



He had compassion on them,
because they were like sheep without a shepherd.

+ *Mark 6:34b*

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 18, 2021



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today's Gospel reading continues to describe the ways of Christ's kingdom. The apostles are returning from preaching the Gospel and Jesus intends for them to find some rest. Yet, as they travel to a desolate place, the crowds follow with haste—five thousand families waiting for them when they arrive.

The “feeding of the five thousand” with the simple staples of bread and fish serves as a stark contrast to the sumptuous, sinful birthday feast of Herod described last week. Herod's feast is devilish, ending in despair and death; Christ's feast is divine, resulting in abundance and joy unto faith and eternal life. This festive life is a present reality for you and for all Christians through faith in Jesus. God Himself is shepherding His sheep! Thanks be to God!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
+Pastor Griebenaw

Pastor's Phone: 760-679-3699

Pastor's Email: pastor@gracelutheranelcentro.org

✠ DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION: Father Most Holy

LSB 504



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our
2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good - ness un -
3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea - tures praise Thee; All for Thy
△ 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,
bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,
wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;
joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,
wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.
praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

Text and tune: Public Domain

Stand – The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 184

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalms 32:5

Kneel (or remain standing) — Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 147:7–11; antiphon: Psalm 145:16

The pastor and congregation chant responsively. The antiphon is chanted by the pastor before and after the psalm.



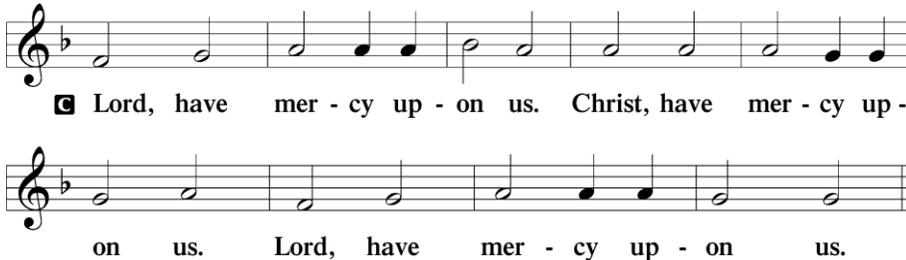
(Antiphon) You open | Your hand;*
You satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanks- | giving;*
make melody to our God | on the lyre!
- 8 **He covers the heavens with clouds; He prepares rain | for the earth;***
He makes grass grow | on the hills.
- 9 He gives to the | beasts their food,*
and to the young ravens | that cry.
- 10 **His delight is not in the strength | of the horse,***
nor His pleasure in the legs | of a man,
- 11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear Him,*
in those who hope in His | steadfast love.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The antiphon is repeated.

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 23:1–6

P The Old Testament Reading is from Jeremiah, chapter 23.

¹“Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” declares the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for My people: “You have scattered My flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. ³Then I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.

⁵“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and He shall reign as King and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which He will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Romans 11:33, 36

The pastor and congregation chant responsively by half-verse.



Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*

How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable | His ways!

For from Him and through Him and to Him are | all things.*

To Him be glory forever. | Amen.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:11–22

P The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter two.

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the Uncircumcision” by what is called the Circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA & VERSE

Psalms 78:25



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Alleluia. Man ate of the bread of the angels;

He sent them food in abundance.. Alleluia.

The alleluias are repeated.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6: 30-44

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the sixth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

³⁰The apostles returned to Jesus and told Him all that they had done and taught. ³¹And He said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴When He went ashore He saw a great crowd, and He had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And He began to teach them many things. ³⁵And when it grew late, His disciples came to Him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. ³⁶Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” ³⁷But He answered them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to Him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?” ³⁸And He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” ³⁹Then He commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. ⁴¹And taking the five loaves and the two fish He looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And He divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²And they all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. ⁴⁴And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.
**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY: The Church's One Foundation

LSB 644



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib-u-la-tion And tu-mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth has u-nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.
 Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a-sun-der, By her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 She waits the con-sum-ma-tion Of peace for-ev-er-more
 And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep-ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi-sion glo-rious Her long-ing eyes are blest,
 O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.
 And soon the night of weep-ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic-to-ri-ous Shall be the Church at rest.
 That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Rev. Doug Griebenaw

After the sermon, the pastor may say:

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Philippians 4:7

Stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Kneel (or remain standing)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(1 Timothy 2:1–4)

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For the compassion of Christ Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep and the righteous Son of David, that we would trust in God's right hand, in whom true satisfaction is found, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For the Holy Church, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Himself as our cornerstone, that the Spirit would grant her unity on earth through the faithful proclamation of Christ's reconciling cross; and that, as He tore down the dividing wall of hostility between Jew and Gentile in His flesh, so He would heal all divisions of doctrine and call to repentance false teachers on earth, even as the Church is one before His throne, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For all in the household of God, that He would continually bless all Christian homes and aid fathers and mothers to lead their children to their heavenly Father by word and deed, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For our nation and its leaders and for all civil officers, that we may enjoy good government in accord with God's commandments; and for ourselves and all citizens, that we may live in service to our neighbors and faithfulness to Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For all the needs of this body and life, that God attend in mercy those in need among us, freeing them from dismay and fear by the certainty that Christ is their righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For all who come to the blessed Sacrament of the Altar this day, that we may be joined in unity of confession and faith to receive the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith by the true body and most precious blood of Christ Jesus, and be satisfied unto life everlasting, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

The live-stream concludes with the following:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
C **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.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

