 1 pg. 154

OPENING HYMN #544: “I Am the Bread of Life” (*Soloist sings verses*) - see slides

RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM - page 151 - see slides (*Sunday*)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION - see slides (*Monday*)

LORD, HAVE MERCY - Kyrie - see slides (*Monday*)

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST - Gloria in Excelsis - see slides

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Spoken by Pastor - ALL speak the Amen*)

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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 16:15-31

In sending manna, a bread that stayed fresh for a short time, the LORD not only cared for Israel's physical well-being but also fortified trust that God would continue to provide.

¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was.

Moses said to them, “It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Everyone is to gather as much as they need. Take an omer for each person you have in your tent.’ ”

¹⁷The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little. ¹⁸And when they measured it by the omer, the one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little. Everyone had gathered just as much as they needed.

¹⁹Then Moses said to them, “No one is to keep any of it until morning.”

²⁰However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them.

²¹Each morning everyone gathered as much as they needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away. ²²On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much—two omers for each person—and the leaders of the community came and reported this to Moses. ²³He said to them, “This is what the LORD commanded: ‘Tomorrow is to be a day of sabbath rest, a holy sabbath to the LORD. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.’ ”

²⁴So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it. ²⁵“Eat it today,” Moses said, “because today is a sabbath to the LORD. You will not find any of it on the ground today. ²⁶Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any.”

²⁷Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none. ²⁸Then the LORD said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep my commands and my instructions? ²⁹Bear in mind that the LORD has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days. Everyone is to stay where they are on the seventh day; no one is to go out.” ³⁰So the people rested on the seventh day.

³¹The people of Israel called the bread manna. It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey.

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 34 - see slides

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-5,11-13

The Israelites had spiritual food in the wilderness. The pre-incarnate Christ was with them! Yet some cared more about physical blessings than spiritual ones.

¹For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. ²They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. ³They all ate the same spiritual food ⁴and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

¹¹These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. ¹²So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! ¹³No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - see slides