

August 4th, 2024

Greeting and Announcements

Welcome Statement (Printed on the bulletin insert)

Silence ...a time to breathe...

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Feed us now, Child of God, as you fed your first disciples.

All: Feed us with that soul-food which nurtures enough love within us to outstrip the fears and enmity that ties the world up in knots.

Leader: Feed us with that spiritual bread which strengthens our hands for serving those broken and lost people whom this world deems unimportant.

All: Feed us, so that we may be filled with some of that joy which the universe cannot contain. For your love's sake. Amen.

Special Music "I can only Imagine"

***All Pray (Unison):** Living Christ who says my Body is Bread—In a world of abundance, we too often accept that some beloveds do not have enough to eat. We accept the lie that food must be produced in a way that degrades land, animals, and humans. We believe that manufactured famine and systems that pollute are just the way your world works. We fail to listen to wise people who teach us right relationship with land and food, to people who work to make food accessible and available. We long for our neighbors to have enough to eat, and for our food not to harm your creation. We long for intimacy, tenderness, tending, care with our food sources—this is our prayer!

***The Promise (Pastor)**

There is living bread, for all of God's beloveds. Living bread that can feed our hungry spirits. We are welcome at the table. There is enough. We are enough. Amen.

All: For which we all say..... *Thanks be to God!*

***Sung Response**

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices the Lord is near. Lift up your voices the Lord is near

Invitation to the Table

Without exception, everyone is welcome at this table. So if you're hungry, or even just curious, please come and taste.

Special Music "Amazing Grace"

Kid's Time

Now Testament from "Ode to Bread" *Pablo Neruda*
Special Music "For the One"
Hebrew Bible *Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15*
Christian Scripture *John 6:24-35*

Sermon Bread blessed and broken

Special Music "Love like this"

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

Offering *Sung Response

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen

***Gratitude Prayer (Unison)**

Merciful God,
You invite us to the table over and over, sharing food, sharing wisdom, sharing love, sharing grace. May we be inspired by this meal and your example. Use what we have to create more tables where needs are met graciously, where all are welcomed. Amen.

***Closing Special Music** "Ashokan Farewell"

***Benediction**
Postlude

Exodus 16: 2-4, and 9-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

The LORD spoke to Moses, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning, you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

John 6: 24-35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which^[a] comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir,^[b] give us this bread always.”

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.