

1812 North Highland AvenueClearwater, Florida 33755Ministers: The People of Grace Lutheran Church

727-446-5026 office@GraceCLW.com Pastor: Rev. Jefferson Cox Welcome! Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

#### **GATHERING HYMN** Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death vs. 1, 3 & 5 sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you Α wake. O light; 1 2 To earth he came to bring from sin and fear re lease, us on 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call, 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save; 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died. and con-quered in the strife. length and breadth, its learn his love, its full - ness, depth, and height. SO to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace. Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, God who made us all. one one with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give God in Christ for - gave. as A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984 Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829 Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

#### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Congregation: Amen.** 

### FIRST READING

#### 1 Kings 19:4-8

Introduction to the Lesson: First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the

prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

<sup>4</sup>[Elijah] 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."<sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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." <sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

*The reading is concluded:* Reader: The word of the Lord. **Congregation: Thanks be to God.** 

## SECOND READING

#### **Ephesians 4:25--5:2**

Introduction to the Lesson: Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

<sup>25</sup>So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup>Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup>Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup>Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup>and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. <sup>511</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup>and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

*After the reading...* Reader: The word of the Lord. **Congregation: Thanks be to God.** 

We stand **GOSPEL** 

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

Introduction to the Lesson: *After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.* 

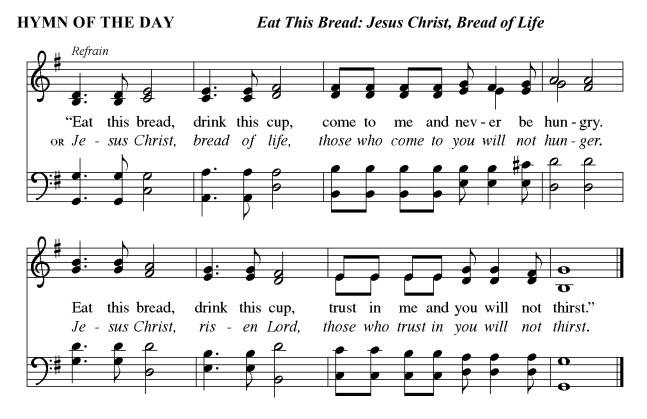
Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John in the 6th chapter.

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>41</sup>Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup>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'?" <sup>43</sup>Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>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. <sup>45</sup>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. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the 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."

After the reading... The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** We sit

## SERMON



Text: Taizé Community Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL

# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition ends* "Lord, in your mercy" and we respond "Hear our prayer."

**Prayers** are requested for: Marc Calhoun, Linda Almond, Barbara Haseley, Duke Tieman, Betty Biddle, Cathi Adams, Michael Morales, Wade Buehler, Gloria Holtzclaw, Betty Daege, Dianne Willan, Rosemarie & George Smith, Karen Bates, Rev. Lydia Villanueva and family, Don Eunis, Lorraine Reinhard, Bonnie Redler, Kathy Leotta, Brytt Mathis, Joseph Valentin, Rita Burneik, Bobby Schlegel, Hilda Taylor, George Clark, Jill Grote, Carl Stone, Neftali Garcia & family, Susan Gunn, Roy Pruitt, Iris Valentin, Deacon Connie Puls, Joan Keeton, Rose Marie Piff, Vicki Kennedy, Gail Elder, Jason Meadows, Bishop Pedro Suarez, Pastor Courtney Erzkus and family, Ralph Burson, Ellen Duncan, Luanne Sekel, Lorraine Chavez, Skylar Favos, April and David, Julianna, Riley, Carolyn & Drew, Kathy, Susie, and Terin, and all those suffering from violence, terror, and natural disasters (including all those impacted by COVID-19, the Surfside Condo collapse, & TS Elsa).

## OFFERING

## **OFFERING PRAYER AND BLESSING OF THE SCHOOLS**

Pastor: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Congregation: Amen.** 

## DIALOGUE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. Congregation: And also with you. Pastor: Lift up your hearts. Congregation: We lift them to the Lord. Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

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.

# THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

# Congregation: Amen.

### LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray in the language closest to our hearts.

Congregation: 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.

#### **TABLE BLESSING**

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Congregation: Amen.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

**Congregation: Amen.** 

## **SENDING OF COMMUNION**

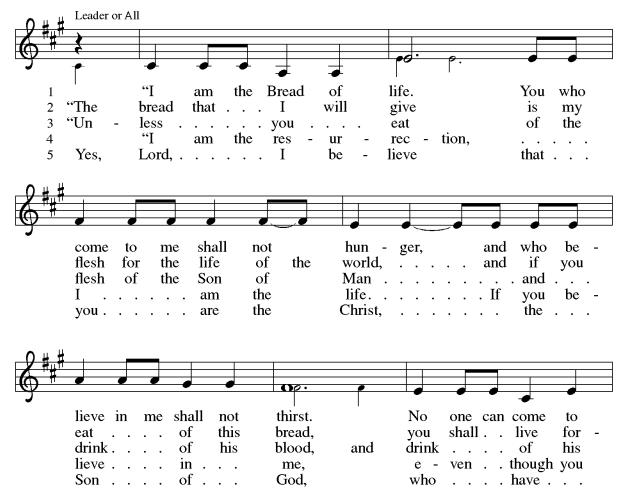
Pastor: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, or imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and

strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Congregation: Amen.** 

## BLESSING

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Congregation: Amen.** 

# SENDING SONG I Am the Bread of Life vs. 1 & 2





Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6

Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM

Text and music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

#### DISMISSAL

Together we have heard God's Word and shared in the Lord's Supper, we have given and have been forgiven. Now as this service of worship is ending, this week's service to the world is beginning! Share the good news.

## **Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #27824. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Hymns used with permission under ONE LICENSE #738836-A. All rights reserved.