

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 25th 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Gathering Around the Word

Call to Worship

from Psalm 145:10–12

One: Your creation gives thanks to you, O God.

All: And we, your faithful, bless you.

One: We shall speak of the glory of your realm and
tell of your awesome power.

**All: We shall let all people know your mighty deeds
and glorious splendor.**

One: Let us worship God with joyful hearts!

Hymn 1 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! (vrs. 1 & 2)* NICAEA

Call to Confession

from Psalm 145:11, 17

All creation speaks of the glory of God, and makes clear God's power. Let us confess to our God, who is just in every way, kind in all things, and ready to forgive our sin.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of all good things,

you alone can feed us until we want no more;

yet so often we turn to people or activities

or substances to satisfy cravings.

Bread of Heaven, you prepare a feast

and welcome people from far and near;

yet we decline your invitation,

crowding instead around familiar tables.

Bread of Life, you give of yourself

to nourish all with abundance;

yet we ignore your bounty in our lives

and forget how much we can share.

Loving Provider, you promise

that all who come to you will never be hungry.

Forgive us when we forget.

Remind us that you are good,

and that your goodness is for us and for all the world.

In the name of Christ, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

from Ephesians 3:16–19

Dear friends, through the power of the Spirit that is at work within us, God forgives our sins and strengthens our inner beings. So now live knowing the love of Christ, which surpasses all knowledge and fills us with the fullness of God. Live believing and celebrating this wonderful Good News:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

Response

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

Listening to the Word

Prayer for Illumination of God's Word

from Ephesians 3:18–19

Holy God, may this reading of your word give us the power to comprehend, with all the saints, the length, width, height, and depth of the love of Christ and fullness of life in you. **Amen.**

First Reading Psalm 145:10-18

¹⁰ All that you have made gives thanks to you, LORD;
all your faithful ones bless you!

¹¹ They speak of the glory of your kingdom;
they talk all about your power,

¹² to inform all human beings about God's power
and the majestic glory of God's kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is a kingship that lasts forever;
your rule endures for all generations.

The LORD is trustworthy in all that he says,
faithful in all that he does.^[a]

¹⁴ The LORD supports all who fall down,
straightens up all who are bent low.

¹⁵ All eyes look to you, hoping,
and you give them their food right on time,

¹⁶ opening your hand
and satisfying the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all his ways,
faithful in all his deeds.

¹⁸ The LORD is close to everyone who calls out to him,
to all who call out to him sincerely.

Anthem

Second Reading

John 6:1-21

After this Jesus went across the Galilee Sea (that is, the Tiberias Sea).² A large crowd followed him, because they had seen the miraculous signs he had done among the sick.³ Jesus went up a mountain and sat there with his disciples.⁴ It was nearly time for Passover, the Jewish festival.⁵ Jesus looked up and saw the large crowd coming toward him. He asked Philip, “Where will we buy food to feed these people?”⁶ Jesus said this to test him, for he already knew what he was going to do.⁷ Philip replied, “More than a half year’s salary^[a] worth of food wouldn’t be enough for each person to have even a little bit.”⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said,⁹ “A youth here has five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that for a crowd like this?”¹⁰ Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass there. They sat down, about five thousand of them.¹¹ Then Jesus took the bread. When he had given thanks, he distributed it to those who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, each getting as much as they wanted.¹² When they had plenty to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather up the leftover pieces, so that nothing will be wasted.”¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves that had been left over by those who had eaten.¹⁴ When the people saw that he had done a miraculous sign, they said, “This is truly the prophet who is coming into the world.”¹⁵ Jesus understood that they were about to come and force him to be their king, so he took refuge again, alone on a mountain.¹⁶ When evening came, Jesus’ disciples went down to the lake.¹⁷ They got into a boat and were crossing the lake to Capernaum. It was already getting dark and Jesus hadn’t come to them yet.¹⁸ The water was getting rough because a strong wind was blowing.¹⁹ When the wind had driven them out for about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the water. He was approaching the boat and they were afraid.²⁰ He said to them, “I Am.^[b] Don’t be afraid.”²¹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and just then the boat reached the land where they had been heading.

Sermon *“Scarcity or Abundance?”*

Responding to the Word

Hymn 353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (vrs. 1 & 2)

SOLID ROCK

Affirmation of Faith

Church Creed

Sharing our Prayers

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Dedicating our Gifts

from John 6:11

Because a little boy shared his bread and fish, a multitude ate.

Let us share what has been given to us.

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all creatures here below;

*Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Charge & Benediction

Blessing

HYMN 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (vrs. 5) GREEN TYLER

*Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

Postlude