

THE FOURTH WEDNESDAY IN LENT

MARCH 22, 2023

7:00PM

BREAD OF LIFE

Jesus is the true bread of life given by the Father to us. In Him, and only in Him, is life forgiven, meaningful, renewed, and satisfied. Crave and desire the bread of life, Jesus Christ, who the Father has sent to feed the world. In Jesus Christ, you have all that you need every day and for eternal life.

LENT EVENING PRAYER PROPERS INSERT

(Continued from page 8 of the worship booklet.)

PSALM 19:

The psalm is read responsively by verses. The pastor begins.

P The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

C Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

P There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

C Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,

P which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

C Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

P The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

C the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

P the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

C More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

P Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

C Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

P Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

C Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

PSALM PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You reveal Yourself as the bread of life who satisfies all the hungry souls that return to You in repentance and faith.

C Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word;

P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 16: 2-5, 11-18

² And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, ³ and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not." ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." And the LORD said to Moses, ¹² "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" ¹³ In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴ And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat." ¹⁶ This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.'" ¹⁷ And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸ But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-4, 15-17

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ¹⁵ I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶ The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE READING: John 6: 32-37

Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷ All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

L: The Light shines in the darkness

C: and the darkness has not overcome it.

All who are able, stand

HYMN: "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread" LSB 625

(burgundy book)

**Lord Jesus Christ, life giving bread, may I in grace possess You,
Let me with holy food be fed, in hunger I address You.**

**Prepare me well for you O Lord, and humbly by my prayer implored
Give me your grace and mercy.**

**To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, to restful waters lead me;
Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me.
Though weary, sinful, sick and weak, refuge in You alone I seek.
To share Your cup of healing.**

**O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight, for full and free remission
I come with prayer before Your sight in sorrow and contrition.
Your righteous-ness, Lord cover me that I receive You worthily.
Assured of Your full pardon.**

**I do not merit favor, Lord, my weight of sin would break me;
In all my guilty heart's discord, O' Lord, do not forsake me.
In my distress this comforts me, that You receive me graciously,
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!**

All sit

MEDITATION

All who are able, stand

The liturgy continues on page 8 of the worship booklet with the ANNUNCIATION and MAGNIFICAT.

We strive to use our gifts and the best resources available to support people in their faith. To inquire about our sermons and/or the resources used to produce them please contact us through our church office. To God be the glory!

“Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread” LSB 625: Text: Public Domain

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