- P** Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

Stand

BENEDICTION

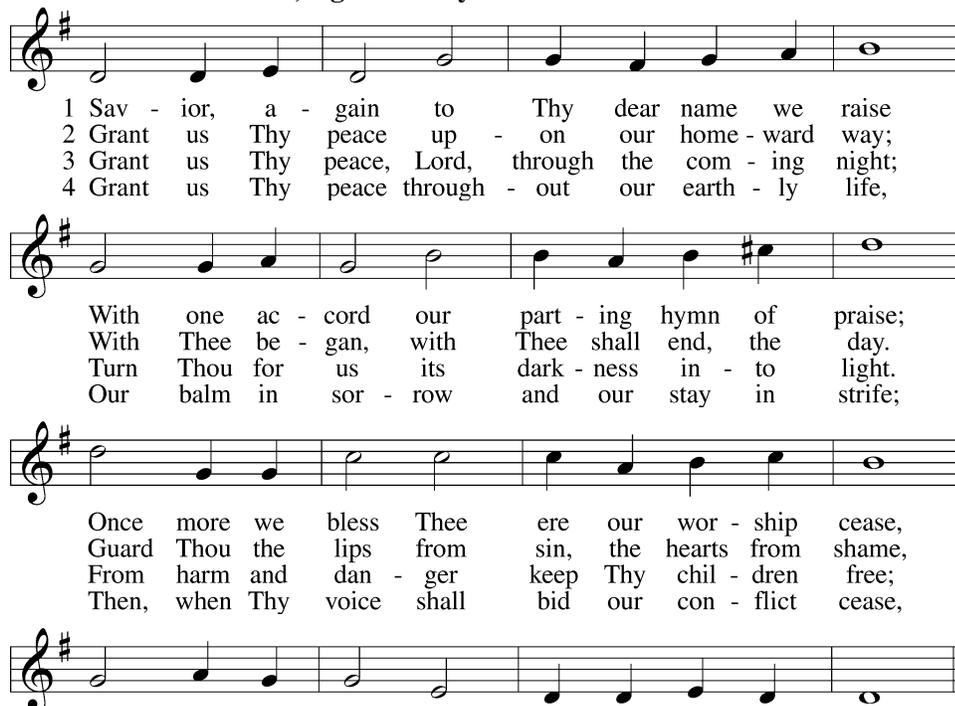
Numbers 6:24–26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
C **Amen.**

The Divine Service continues with the Lord's Supper for those at the church. Please sing/read aloud the closing hymn. If you desire to receive Holy Communion, please text/call Pastor (he is usually at the church for a while on Sundays).

CLOSING HYMN: Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

LSB 917



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,

With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;

Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

Text and tune: Public Domain

✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠
(TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PASTOR

Brothers and Sisters,

Mister Chan (my cat) has an important question for you: “Meow, meow-meow-meow meow?” That translates as, “Human, have you been studying your CATEchism?” (I know I’ve told this joke before . . . but I just LOVE cats so as far as the pun is concerned: sorry, not sorry. LOL!)

On a more serious note, Mr. Chan asks a good question: Are you studying your Catechism?

All too often, we think of Luther’s Small Catechism as a book for children—that “thing” that we all had to read and memorize before Confirmation . . . and promptly tucked away somewhere, never touched again. The reality is that the Small Catechism is, as with Holy Scripture from which it is drawn, an inexhaustible well of knowledge, comfort, and grace.

In his preface to the Large Catechism (paragraph 9), Martin Luther wrote, “For though [one] should know and understand [the Catechism] perfectly (which, however, is impossible in this life), yet there are manifold benefits and fruits still to be obtained, if it be daily read and practiced in thought and speech; namely, that the Holy Ghost is present in such reading and repetition and meditation, and bestows ever new and more light and devoutness, so that it is daily relished and appreciated better, as Christ promises, Matthew 18:20: Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.”

If you haven’t seen your Small Catechism in a while, I have good news: You can read it online at <https://catechism.cph.org>. And, as you might expect, there is “an app for that” as well, available both for Android and iOS devices (search for “Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation”)—the basic version is free but you can purchase the additional study materials within the app.

No matter how you access the Small Catechism, you can structure your study of it throughout the week as a kind of preparation for Sunday Divine Service. There are six “chief parts” of the Small Catechism: The Ten Commandments, the Apostle’s Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the Office of the Keys and Confession, and the Sacrament of the Altar. I suggest the following schedule for your devotional use:

- Mondays—The Ten Commandments
- Tuesdays—The Apostle’s Creed
- Wednesdays—The Lord’s Prayer
- Thursday—The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
- Fridays—The Office of the Keys and Confession
- Saturdays—The Sacrament of the Altar
- Sundays—Come to Church!

It may not be easy at first but if you stick with it (make it a habit), I am confident that you will begin to see for yourself the truth in Dr. Luther’s words: “yet there are manifold benefits and fruits still to be obtained.”

Beyond this, I hope that you’ll join me for our **study of the Psalms every Tuesday at Noon on “Zoom.”** This week we’ll be **studying Psalm 49**. So call-in or hop on your computer on Tuesday. I love to see/hear you. And then tune-in or come by the church for our **short prayer service on Wednesday night at 7:00pm.**

- To join the study on your computer, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7603525715>
- To join by phone, call either “669-900-9128” or “346-248-7799” and enter 7603525715#
- The password for computer and telephone is “12345”

Lastly, please continue to mail your tithes and offerings to the church’s post office box: Evangelical-Lutheran Church, PO Box 1530, El Centro, CA 92244-1530.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
+Pastor Griebenaw

