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## **Worship** **August 8, 2021**

### **GATHERING** **GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS** **PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

#### **Call to Worship**

*Pastor: Come, People of God, and let us worship Jesus the Christ.*

*Reader: Let us worship the eternal God, the Source of love and life, who created us. Let us worship Jesus the Christ, the risen one who lives among us. Let us worship the Spirit, the Holy Fire, who renews us. Let us worship the one true God who is to be praised in all times and places.*

#### **Opening Hymn – “Love Devine, All Loves Excelling”**

#### **Greeting**

*P The peace of the Lord be with you.*

*C And also with you.*

*P May the risen Christ fill us with life, light, and hope.*

*C Thanks be to God. The Spirit teaches us, inspires us, and give us the voice of the Gospel.  
Amen.*

#### **Hymn of Praise – “Alleluia! Raise the Gospel”**

### **THE WORD**

#### **First Reading**

#### **1 Kings 19:4-8**

**But he himself 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.’ Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, ‘Get up and eat.’ 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. The 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.’ He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.**

*Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.*

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

### *Psalm 34: 1-8*

Of David, when he feigned madness before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.

I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.

I sought the LORD, and he answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to him, and be radiant;  
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,  
and was saved from every trouble.

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

O taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are those who take refuge in him.

*Reader: Here what the Spirit is saying to us.*

Response: Thanks be to God.

### Psalm Response - *"Taste and See"*

## Gospel Reading

### *John 6:35, 41-51*

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.'

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They 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"?' Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It 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. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.'

**I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I 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.'**

*Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.*

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day – “Where Shall We Go?”**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe that God has established the Church, and will preserve and protect it, and will provide us with a foretaste of our greatest hope.**

**We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the church and died and rose again in His resurrection, to give eternal life through our baptism into Christ.**

**We believe that the Holy Spirit breathed fire and life into the Church at Pentecost and still provides power for its preservation and ministry.**

**We believe the Church is the community of disciples, using their gifts freely and wisely for the common good of the body and to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ until He comes again. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*P. As we are rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the Church, the World, and all of Creation.*

**(A Brief Silence)**

*P. On this day Lord, we pray for all those who serve our town and cities to keep us safe, and pray for their safety this day. We pray for those who serve us in far off places; that they will be able to return to their loved ones soon..... Hear us O God.*

**C. Your mercy is great.**

*P. Lord, we here at Bethany would ask that your spirit guide the search for a new pastor for your people here. Bless our Call Committee with the spirit of discernment as they examine those who believe that God is calling to a new congregation in Scottsdale, AZ.....Hear us O God.*

**C. Your mercy is great.**

*P. Lord, we would ask that your Spirit guide this congregation as they vote to call Pastor Sandy Jones to be the new pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church..... Hear us O God.*

**C. Your mercy is great.**

*P. We lift these and all of our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**All: Amen.**

**Offering – “Grateful”**

*Erin*

**Offertory – “Make Me a Servant”**

**Prayer of Blessing**

*P Let us pray:*

**C. Gracious God, we give our best, lest in gaining the world we lose life itself. As a covenant people, we seek to witness to your will and way. Help us to know more clearly what you would have us do with the gifts entrusted to our care. Direct us according to your will O God. Amen.**

**MEAL**

**A Brief Confession**

*P. Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sins and hear again, Christ’s words of forgiveness.*

**(A brief silence)**

**C. Too often Lord, we question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn instead to our own understanding rather than trusting in You. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again Lord, to you. Where else can we turn? Enable us Lord to help to hear your words for us and to enable us to be light and life for our world. Lord we confess that we have not always lived up to the covenant that you have made with us, and we ask for your forgiveness. Amen.**

*P. Beloved People of God, through Jesus the bread of life, the light of the World, you are forgiven all of your sins, and you are loved into the life with Christ.*

*All: Amen.*

*P. The love of Christ has gathered us as one, to remember Christ, the Son of God, who loved his own until the end.*

**C. In His great, unselfish love, the Lord who calmed the storms and turned water into wine, stooped to a servant’s duty and washed his disciples’ feet.**

*P. When we are gathered here, let us be drawn together by His passion. Let no love be less than His.*

**C. Let us follow Christ’s example and serve one another as He first served us. For by this, the world will know that we are Christ’s followers, if we love one another.**

*P. On the night He was betrayed....*

### **The 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.**

### **Communion Invitation**

***P: Come to God's table; be fed and satisfied.***

***C: We come to feed our spirit and be in the presence of God.***

### **Communion Music - "Taste & See"**

***Erin/Kristan***

### **Communion Blessing**

***P. Let us pray:***

***C. Jesus, Bread of Life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.***

### **SENDING**

### **Benediction**

***Pastor: May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every good blessing. Amen.***

### **Closing Hymn - "We Belong to You"**

### **Dismissal**

***Paster: Go in Peace...to live and serve in the way of the cross.***

**Response: Thanks be to God.**